

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Federal CDBG and HOME funds are utilized by the City of Elmira to carry out a wide variety of activities that are consistent with the Consolidated Plan priorities. The City of Elmira intends on programming \$1,327,918 in CDBG entitlement funding and program income and \$222,636 in HOME funding. Public services projects are selected after soliciting proposals from local non-profit agencies and Community Development staff and citizen advisory committee review them and making recommendations to City Council. Youth services, housing counseling, and services for the homeless have all been determined to be high priority public service needs. The City also incorporates CDBG funds in its annual Capital Budget for public improvements, for example streets, ADA sidewalk transitions, and parks and these funds are dedicated to low-moderate income areas. The projects included in the City's 2015-2016 Annual Action Plan have been determined to meet all program requirements and have been identified as priorities by the City of Elmira.

#	Project Name
1	General Administration
2	Rehab Administration
3	CDBG Owner-Occupied Rehab
4	Section 108 Loan Repayment
5	Street Improvements
6	Park Improvements
7	Demolition of Blighted Properties
8	Catholic Charities Housing Counseling Services
9	Second Place East Emergency Shelter
10	Southside Community Center
11	Ernie Davis Community Center
12	Frontline Community Center
13	Habitat for Humanity Healthy Homes
14	EDD Operation Green Streets
15	EDD Facade and Signage Improvement Program
16	Glove House
17	HOME Administration
18	First-Time Homebuyer Program
19	First-Time Homebuyer Pre-Purchase Counseling
20	Home Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
21	NWNA CHDO

Table 3 - Project Information

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

The City of Elmira continues to allocated CDBG funds to its housing rehabilitation program which generates program income which allows scarce resources to be recycled and reinvested into the community. Another reason for allocation priorities is based upon whether CDBG or HOME funds are leveraging additional funding sources and those activities that leverage additional funds are given a high priority because they are viewed as sustainable. Programs that serve youth continue to be a high priority especially in lieu of the fact that youth programs often serve youth that are at-risk and lack parental role models. Lastly, housing programs, including the First-Time Homebuyer Program, Housing Counseling, and Homelessness Prevention (Second Place East Emergency Shelter) continue to be a high priority since they impact a significant number of residents and advances local and national housing objectives.

A continued and significant obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the lack of funding available compared to the many diverse needs of the community. This year, the City of Elmira received a 1% reduction in CDBG funding and a 10% reduction in HOME funding. The City is also obligated until August 2019 to repay a Section 108 loan obligation for the First Arena. During the 2015-2016 Program Year, the City of Elmira's Section 108 payment is \$362,197.50 which represents a \$18,509.50 increase over 2014-2015.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	General Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$246,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to pay expenses related to the general administration of the CDBG program
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not application, general administration
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	Rehab Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock
	Funding	CDBG: \$157,500
	Description	Rehab administration includes program delivery for administering the City of Elmira's Housing Rehabilitation program including salaries and fringe benefits for two staff (Housing Rehabilitation Assistance and Construction Technician), mortgage filing and discharge fees, applicable construction journals, mileage for inspections, and office supplies related to the program
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	Program delivery costs related to the City of Elmira's Housing Rehabilitation Program.
3	Project Name	CDBG Owner-Occupied Rehab
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock
	Funding	CDBG: \$187,720
	Description	CDBG funds are utilized to provide grants (deferred loans) and low interest (3%) loans to income eligible homeowners who have owned and occupied their homes for two years. Funds are utilized to address code, housing quality, energy improvements, and accessibility issues.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that approximately 15 households will benefit based on an average CDBG assistance of \$15,000, however the City may also partner with Near Westside Neighborhood Association who receives NYS Affordable Housing Corporation funds. CDBG Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation assistance will be provided to property owners who have owned and occupied their property for at least 2 years and who fall within 80% of HUD's Median Family Income.
	Location Description	Various properties throughout the City of Elmira.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred loans (grants) for households with an income of between 0-50% of MFI • 3% repayable loans for households within 50-80% of MFI
4	Project Name	Section 108 Loan Repayment
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$362,198
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to pay the debt service on the Section 108 loan for the First Arena which opened in November 2000. The last payment is expected to be due in August 2019.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
5	Project Name	Street Improvements
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure/ Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$189,000
	Description	Funds will be used to augment the City's street program in low-mod census tracts within the City of Elmira.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is difficult to estimate the number of households that will benefit from the proposed activity, however it is estimated that 5,000 persons will be impacted by the improvements.
	Location Description	Exact street locations have not been selected, however they will be located in low-mod census tracts.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized toward street reconstructions including the installation of ADA sidewalk transitions.
6	Project Name	Park Improvements
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure/ Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Funds will be utilized to make improvements to parks located in low-moderate income areas including upgrading playground equipment and other park amenities.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at a minimum 500 families residing in low/moderate income areas will benefit.
	Location Description	Location has yet to be determined but funding will be utilized at in low/moderate income areas or large City parks that serve the population as a whole.
	Planned Activities	Leveraging CDBG funds with other grants from local foundations. During the past five years, significant funding has been invested in installing new playground equipment and during the next 5 years, planned activities include equipment geared towards older youth and elderly segment of the population that utilize the parks.
7	Project Name	Demolition of Blighted Properties
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Code Enforcement and Blight Removal
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000
	Description	This is a new CDBG funded project and involves demolition of spot slum and blight with a particular emphasis on blighted residential properties.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity is not estimated to impact families other than those residing adjacent to the blighted property.
	Location Description	Location is unknown at this time, however the Department of Community Development will work with the City's Code Enforcement and Law Departments.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include demoliton of 2 blighted properties augmenting the City's Capital Budget in order to help stabilize a neighborhood and eliminate spot blight. There is a City process in place for the demolition of properties that impact public safety and well-being.
8	Project Name	Catholic Charities Housing Counseling Services
	Target Area	

	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Housing Counseling Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler provides housing counseling services in the form of credit counseling, post-purchase counseling, and mortgage foreclosure prevention services.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>It is estimated that the following will benefit from the proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 prospective homebuyers will learn about homeownership activities and 50 will choose to participate in group education and one-on-one counseling • 7 first-time homebuyers will qualify for downpayment and closing cost assistance • 30 homeowners will take steps to avoid foreclosure and address identified issues. • 10 individuals/households will receive one-on-one credit counseling. <p>Catholic Charities provides housing counseling to all different types of first-time homebuyers, however a common type of family for the First-Time Homebuyer is a female head of household often with at least one dependent child although all income eligible households are welcome to receive assistance.</p>
	Location Description	Housing Housing services are offered at Catholic Charities main offices at 215 East Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901.
	Planned Activities	<p>Planned activities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-Time Homebuyer Workshops • One-on-one pre-counseling for new homebuyers • Post-purchase counseling and group education workshops for homebuyers • One-on-one credit and budget counseling • One-on-one mortgage foreclosure and loss mitigation counseling including working directly with lenders.
9	Project Name	Second Place East Emergency Shelter

	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Alleviate and Prevent Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Addressing and Preventing Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuylers is Chemung County's homeless service provider and operates Second Place East Homeless Shelter within the City of Elmira. Catholic Charities serves on the NY-501 Regional Continuum of Care Executive Board.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Catholic Charities estimates that a minimum of 400 clients will receive emergency shelter services and an additional 1,000 individuals will receive homelessness prevention services.
	Location Description	The Emergency Services Center is located at 380 South Main Street, Elmira, NY 14904 and Second Place East is located at 605 College Ave. Elmira, NY 14901.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds are provided for personnel to complete an assessment of needs, make referrals to programs and services within Catholic Charities and throughout the community and assist with the completion of applications for mainstream benefits leading to stability for those who are homeless or endanger of becoming homeless. With a focus on preventing displacement of individuals and families, case management is an important component of the program.
10	Project Name	Southside Community Center
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Comprehensive Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$24,000
	Description	The Southside Community Center is a drop-in youth center which provides enrichment, recreational, and education program to all youth, ages 5-18 in a year-round supportive and safe environment. Free nutritious snacks and meals are served daily to youth.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 300 youth between the ages of 5-18 will benefit from the Southside Community Center.
	Location Description	215 Partridge Street, Elmira, NY 14904, located on the south side of Elmira, adjacent to Parley Coburn Elementary School in Census Tract 10 which is a low-mod census tract.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutritious meals and snacks served year-round, five days a week • Participation by youth in community garden • Community service activities • Educational presentations from outside youth serving agencies (substance abuse, self-care, wellness, exercise, etc.) • Science-Technology-Engineering- Math (STEM) activities
11	Project Name	Ernie Davis Community Center
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Comprehensive Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	The Ernie Davis Community Center serves Elmira City youth under 21 years of age and provides a safe year-round after-school alternative and activities under the following areas: academic enrichment, life skills, arts and culture, and physical fitness.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 250 youth will be served by the Ernie Davis Community Center.
	Location Description	650 Baldwin Street, Elmira, NY 14901 in Census Tract 7.

	Planned Activities	Planned activities include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness programs, basketball, boxing • Kids Cafe, free healthy meals served Monday-Friday • Tutoring • Arts and Culture activities including a Fashion Club • Junior Culinary classes
12	Project Name	Frontline Community Center
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Comprehensive Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	This is a new project for the City of Elmira and consists of a community center serving children and teenagers (ages 5-18) that has been open since January 2014 and is located at Hathorn Court Apartments.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that a minimum of 300 children (approximately 250 live at Hathorn Court Apartments, a 274 unit housing complex for residents with incomes at or below 60% of Area Median Income.
	Location Description	Located at Hathorn Court Apartments in census tract 2.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include homework help with access to volunteer teachers, computers, and other tools, meals and healthy snacks, and after-school programming including group discussions, foosball, pool, game systems, etc.
13	Project Name	Habitat for Humanity Healthy Homes
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing Strengthening Elmira's Neighborhoods
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock Increased Access to Community Resources
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000

	Description	Healthy Homes program is a new public service program and a partnership between Habitat for Humanity and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County. The Healthy Homes program is a flexible education program designed to help low to moderate income families in our community learn how to create a safe and healthy living environment in their home.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 30 low-moderate income families will be assisted through this program. There will be an emphasis on female head of households although all types of families will be welcome to participate.
	Location Description	Location to be determined.
	Planned Activities	A 5 week class will be offered three times a year and will have the following curriculum: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Skills 2. Consumer Skills (Low cost/nontoxic cleaning supplies, waste disposal and recycling, energy conservation, coupons, pest control, nutrition) 3. Home Maintenance- Basic Plumbing 4. Home Maintenance- Basic Electrical (energy-efficiency) 5. Seasonal Home Maintenance & Basic Carpentry
14	Project Name	EDD Operation Green Streets
	Target Area	BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NEW YORK MAIN STREET TARGET AREA
	Goals Supported	Revitalization of Downtown Core
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure/ Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000 New York Main Street: \$15,000
	Description	Funds will be used to make streetscape enhancements to the Central Business District by funding plants for planters, benches, and other street amenities.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable
	Location Description	Improvements will be made within the City's 52-block Business Improvement District/downtown.
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to make streetscape enhancements to the Central Business District by funding plants for planters, planters, benches, and other amenities.
15	Project Name	EDD Facade and Signage Improvement Program
	Target Area	BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NEW YORK MAIN STREET TARGET AREA
	Goals Supported	Revitalization of Downtown Core
	Needs Addressed	Facade and Commercial Building Renovations
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Funding will support Elmira Downtown Development Façade and Signage Improvement Program and will be marketed to private commercial property owners within the 52-block Business Improvement District as well as used to leverage New York Main Street funding on South Main Street.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not application as program is geared towards commercial properties.
	Location Description	Locations within the downtown/Central Business District.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include facade and signage improvements within the downtown. This project will leverage additional private investment which will serve as the match.
16	Project Name	Glove House
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing

	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock Comprehensive Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$12,000
	Description	CDBG funding is being proposed for Glove House, Inc. for the Jennings Group Home Kitchen project.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Glove House serves 30 youth males from age 11 to age 18 at the Jennings Home on an annual basis.
	Location Description	The Jennings Home is located at 510 Church Street.
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include completely renovating the Glove House's Jennings Group Home kitchen to allow Glove House staff provide meals in an organized, functional setting and allowing for the youth who reside there to live and learn their independent Living Skills.
17	Project Name	HOME Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock
	Funding	HOME: \$22,200
	Description	Home funds will be used to pay for pro-rated salaries for Construction Technician and Housing Rehab Assistance for HOME projects and other related fees for the First-Time Homebuyer Program and HOME Owner-Occupied Rehab Program. The amount allocated represents 10% of the City's HOME allocation
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable.
	Location Description	The Department of Community Development is located at 317 E. Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901 on the 3rd floor.
	Planned Activities	Administration of HOME-funded activities.

18	Project Name	First-Time Homebuyer Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	First-Time Homebuyer Direct Assistance,Counseling
	Funding	HOME: \$56,000
	Description	The First-Time Homebuyer Program is a collaboration between the City of Elmira and Catholic Charities in which \$8,000 grants for downpayment and closing cost assistance is provided to households that fall within 50-80% of HUD's MFI for Elmira and can secure a private mortgage. A five-year affordability period is enforced and households must participate in pre and post-purchase counseling.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	7 individuals/families who fall within 50-80% of the MFI for Elmira and who are eligible first-time homebuyers and meet program requirements.
	Location Description	Scattered addresses throughout the City of Elmira.
	Planned Activities	Direct financial assistance will be provided to first-time homebuyers who qualify in the form of \$8,000 grants to cover downpayment and closing costs when they purchase an eligible property within the City of Elmira that meets inspection requirements.
19	Project Name	First-Time Homebuyer Pre-Purchase Counseling
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	First-Time Homebuyer Direct Assistance,Counseling
	Funding	HOME: \$14,000
	Description	Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler will work with eligible first-time homebuyers interested in purchasing their first home in the City of Elmira and provide them with one-on-one as well as group counseling sessions to prepare them for homeownership.
	Target Date	6/30/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	7 households who fall within 50-80% of MFI and meet the requirements of the first-time homebuyer program will be assisted.
	Location Description	Catholic Charities offices are located at 215 E. Church Street which is where most of the counseling services will be offered.
	Planned Activities	Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler will work with eligible first-time homebuyers interested in purchasing their first home in the City of Elmira and provide them with one-on-one as well as group counseling sessions to prepare them for homeownership.
20	Project Name	Home Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock
	Funding	HOME: \$95,436
	Description	HOME funds will be used to provide grants to very low income homeowners to make necessary home repairs. Homeowners assisted will be required to own and occupy the assisted property for five years.
	Target Date	6/30/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 low income homeowners will be assisted who will most likely be elderly or permanently disabled. This number is based upon an average of \$15,000 per unit.
	Location Description	Scattered sites throughout the City of Elmira.
	Planned Activities	HOME funds will be used to provide grants to very low income homeowners to make necessary repairs.
21	Project Name	NWNA CHDO
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Quality Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve Condition of Elmira's Housing Stock
	Funding	HOME: \$35,000

Description	Based upon a market analysis, the Near Westside Neighborhood Association (NWNNA) as the City's designated CHDO will utilize HOME funds for its One House At A Time project. Funds will be utilized to purchase a foreclosed or deteriorated property and sell it to a low income buyer who participates in the first-time homebuyer program.
Target Date	6/30/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 first-time homebuyer household who falls within 50-80% of MFI will benefit.
Location Description	Location is undetermined at the time of the Annual Action Plan.
Planned Activities	Based upon a market analysis, the Near Westside Neighborhood Association (NWNNA) as the City's designated CHDO will utilize HOME funds for its One House At A Time project. Funds will be utilized to purchase a foreclosed or deteriorated property and sell it to a low income buyer who participates in the first-time homebuyer program.