# **Executive Summary**

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls 2017 Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the result of a 22 week public participation process. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department, as lead agency, worked with stakeholder groups and residents to create a plan that effectively targets the causes and symptoms of blight, disinvestment and homelessness within our community. This AAP sees an increase in public participation, internal controls, and compliance with CDBG, HOME, and ESG program requirements in order to better serve residents of Niagara Falls.

### 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

Please see the attachment labeled "Council Approved 2017 Action Plan."

### 3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Past performance has had a major impact on how Niagara Falls has chosen its goals and projects. Through an increase in technical assistance, review of HUD materials, and review of past activities, Niagara Falls has gained a better understanding of CDBG, HOME, and ESG program requirements. Niagara Falls has found that the selection process and more efficient communication with subrecipients in evaluating and deciding on projects was an area of weakness. Niagara Falls believes its improvements to these and other suggested areas by our HUD Field Office will mark a significant improvements in the selected goals and projects of this Action Plan.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The 2017 Annual Action Plan process first went public on October 31, 2016. In November 2016, our team hosted eight neighborhood meetings to gather community input. Our team also released an

online and paper citizen survey to learn more about our residents' priorities and offered community organizations the opportunity to submit competitive applications for CDBG, HOME and ESG eligible projects, due December 16, 2016. We then complied all of the citizen responses, consulted with the Five Year Strategic Plan and evaluated the competitive applications. All 2017 Action Plan Proposals underwent a staff review that took into account the eligibility of the proposal under HUD guidelines, the community's need for the proposed project, the applicant's history and capacity for delivering on their proposal, the applicant's written narrative, expected outcomes, and proposed budget. The proposals that best addressed these criteria moved on to be included in the 2017 Draft Action Plan.

The 2017 Draft Action Plan was then put through an informal 30-day public comment period. Once that public comment period ended, the 2017 Draft Action Plan was presented to Niagara Falls City Council and was approved. With an approved draft from the City Council, the formal 30-day public comment period was opened. During the formal 30-day comment period, a public hearing was held as well as an open-house style event where the public could learn about the proposed projects and could make comments or discuss further with staff.

Upon notification of availability of 2017 funding allocation, the 2017 Draft Action plan was edited to reflect actual funding amounts. Other changes to the 2017 Draft Action Plan was made based on subrecipient monitoring and changes in community needs brought up by subrecipient organizations. The Final 2017 Draft Action Plan was put through an abbreviated 14-day public comment period as instructed by the HUD memorandum dated May 10, 2017, as provided by the HUD Buffalo Field Office. After the 15-day public comment period, the Final 2017 Draft Action plan was presented to council and was approved.

Advertisements in the local newspaper, posts on Facebook, changes to the website, and a notification bar on the website were provided to inform the public of all public meetings and comment periods.

### 5. Summary of public comments

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

The 2017 Action Plan Survey provided a mechanism for members of the public to rank the importance of services and projects for categories that relate to the 2015-2019 Con Plan. The category rankings, from highest ranked to lowest ranked were as follows: (1) Crime Prevention Services, (2) Street, Sidewalk, and Green Space Improvements, (3) Youth Programs & Facilities, (4) Workforce Development, (5) Housing Rehabilitation, (6) Storefront/Local Business Investment, (7) Targeted Blight Clearance, and (8) Public Facility Improvements.

The public comments had a range of topics, but there was a theme of advocating for improving parks and public spaces for the community present. Other themes present in comments include public safety,

reducing poverty, improving environmental conditions, small business development, home buying, and home rehabilitation.

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

[RE-WRITE] We accepted everything.

7. Summary

# PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

# 1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

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

Agency Role		Name		Department/Agency	
CDBG Administrator	NIAGA	ARA FALLS	Niagara Falls Community Development Department		
HOME Administrator	NIAGA	ARA FALLS	Niagara Falls Community Development Department		
ESG Administrator	NIAGA	ARA FALLS	Niagara Falls Community Development Department		

Table 1 - Responsible Agencies

### **Narrative (optional)**

#### **Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Public Point of Contact: Jarrett Steffen, Compliance Officer

In Person: 1022 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14302

Email: 2017ActionPlan@niagarafallsny.gov

Phone: 716-286-8811

Online Contact Form: https://nf-cd.org/participate/

# AP-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls reached out and consulted with public and private entities to develop this annual plan as a component of the approved consolidated plan, in addition to hosting eight "Neighborhood Planning Meetings," a public hearing, an informal public meeting, a 40 day public comment period for the draft 2017 Action Plan, and an abbreviated 15 day public comment period for the revised draft 2017 Action Plan. In accordance with 24 CFR 91.100, these organizations provided a wide range of input and value to the planning process through coordinated meetings and a hearing.

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))

Our department has devoted considerable time and resources to coordinating our programming with other agencies.

Coordination of programming to address homelessness - Through coordination with sub-recipients, we have created a youth counseling project to support the clients of our ESG sub-recipients. We will also soon be executing an amendment to prioritize homeless prevention and de-emphasize street outreach, based on feedback from HUD and from our sub-recipients.

Coordination of housing rehabilitation activities - Our department has led the creation of the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative, which will ensure equal access to services across the entire city, rather than offering slightly differing products in different strategy areas. This collaborative is a coordinated effort of Center City Neighborhood Development Corporation and the Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services.

Coordination with community stakeholders re: Highland Area programming - Through a monitoring process carried out in 2017, our Department was able to convene a number of community stakeholders in the Highland Area. This led to the creation of the Highland Food Access project, as well as the funding of a North End youth mentoring programming, using reprogrammed 2016 funds.

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.

Through meetings with HAWNY and our ESG sub-recipients during and after the 2017 ESG monitoring conducted by the Buffalo Field Office, we have also determined that an amendment to our ESG projects will likely be necessary, though the changes were not able to be implemented prior to the submission of this application.

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

NF CD has worked closely with HAWNY, our local Continuum of Care, on implementing coordinated entry by January 1, 2018. We continue to meet with HAWNY and our sub-recipients on this topic.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Renovation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CENTER CITY NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Renovation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
3	Agency/Group/Organization	CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF BUFFALO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Rehabilitation and Preservation Activities
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

4	Agency/Group/Organization	Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Youth Education & Employment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
5	Agency/Group/Organization	NFHA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Youth & Family Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
7	Agency/Group/Organization	YWCA Carolyn's House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
8	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY MISSIONS OF NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Niagara Community Action Program, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

10	Agency/Group/Organization	Family and Childrens' Services of
		Niagara
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
		Services-Victims of Domestic
		Violence
		Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically
		homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with
		children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs -
		Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated	
	outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

# 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?
		The ESG portion of the 2017 Action Plan overlaps the goals of ending homelessness in Niagara Falls
Continuum of	Homeless Alliance	through providing better services in emergency shelter, rapid re-housing, essential services, and
	of Western New	homelessness prevention. Closer consultation is underway with the CoC and NF CD will work with
Care	York	HAWNY to better use funding resources to understand the needs of the community and create better
		programs for the homeless population.
		PB 360, a participatory budgeting project to have residents decide on city parks improvements,
2013 Citywide		furthers the goals of implementing the 2013 Citywide Parks Master Plan. This plan was consulted
Parks Master	City of Niagara Falls	before design of the program and was provided to residents in brainstorming sessions to solicit ideas
Plan		that were turned into project items. These project items were compared to this plan for consistency
		and feasibility.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

# **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)**

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

Before the 2017 Action Plan was drafted, a "Community Participation Survey" was released to the public on October 28, 2016 to engage residents on which categories of CDBG/HOME/ESG eligible activities the public wants to see. These categories relate to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Strategy Plan. The survey also allowed for written comments as well. The survey was available online at nf-cd.org and in paper form.

NF CD then hosted eight "Neighborhood Planning Meetings" from November 1, 2016 through November 16, 2016, before a draft action plan was created. These meetings informed residents of the Action Plan process, explained past Action Plan accomplishments, and was a place for residents to state what they wanted in the 2017 Action Plan. Surveys were also available at all of these meetings. Meetings were held on different days and different times throughout the city for an approximately two week period. This was designed to be accessible to more residents as it accommodates to location and personal schedules. A total of 35 people were in attendance at these meetings.

Comments from the Community Participation Survery, Neighborhood Planning Meetings, and emails and phone calls received concerning the 2017 Action Plan were compiled and reviewed by NF CD staff. The review played a critical role in deciding which applications from sub-grantees would be awarded.

Once a draft 2017 Action Plan was completed on January 25, 2017, it was released to the public. Residents were able to comment via mail, email, phone, or in person for a period of 40 days. During this period, NF CD held a formal public hearing on February 2, 2017 with 9 in attendance. Another meeting, called "Pizza with the Plan," was held on February 7, 2017 with 11 in attendance as an informal meeting for residents to view project, make written comments, and to talk to staff members one-on-one. At the conclusion of this period, the draft 2017 Action Plan was presented at a City Council Meeting. At the next City Coucil Meeting, the draft 2017 Action Plan was approved and entered another 30-day comment period.

While waiting for the 2017 Notice of Funding Allocation, changes to the draft 2017 Action Plan were made to reflect changes in needs to the community. These changes were released to the public via newspaper and online and a public comment period was opened. After the public comment period was opened, the revised draft 2017 Action Plan was submitted to City Council for vote and was approved.

Following instruction from a memo shared by the HUD Buffalo Field Office, an abbreviated 15-day public comment period was opened after City Council approval. Comments available to be made in person and via mail, email, and phone. No comments were received during this period.

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# **Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	35 persons attended the "Neighborhood Planning Meetings." Attendees primarily submitted their responses on paper versions of the "Community Participation Survey."	Most comments at the Neighborhood Planning Meetings reflect the comments in the Community Participation Survey. Once noticeable difference is that attendees advocated for a participatory budgeting process to be included in the 2017 Action Plan. This advocacy was the start to the included "PB 360" project.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of	Summary of	Summary of comments	URL (If
			response/attendance	comments received	not accepted	applicable)
					and reasons	
				The survey had		
				participants rank		
				each category on a		
				scale of 0-4 for how		
				important they		
				thought that		
				category was.		
				Participants ranked		
				each category in		
				the following way:		
				Crime Prevention		
				Services (3.6);		
				Street, Sidewalk,		
				and Green Space		
			CO	Improvements	All same sets were	
			60 persons submitted	(3.5); Youth	All comments were	
			surveys. 12 surveys were submitted in	Programs &	accepted, though some	
				Facilities (3.4),	were not applicable to CDBG/HOME/ESG	
		Non	person and 48	Workforce		
2	Survey (Paper &	Non-	surveys were	Development (3.3);	eligible activities.	
2	Online)	targeted/broad	submitted online. A	Housing	Comments not eligible	
		community	total of 29 written	Rehabilitation (3.3);	for HUD-funded	
			comments were	Storefront/Local	activities were directed	
			submitted in addition	Business	to appropriate city	
			to the survey	Investment (3.2);	departments for their	
			questions.	Targeted Blight	consideration.	
				Clearance (3.1); and		
			Annual Action Pla		15	
			2017	Improvements		
OMB Control No	2506-0117 (exp. 06/30/2018	)		(3.0). Written		
22 20	(2.15.222. (2.16.33) 23, 231	,		comments focused		
				on crime		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Newspaper Ad	Non- targeted/broad community	Newspaper ads were published for each stage in the 2017 Action Plan process. These ads announced openings of public comment periods, meetings being held, and contact information to provide public comments. All ads were published in the Niagara Gazette, which has a circulation of approximately 10,000 readers.	No comments were received from newspaper ads.	No comments were received from newspaper ads.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	A public hearing was held on February 2, 2017 with 9 persons in attendance.	Most comments were in approval of the draft 2017 Action Plan and came from representatives of sub-grantee agencies. One public comment from an individual was in approval of the draft 2017 Action Plan and work done in previous action plan years. The last public comment came from an individual that stressed the need for housing rehabilitation over targeted blight clearance.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	The "Pizza with the Plan" event was an informal public meeting held on February 9, 2017. This was a place for residents to view the draft 2017 Action Plan as an alternative to a formal public hearing. 11 persons attended this event.	This event generated a lot of discussion with residents and staff, as well as among residents. 5 notes were submitted at this event with 4 supporting housing rehab efforts and one calling PB 360 "exciting."	All comments were accepted.	
6	Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broad community	Facebook and Instagram was used to announce different stages in the 2017 Action Plan process. Facebook and Instagram was also used to advertise for events.	Facebook and Instagram directed users to contact NF CD staff in other forms of media to submit comments to the 2017 Action Plan. Comments were not monitored for public comment submission on these platforms.	No comments were accepted due to the nature of these social media platforms. Full information was provided in webpages and events promoted through Facebook and Instagram and posts made on these platforms instructed users to submit public comments in other accessible ways.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# **Expected Resources**

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

#### Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls will used 2017 funds to execute CDBG, HOME and ESG projects that benefit low to moderate income families. Low to moderate income families will have access to all services and facilities improved by this action plan

### **Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amour	nt Available Ye	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	2,184,219	3,000	0	2,187,219	4,528,438	Program Income expected from one old economic development loan, and payoffs of various deferred loans throughout the year.

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Ехре	cted Amour	nt Available Ye	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
HOME	public -	Acquisition						
	federal	Homebuyer						
		assistance						
		Homeowner rehab						
		Multifamily rental						
		new construction						
		Multifamily rental						
		rehab						
		New construction						
		for ownership						
		TBRA	336,222	0	0	336,222	728,444	
ESG	public -	Conversion and						
	federal	rehab for						
		transitional housing						
		Financial Assistance						
		Overnight shelter						
		Rapid re-housing						
		(rental assistance)						
		Rental Assistance						
		Services						
		Transitional housing	200,224	0	0	200,224	400,448	

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The 2017 CDBG funds are matched with \$1,434,500 from state funds and \$321,245 from private funds for a total of \$1,755,745. The 2017 HOME funds are matched with \$500,000 in state funds and \$24,500 in private funds for a total of \$524,500. The 2017 ESG funds are matched with \$55,500 in state funds and \$202,800 in private funds for a total of \$258,300. The 1:1 matching requirement for ESG as provided in 24 CFR 576.201 is satisfied with \$58,076 over the required amount.

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

# **Annual Goals and Objectives**

# **AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives**

# **Goals Summary Information**

Sort	Goal Name	Start	End	Category	Geographic	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
Order	Higher percentage	<b>Year</b> 2015	<b>Year</b> 2019	Affordable	Area City-Wide	Provide decent	CDBG:	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated:
1		2013	2019		1 '			•
	of home ownership			Housing	Target Area	housing	\$732,550	24 Household Housing Unit
	& renovation				Low-Mod		HOME:	Direct Financial Assistance to
					Target Area		\$336,222	Homebuyers: 82 Households Assisted
					Highland			
					Target Area			
2	City Park/Public	2015	2019	Non-Housing	Low-Mod	Provide a suitable	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure
	Space			Community	Target Area	living	\$360,000	Activities other than Low/Moderate
	Improvement			Development		environment		Income Housing Benefit: 49920
								Persons Assisted
3	Increase in youth	2015	2019	Non-Housing	Low-Mod	Provide a suitable	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure
	services			Community	Target Area	living	\$485,966	Activities other than Low/Moderate
				Development	Highland	environment		Income Housing Benefit: 4595
					Target Area			Persons Assisted
								Public service activities other than
								Low/Moderate Income Housing
								Benefit: 315 Persons Assisted

Sort	Goal Name	Start	End	Category	Geographic	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
Order		Year	Year		Area			
4	Permanent Housing	2015	2019	Homeless	City-Wide	Provide decent	ESG:	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter:
	for the Homeless				Target Area	housing	\$200,224	650 Persons Assisted
					Low-Mod			Overnight/Emergency
					Target Area			Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds
								added: 365 Beds
								Homelessness Prevention: 25
								Persons Assisted
5	Residents placed in	2015	2019	Non-Housing	Highland	Provide a suitable	CDBG:	Businesses assisted: 1 Businesses
	employment			Community	Target Area	living	\$18,152	Assisted
	opportunities			Development		environment		
						Provide expanded		
						economic		
						opportunities		

Table 6 – Goals Summary

# **Goal Descriptions**

1	Goal Name	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Increase in youth services
	Goal Description	

4	Goal Name	Permanent Housing for the Homeless
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
5	Goal Name	Residents placed in employment opportunities
	Goal Description	

# **Projects**

# AP-35 Projects - 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The 2017 Action Plan projects begins a shift in funding allocations. This shift is more in line with what residents have asked for, as well as ensuring smart investment in organizations with a proven track records of accomplishing established goals.

### **Projects**

#	Project Name
1	NHS Closing Cost Grants - 2017 CDBG
2	CD Closing Cost Grant Progam - 2017 CDBG
3	City of Niagara Falls Targeted DPW Clean-Up Project - 2017 CDBG
4	City of Niagara Falls Rehab Program - 2017 CDBG
5	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative City-wide Housing Renovation Program - 2017 CDBG
6	Catholic Charities Family Service Center
7	Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper Young Environmental Leaders Program (YELP)
8	NF PB - 360
9	Niagara Falls Housing Authority Green Light Program
10	Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club 17th Street Revitalization Project
11	Youth Counseling RFP
12	Highland Community Food Access Project
13	City of Niagara Falls 2017 Administration
14	City of Niagara Falls HOME Targeted Housing Renovation - 2017 HOME
15	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Targeted Housing Renovation - 2017 HOME
16	City of Niagara Falls Administration - 2017 HOME
17	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Admin - 2017
18	HESG 2017

**Table 7 - Project Information** 

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

# **AP-38 Project Summary**

**Project Summary Information** 

1	Dun's at Name	NUIC Clasing Cast Counts, 2017 CDDC
	Project Name	NHS Closing Cost Grants - 2017 CDBG
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	New Home Owner Closing Cost Assistance Grants and new home owner counseling programs. Approximately \$2,500 awarded per closing cost grant to first time home buyers.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Thirty low-mod families will be assisted through this activity.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	CD Closing Cost Grant Progam - 2017 CDBG
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$130,550
	Description	New Home Owner Closing Cost Assistance Grants. Approximately \$2,500 awarded per closing cost grant to first time home buyers. Approximately \$3,000 total will be used for mortgage recording fees.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	52 low-mod households will be assisted through this activity.

	Location	
	Description	
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	City of Niagara Falls Targeted DPW Clean-Up Project - 2017 CDBG
	Target Area	Low-Mod Target Area
	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,707
	Description	Department of Public Works - Special Operations Project. Targeted clean-up task force that includes interim assistance activities from both the Departments of Public Works and Code Enforcement.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 12,000 Low-Mod families will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
4	Project Name	City of Niagara Falls Rehab Program - 2017 CDBG
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$180,000
	Description	The City will administer deferred home rehabilitation loans for eligible Niagara Falls Home Ownership Auction houses and oversee the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative. \$77,000 will be used for program delivery costs as a supplement. Previous unexpended funding is available for additional housing activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2018

5	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities  Location Description Planned Activities	Approximately 5 low-mod households will benefit.
	Project Name	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative City-wide Housing Renovation Program - 2017 CDBG
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$350,000
	Description	City-wide Housing Renovation Program administered by Center City Neighborhood Development Corp. and Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. The program will be overseen by Niagara Falls Community Development. The Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative will offer services city- wide, breaking down the current geographical and programmatic boundaries of targeted areas.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Seven low-mod families will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
6	Project Name	Catholic Charities Family Service Center
	Target Area	Low-Mod Target Area
	Goals Supported	Increase in youth services
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment

	Funding	CDBG: \$130,000
	Description	The Family Service Center will be located at 1413 Pine Avenue and consolidate Catholic Charities programs, currently located throughout the city, including client based, early childhood and senior citizen services.
	Target Date	7/31/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4200 individuals will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	This is a capital project that will expand Catholic Charities' presence and capacity in downtown Niagara Falls, a significant low/mod area of the city.
7	Project Name	Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper Young Environmental Leaders Program (YELP)
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Increase in youth services
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$85,966
	Description	Through the Young Environmental Leaders Program (YELP), BNR will partner with the Niagara Falls City School District to engage 25 high school aged youth in an intensive environmental health and justice program.
	Target Date	8/3/2017

# Estimate the **Immediate Accomplishments** • 25 students complete the Young Environmental Leaders Program number and type of families that • 4 students complete the Summer Mentorship Program will benefit from • 3.0 SUNY-transferrable college credit hours can be earned by each student the proposed Summer mentorship students conduct 180 monitoring tests on local activities waterways • Each YELP student receives over 30 hours of intensive, direct instruction and real life field experience with a 1:5 or better teacher to student ratio, for a total of 750 student-hours during the main YELP summer course Each YELP mentorship student conducts 10 days of water monitoring research at neighborhood access sites, guided by BNR staff and partner teachers at a 1:2 teacher to student ratio, for a total of 112 student-hours during the mentorship • YELP mentorship students present their research results, in pairs, to at least 20 students in their school classrooms, providing an • 40 Niagara Falls students attend presentations by peer Summer Mentorship students • Mentorship Students conduct outreach at 4 local community events to present there research results and engage community. • Funding from NFCDBG at \$92,000 for 862 student-hours is thus provided at about \$106 per student-hour of high quality engagement and instruction • Each student successfully completes a resume to use for applying for scholarships and or jobs **Long Term Accomplishments** • Students become environmental liaisons to their home communities • Students gain skills and experience that foster a successful transition to college • Students explore possible careers in the environmental sciences • BNR establishes partnership with Niagara Falls City School District, Niagara Falls Heritage Area and other area institutions • BNR Seeks funding from additional sources to maintain the program in 2019 and beyond. • BNR increases awareness of the organizational mission and water quality issues in the Niagara Falls Community

This program will be conducted city-wide, through the Niagara Falls City

School District.

Location

Description

	Planned Activities	Through the Young Environmental Leaders Program (YELP), BNR will partner
		with Niagara Falls City School District to engage 25 high school aged youths
		from low/moderate income communities in an intensive environmental
		health and justice training program, creating a cohort of environmental
		liaisons for the community. The funding requested from this proposal will
		allow BNR to pilot the program in Niagara Falls in 2018 and seek additional
		funding and partnerships to establish the program for the long term future.
		This funding request will be matched with \$50,000 of committed funding from
		the Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation used to carry out the program in
		Buffalo Public Schools creating a robust regional program connecting the two
		districts. The program will consist of two distinct components: The
		Experiential Learning Component will consist of a college credit course taught
		by BNR Staff and partner teachers featuring three classroom sessions and
		seven hands on field learning sessions. The students will receive three college
		credits upon completion of the program through our partnership with Erie
		Community College. Students will learn to reduce the risks to themselves and
		their families from fishing, swimming and otherwise enjoying local waterways.
		Increased awareness should result in behavior changes that lower exposure to
		these harmful pathogens for the students and their communities. Students
		will also experience their waterways by exploring some places that can only
		be reached by boat under their own power, a transformative experience for
		many young people. The Mentorship Component will take place upon
		conclusion of the Experiential Learning Component. The top four performing
		students will be selected through an application process to take part in a paid
		summer internship with BNR. Students will complete a research project
		alongside knowledgeable BNR staff and present findings to their peers
		through formal presentations and at four community outreach events. By
		conducting research on the water quality of neighborhood streams and
		presenting this information to other community members, students will
		develop essential career skills while helping to protect their neighbors from
		environmental harms. BNR will use the existing Buffalo YELP curriculum and
		adapt and create new curriculum specifically for the Niagara Falls students
		and the surrounding environs. This curriculum will then be packaged for use
		by other area educators. Possible class and field sessions are Introductory
		Class and Mapping Activity with GPS Units, Water Quality Monitoring,
		Introduction to Environmental Justice through the Love Canal Story, Paddle
		Exploration of Cayuga Creek, Climate Change, Headwater Forests, Alternative
		Energy, Aquatic Ecology, Wetland Ecology, and Science and the Media.
8	Project Name	NF PB - 360
	Target Area	Low-Mod Target Area
		<u> </u>

	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$360,000
	Description	Guided by the Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan, Niagara Falls Community Development will execute a participatory budgeting process with residents to plan, budget, rank and ultimately vote on public park improvements.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Because Hyde Park, a large park with users from across the city, is eligible for improvement via this process, the potential impact is city-wide, despite non Low-Mod area parks being excluded from the final voting round.
	Location Description	Only parks in low-mod target area will be improved via this process.
	Planned Activities	Final ballot contains the following potential activities, not all of which will necessarily be funded:
9	Project Name	Niagara Falls Housing Authority Green Light Program
	Target Area	Highland Target Area
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase in youth services
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Doris Jones Family Resource Building youth programming, including: The Entrepreneurship Program, Music Concentration, "I Can Read" / "Livin' Large," and the Summer Enrichment Program.
	Target Date	6/30/2018

# Estimate the Entrepreneurship Program - The immediate outcome will be the enrollment of number and type 20 students. The long-term accomplishment will be for students to of families that successfully run the business with minimal oversight. will benefit from Music Concentration - The immediate outcome will be the enrollment of 25 the proposed families. The long-term accomplishment will be measured through surveys. activities Participants will be asked what lasting benefits they obtained as a result of the program and if they will continue to practice the art of music concentration. "I Can Read" and "Livin' Large" - The immediate outcome will be the enrollment of 40 students. The long-term accomplishment will be measured through report card grade comparison and parental progress reports. Summer Enrichment Program - The immediate outcome will be the enrollment of 80 children. The long-term accomplishment will be measured by the participants themselves. Participants will be surveyed as to what they liked best about the program and what they liked least, if they learned new skills, if they would return to the program, and if they enjoyed how they spent their summer of learning. Location This program primarily servies the Highland Area of Niagara Falls. Description

	Planned Activities	<ol> <li>Entrepreneurship Program - This program will teach children and youth how to run a business. Participants will suggest ideas, create a product, develop a business plan and learn marketing skills. Participants will have the opportunity to explore their creative abilities while learning a variety of life lessons such as teamwork, financial literacy, the value of hard work, dedication and commitment.</li> <li>Music Concentration - This program will help promote the family bond by combining the soothing sounds of classical music and meditation. Studies have shown that classical music aids in treatment, enhances mental activity, boosts moods and encourages creativity. This program will open the door to a new genre of music for many.</li> </ol>
		3. "I Can Read" and "Livin' Large" - To address the need for improved literacy, the NFHA seeks funding to continue its "I Can Read" and "Livin' Large" afterschool tutorial programs. These programs are designed to increase the reading and comprehension skills of children and youth in grades K -12, as well as, improve scores on standardized tests. Classes are held Monday - Friday from 2:45 p.m 6:00 p.m. Students are instructed by NFHA staff, Niagara University and Niagara County Community College students, and community volunteers. In addition to tutoring, the program provides violence prevention and self-esteem building seminars, arts and crafts, math BINGO, college prep activities, educational movies, incentive awards and prizes.
		4. Summer Enrichment Program -The Summer Enrichment program is a comprehensive program that provides individualized educational, social, cultural and recreational components geared to each individual child's level of learning. Field trips are taken each Friday and give participants from low income backgrounds a chance to explore something new.
10	Project Name	Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club 17th Street Revitalization Project
	Target Area	Low-Mod Target Area
	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	This capital improvement would increase program areas within, and make necessary improvements to, the 17th Street Clubhouse.
	Target Date	6/30/2017

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities

The immediate impact will be an excitement in the community to having a space that is high quality in their neighborhood. There has been some new places opening in near-by areas and many of our parents and kids have mentioned wanting something like that here where they live. Within the first three months kids will experience new programs such as cooking, gardening, STEAM activities and music lab. These programs will be up and running and will continue to be available for the long term. The increase program areas will allow us to serve more kids. We will be able to take kids from our current wait list as well as with the new exciting program offerings we should see our numbers increase immediately. Our staff will be happier due to mot having so many limitations on what programs that can do with the kids. We should see greater creativity. All of these items will increase how happy our kids are thus increasing their overall Club experience. Families will be less stressed and kids will feel valued. We expect this project to have several long term benefits. The first is the increased number of kids that will be able to be members during their childhood and teens years. There should be a decrease in juvenile crime in our area and an increase in teens graduating high school. Our organization should see an increase in donations and public support because of the increase in kids served and data supporting our impact. We will measure our planned results using our member tracking software and results from the National Youth Outcomes Initiative Survey (NYOI). The NYOI is a survey kids take themselves and answer questions about how they feel the Club is doing.

#### **Short Term Goals:**

- 1. Increase program size from 200 to 500 kids/teens
- 2. During the course of 1 full school year, 80% of Club kids will increase their math grade
- 3. During the course of 1 full school year, 80% of Club kids will increase their English grade

#### Medium Term Goal:

1. 75 % of youth served during our first year will return to the program each school year

#### Long Term Goals:

1. 85% of Members graduate high school

90% of NFBGC Members will stay engaged in the Club and other enrichment activities at least 104 days a year

		Facility is located at 725-17th Street in Niagara Falls. Eligibility for
		participation in NFBGC programming is city-wide, though capital project will
		have a particularly substantial impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

#### **Planned Activities**

The Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club would redesign the 17th Street Clubhouse to take rooms that are currently unusable for youth such as the shower room and other rooms that could be used for programming but are currently used for staff or storage and make them into activity rooms. We are also looking to renovate current activity spaces so they can be more accessible to kids and provide a broader range of programs. Years ago an old photography room was converted into an into an office but all plumbing was kept in tact. We plan on converting this space into an indoor garden and science room allowing our kids and teens to do hands on science experiments. The multi purpose classroom is right across the hall from the planned science lab making it a great resource for experiments and lessons as well as a great space for our partnering programs to use such as the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, Niagara Falls Public Schools and Youth Mentoring Services to only name a few. At one time we had a kitchen in the back of the building off the gym. It was turned into storage space. It is the perfect location to build a teaching kitchen and has access to our outdoor gardens. The kids will be able to grow food, harvest it, learn to cook it and hopefully enjoy eating it. Of our over 1300 kids attending each year, only 14% are teens. To attract teens to come to the Club, we are looking to add a dedicated but still supervised space for them to socialize, work on homework and host appropriate teen programming. It will be designed with teens contributing to the process. Our current art room is so small we can only do limited programming with about 4 youth at once. This space will be extended and organized to accommodate more children and a broader range of activities. Just as the teens need their own space so do our younger kids in the club. Fun colorful furniture that is "right sized" for the age group with a dedicated area for reading will be added. Our computer lab will be updated and include a small space dedicated for a music lab and recording studio. The game room will be upgraded with a new floor plan, paint and lighting to give it a bright, vibrant fun design. This project will also address our infrastructure deficiencies by:

- 1. Updating all out of date infrastructure such as plumbing, heating/air conditioning and windows thus creating a more energy efficient building.
- 2. taking space that is currently not usable for kids and transforming it to program space such as a science lab and teen lounge.
- 3. making more use of space suitable for offices so we will no longer have to take program space for staff functions.
- 4. Creating the right atmospheres to encourage fun, creativity and learning through the use of color and kid appropriate furniture. The funds we receive from CDBG would specifically be used towards upgrading our heating/air conditioning, doors and windows.

11	11 Project Name Youth Counseling RFP	
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
Goals Supported Increase in youth services Permanent Housing for the Homeless  Needs Addressed Provide a suitable living environment  Funding CDBG: \$60,000		,
		Provide a suitable living environment
		CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Provision of counseling services to children served by NF CD's ESG subrecipients. Funds will be awarded to Family and Children's Service of Niagara. The need for this service was highlighted in discussions with our ESG subrecipients during the 2017 ESG monitoring conducted by the HUD Buffalo Field Office.
	Target Date	6/30/2018

Estimate the number and type of families that	All children served will be referred by our ESG sub-recipients, YWCA Carolyn's House, Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc., and Family and Children's Service.
will benefit from the proposed	Outcomes will include but are subject to change based on bi-annual statistical assessments: Annual Outcomes:
activities	Total Assessments: 125 youth
	Total Assessments from Collaborations: 50 youth
	Immediate access appointments fulfilled: 50
	Immediate access appointments fulfilled from collaborations: 25 Long term counseling referrals: 50
	Attendance rate for all counseling appointments: 80%
	Via survey:
	Youth who indicate they feel they can make safer choices after counseling: 85% Youth who indicate they are better equipped to handle stressful situations: 85% CMI will indicate FACS meeting their needs for high priority youth: 90%
	YWCA will indicate FACS meeting their needs for high priority youth: 90%
	Counseling sessions will be evaluated using Youth Counseling Impact Scale (YCIS) which is an assessment of youth's perceptions about impact on thoughts and behaviors after each session. Sessions provide tools for change.
	SFBT outcomes would demonstrate a decrease in:
	1.internalizing behaviors such as anxiety and depression
	Externalizing behaviors such as aggression and social skill difficulty
Location Description	Counseling sessions will be based out of the Family and Children's Service Casey House site, located at 710 Cedar Avenue in Niagara Falls. The location is close to a high need population center and allows quick access to services for

partner agencies.

	Planned Activities	Family & Children's Service Youth Services Programs Youth Counselor will provide individual and family counseling to help meet the needs of an under served population in Niagara Fails. The youth counselor will use Solution Focused Brief Therapy as a model of counseling. The youth counselor will be based out of Casey House located at 710 Cedar Avenue in Niagara Falls. The location is close to a high need population center and the location will allow partner agencies quick easy access to services, Family &
		Children's Service of Niagara's (FRCS) Youth Counselor will provide counseling and assessments to Community Missions, and The YWCA. Both agencies have agreed to partner with FACS by providing referrals of youth in need from their programs. FACS will provide access within 24-48 hours in most situations to assessment with the counselor. This was an area stressed by CMI and The YWCA, quick assessment and access to a counselor. FACS Will set a side 1 priority appointment daily, Monday through Friday between 9am and 4pm to allow CMI and The YWCA access to service when CMI and The YWCA have accessed the youth on their own to be of higher priority.
		Youth in shelter at Casey House and The CRIB receive assessment within 72 hours of intake. Priority scheduling may include, but is not limited to, severe trauma, sexual assault/abuse and many domestic and family violence experiences. FACS will provide CMI and The YWCA with and eligibility tool to help assist them with prioritizing their youth to the highest need group, eligible for immediate assessment. In addition, 15% of all monthly slots will be allocated for priority scheduling to meet the needs of The YWCA and CMI. This is including the 24-48 hour assessment time slots available to eligible clients from CMI and The YWCA.
		Counseling will, in most cases, be provided for 3-6 months and appropriate outside referrals will be made for longer term service as needed. Case Management from The YWCA, CMI and FACS will be able to effectively manage care for these youth for a longer period of time by keeping service within the collaboration stated.
		If determined appropriate by the FACS Counselor sessions may be held off site. Otherwise sessions will be held at a FACS location.
12	Project Name	Highland Community Food Access Project
	Target Area	Highland Target Area
	Goals Supported	Residents placed in employment opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide a suitable living environment Provide expanded economic opportunities
		Provide expanded economic opportunities

	Funding	unding CDBG: \$18,152	
<b>Description</b> Food service point of sale in Highland Avenue neighborhood, w designated as a food desert by several regional studies.		Food service point of sale in Highland Avenue neighborhood, which has been designated as a food desert by several regional studies.	
	Target Date	6/30/2018	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 13,000 individuals reside in the Highland Avenue area of Niagara Falls. Three tracts in the City of Niagara Falls have been designated food deserts by the US Department of Agriculture, and each one forms part of the Highland Avenue area: 36063020200, 36063022601, and 36063020300.	
	Location Description	Three tracts in the City of Niagara Falls have been designated food deserts by the US Department of Agriculture, and each one forms part of the Highland Avenue area: 36063020200, 36063022601, and 36063020300. Only locations within the Highland Avenue area will be considered to receive funds.	
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to increase sustainable access to fresh fruits and vegetables in the Highland Avenue area through a new or improved point-of-sale. NF CD is open to a range of responses to our RFP for this project, and would be willing to fund appropriate site acquisition, build-out/improvement, technical assistance, and/or acquisition of necessary equipment for the operation of a point-of-sale for fresh food in the Highland Avenue target area. Potential sub-recipients are grocers, CSAs, co-ops, or other non-profit organizations.	
13	13 Project Name City of Niagara Falls 2017 Administration		
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation City Park/Public Space Improvement Increase in youth services Residents placed in employment opportunities Permanent Housing for the Homeless	
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing Provide a suitable living environment Provide expanded economic opportunities	
<b>Funding</b> CDBG: \$436,844		CDBG: \$436,844	
	Description	Administration - Cannot Exceed 20% of the total 2017 CDBG Amount.	
	Target Date	6/30/2018	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	The City of Niagara Falls will use CDBG funds for salaries and office expenditures in support of CDBG projects.
14	Project Name	City of Niagara Falls HOME Targeted Housing Renovation - 2017 HOME
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	HOME: \$70,000
	Description	Niagara Falls Community Development will oversee the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative and execute deferred rehabilitation loans at targeted properties.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2-3 households will be renovated using these funds.
	Location Description	City's service area is city-wide, though CD HOME Rehab will focus on Homeownership Auction properties.
	Planned Activities	
15	Project Name	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Targeted Housing Renovation - 2017 HOME
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	HOME: \$232,600

Description	City-wide Housing Renovation Program administered by Center City Neighborhood Development Corp. and Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. The program will be overseen by Niagara Falls Community Development. The Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative will offer services city- wide, breaking down the current geographical and programmatic boundaries of targeted areas.
Target Date	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Niagara Falls is not only an economically declining city with a decreasing population, but also is an aging city with a high rental base for a small city. The housing stock is old, neighborhoods are in need of stabilization and the City has over 70% of people under \$30,000 in income per year. This proposal will Continue ongoing efforts to address the declining housing stock in the City of Niagara Falls, stabilizing communities and neighborhoods with programs that reinvest dollars and generate a compliance of safety infractions that will allow for safe, decent and affordable housing. Those on limited incomes especially with 80% of HUD AMI can not afford a roof, furnace or the high cost of plumbing or electrical. Programs such as this will allow for affordability which for many is a deciding factor in keeping their home. Addressing the infractions and violations under this proposal will allow homeowners to maintain their home furthering helping our efforts to stabilize the neighborhods and communities in the City of Niagara Falls.  NF Housing Collaborative estimates that 10 low/mod income households will be served.
Location Description	Target area is city-wide.

	T.	,
	Planned Activities	The Niagara Falls Collaborative will provide City-Wide core services in the entire City of Niagara Falls of Homeowner occupied home rehabilitation to income groups at 80% of median income or less as defined by the US Dept. of HUD Area Median income guidelines. The NF Collaborative will ensure oversight of all program criteria, guidelines and processes ensuring uniformity and offering one identical product for Home Rehab in the City of Niagara Falls. Although The Collaborative is comprised of two successful agencies, Niagara Falls NHS, Inc. will be the lead agency for the purposes of this grant application. Being the lead agency, Niagara Falls NHS will ensure all compliances with all CDBG/HOME regulations, be the sole agency for application intake and will prepare setup/completion documents as well as incremental draws per project. We believe that our approach sharing both front/back office procedures make The Collaborative more effective in achieving the desired goals and further strengthens the non-profit working relationship of both agencies. This will allow the rehab staff to dedicate time solely in the preparation and management of rehab clients. Each applicant will be screened for complete eligibility then handed off to the rehab staff of the Collaborative who will ensure the necessary inspection, lead and asbestos reports are obtained. Rehab staff will write detailed specifications and put the job out for competitive bid to approved contractors.  For the purpose of this HOME application, The Niagara Falls Collaborative will also utilize HOME dollars for defined CHDO projects that will earn additional dollars each of the agencies under the collaborative.  In reviewing this application please keep in mind the Auditors of Niagara Falls NHS, Heveron and Co CPA's have stated as auditors they can not sign the certification needed for this application. In conversations, I am told auditors can not certify but can render an opinion which is attached to the back of the 2015 audit for Niagara Falls NHS. Niagara Fall
16	Project Name	City of Niagara Falls Administration - 2017 HOME
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	HOME: \$22,527
	Description	Administration - Total administration costs cannot Exceed 10% of the total 2017 HOME Amount.

	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Admin funds will be used to pay personnel and office expenses.
17	Project Name	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Admin - 2017
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	HOME: \$11,095
	Description	Administration - Total administration costs cannot Exceed 10% of the total 2017 HOME Amount.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Admin funds will be used for personnel and office expenses.
18	Project Name	HESG 2017
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Permanent Housing for the Homeless
	Needs Addressed	Provide decent housing
	Funding	ESG: \$200,224

Description	Rapid Re-Housing, Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention, and Street Outreach for YWCA of the Niagara Frontier, Inc., Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc., Niagara Community Action Program, and Family and Children's Service.
Target Date	6/30/2018
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1,040 people will be served.
Location Description	
Planned Activities	<pre><colgroup><col width="395"/> <col width="676"/> <col width="219"/> </colgroup>YWCA of the Niagara Frontier, Inc Carolyn's HouseCarolyn'sHouseclass="xl71" width="676"&gt;Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach.\$42,604Outreach.\$42,604Height="84"&gt;Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc. Of Niagara Frontier, Inc. EmergencyShelter and Street Outreach.\$42,604width="395"&gt;CMI/YWCA Rapid RehousingHeight="84"&gt;HousingWidth="395"&gt;CMI/YWCA Rapid RehousingHeight="84"&gt;HousingWidth="395"&gt;Fapid RehousingProgram.HouseWidth="395"&gt;Niagara CommunityProgramHouseWidth="395"&gt;Niagara CommunityProgramHouseWidth="395"&gt;HomelessnessPrevention.Height="84"Height="84"Width="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesHoto-"Sessential Services.Width="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesWidth="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesWidth="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesWidth="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesWidth="395"&gt;FamilyAnd Children's ServicesHoto-"Sessential ServicesHoto-"Sessential ServicesHoto-"Sessential ServicesHoto-"Sessential ServicesHoto-"Sessential Services<!--</td--></pre>

## 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

2017 Annual Plan activities were concentrated within 2015 qualified census tracts (QCT)s using data from the 2010 decennial census and three releases of 5-year tabulations from the American Community Survey). Specific project mapping is included as an attachment to this application. Individual census tract information is included in the "Projects" section of this application.

### **Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-Wide Target Area	30

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution** 

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

The goals and objectives stated in the five year comprehensive plan are designed to benefit low to moderate income families. Concentrating investment within QCTs is the most strategic method of executing these goals and objectives and seeing tangible results as soon as possible.

#### Discussion

# **Affordable Housing**

# AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

### Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	1,040
Non-Homeless	106
Special-Needs	0
Total	1,146

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through			
Rental Assistance	25		
The Production of New Units	0		
Rehab of Existing Units	24		
Acquisition of Existing Units	82		
Total	131		

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

#### Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls collaborates with the Niagara Falls Housing Authority (NFHA) to encourage public housing improvements and public housing residents' involvement.

Our five year strategic plan supports the PHA Plan with the following actions and commitments: Use of HOME and CDBG funds to expand the supply of decent, affordable housing in the region; Use of HOME and CDBG funds to stabilize neighborhoods in which there is an excessive concentration of poverty.

Use of CDBG funds to support essential youth services programming.

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

Renovation of owner occupied units.

Renovation of rental units though NHS and Center City Neighborhood Development Corps via the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative.

Continue to administer the city's leased housing voucher program.

Continue to attract and incentivize housing developments that include in-fill, project based vouchers.

Provision of first time home buyer grants for low to moderate income families, including current NFHA tenants.

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

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

The Niagara Falls PHA, NY404, is designated as standard as of the final SEMAP score for fiscal year ended 12/31/2016.

Discussion

Annual Action Plan 2017

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

The main updates to our approach to homelessness are as follows:

- 1) We are working with our Continuum of Care to have our sub-recipients implement coordinated entry before Jan 1, 2018. Our sub-recipients have been responsive and cooperative in this process.
- 2) We are using CDBG funds for a youth counseling program that serves our ESG sub-recipients. This need was highlighted by our sub-recipients during a 2017 ESG monitoring conducted by our local HUD field office.
- 3) We are in the process of discussing potential amendments to this plan that were not feasible within the time constraints imposed by the application due date. We expect to prioritize homelessness prevention and eliminate or significantly reduce street outreach funding.

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

YWCA Carolyn's House, NIACAP, Fellowship House, Community Missions and Family and Children Services all include outreach to homeless clients and assessment of their needs. All subrecipients are in compliance with HUD's homeless participation requirements.

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

The rapid rehousing program, administered by Community Missions and YWCA Carolyn's House provide transitional housing as part of our ESG investment.

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 rapid rehousing program, administered by Community Missions and YWCA Carolyn's House provide transitional housing as part of our ESG investment. The YWCA specifically is targeted for mothers with children, escaping domestic violence. Our sub-recipients provide case management for all clients to

improve client outcomes and prevent future homelessness. Our CDBG investment in youth counseling via Family and Children's Service of Niagara provides an opportunity to impact the most at-risk youth being served by our sub-recipients, addressing risk factors that have been found to be strongly associated with homelessness as an adult.

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.

As it currently stands in this application, we will be funding a homeless prevention program through the Niagara County Community Action Program. As noted in the introduction to this section, we are planning revisions that would prioritize homelessness prevention more widely. This is based on feedback from our sub-recipients, who have noted numerous cases where potential clients have reached out for assistance but could not be helped by transitional housing programs because they were not yet homeless, which in effect incetivized homelessness in these cases. We will continue these discussions and execute any necessary amendments to this Action Plan as soon as possible.

#### Discussion

The 2017 Action Plan's proposed funding allocations are as follows:

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

#### Introduction:

The City of Niagara Falls will be releasing a housing market study RFP in August 2017. This will be used to formulate our approach to renovation, affordable housing investment, and city housing policy.

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

The City does not impose any public policies that constrain housing development or the access to housing. The Community Development Department has spearheaded investments in affordable housing across the city, and will be releasing a senior housing RFP in August 2017.

#### **Discussion:**

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

#### Introduction:

This section dicussees efforts to meet underserved needs, expanding housing opportunity, reducing lead based paint hazards and improving institutional structures.

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

This action plan, perhaps more than past plans, presents a concerted effort to address underserved needs. In a shift from historic practices, this plan continues to fund housing rehabilitation in the Highland area of Niagara Falls, while simultaneously funding new youth mentoring and food access initiatives (through a concurrent reprogramming of funding from past action plans) in the area, addressing needs which have been historically underserved. Our youth counseling project likewise addresses an underserved need highlighted by our ESG subrecipients.

### Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Please see the annual projects (CDBG and HOME) that will execute housing renovations and closing cost grants.

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

The City provides financial assistance to income-eligible home owners to abate lead based paint hazards through the housing renovation program.

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

This action plan prioritizes home ownership and housing renovation in an effort to help low-moderate income individuals build equity. Through an emphasis on youth programming and related infrastructure, we hope to address some of the factors that lead children to continue in the cycle of poverty that often afflicts low income neighborhoods.

#### Actions planned to develop institutional structure

In the previous program year, the City created a dedicated Finance Unit, which has led to marked improvements in compliance with HUD regulations. The creation of a Home Ownership Specialist has likewise improved the operations of our rehab and closing cost grant programs. In the coming year, management within the Community Development Department is dedicated to improving work processes to increase the department's capacity for community outreach and effective management of our grants. The Participatory Budgeting initiative included in this action plan was made possible due to improvements in our work processes that allowed for more effective planning and capacity-building

within the department.

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

Our Department is dedicated to consistent participation in the CoC, and our role as administrators of the city-wide housing rehabilitation program puts us in constant contact with the city's two active Community Housing Development Organizations.

**Discussion:** 

# **Program Specific Requirements**

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

#### Introduction:

The City of Niagara Falls is using all 2017 CDBG on activities or investments that are directed towards, or accessible to low to moderate income families living in our community. HOME funds are being dedicated to home owner renovation projects, executed by the City of Niagara Falls and our certified subrecipients. The 2017 ESG program

# HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

The City of Niagara Falls will dedicate 2017 HOME funds to home owner renovation projects, executed by the Niagara Falls Community Development Department and the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative, a partnership between Center City Neighborhood Development Corp, Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services Inc., and Niagara Falls Community Development.

The use of HOME funds will be dedicated to home owner renovation projects, by application.

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:

Recapture provisions are based on 24 CFR 92.254 (a) (5) (ii) which stipulates the conditions for recapture of the HOME investment used to assist low-income families purchasing a home. Homebuyer recapture provisions are included in, or as a deed restriction rider, to the recorded deed of trust that secures HOME financing.

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:  N/A
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:
	N/A
	Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(I)(4)
1.	Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
	The annual competitive ESG application references HUD's ESG guidelines and applicable federal language.
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 City of Niagara Falls is working with all ESG sub-recipients as well as HAWNY, our COC, to implement a coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements. Our coordinated entry system will be based on, and integrated with HAWNY's current coordinated entry system in use in Erie County.
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).
	Private/ nonprofit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations can competitively apply for ESG funds during our annual application process that includes HOME and CDBG funds. The ESG application is separated from the general application. The applications are now reviewed and scored by the ESG Review Panel, focusing on the following programmatic priorities:

Rapid Rehousing
Ability to reduce the number of homeless families in Niagara Falls
Focus on unsheltered homeless persons who are living outdoors or in other places not intended for human habitation.
Homeless veterans
Victims of domestic violence.
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.
During the development of the Consolidated Plan, the City of Niagara Falls consulted with the CoC in making decisions related to ESG funds for the five year cycle. The CoC includes representation from the homeless community, which meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405 (A). Niagara Falls Community Development continues to increase the department's engagement with and participation in the CoC.
Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.
Reduction on the number of reported homeless persons
Increase in the number of individuals that find permanent, sustainable housing, with choice

4.

5.

Improved data collection among stakeholders

# **Attachments**

# 2017 Action Plan Survey Results

60 Participants

- 12 Paper Surveys Submitted
- 48 Online Surveys Submitted

## Category Results

Ranking	Category	Average Score (0-4)
1	Crime Prevention Services	3.6
2	Street, Sidewalk, and Green Space Improvements	3.5
3.€	Youth Programs & Facilities	3.4
4	Workforce Development	3.3
5	Housing Rehabilitation	3.3
6.00	Storefront/Local Business Investment	3.2
7	Targeted Blight Clearance	3.1
8	Public Facility Improvements	3.0

### **Public Comments**

#### Most used words

15	CITY	6	RECREATIONAL	5	PROGRAM
10	NEED .	6	PEOPLE	5	POLICE
8	PARK	6	FALLS	5	PUBLIC
7	NIAGARA	6	HOMES	5	CENTER
7	TAXES	6	AREAS	5	LIVE
7	NEW	5	COMMUNITY	-5	WORK
6	OPPORTUNITIES	5	SEGMENT	5	HELP

#### Full Public Comments as Written (29 Comments total)

Population study prior to census. Number of poverty increasing.

Money allocated for supervising our parks. Protecting our investments that we have put into our parks. Maybe a program like the Ranger Police Program downtown.

More private business throughout the neighborhoods -- bakeries, shops, coffee shops, ice cream parlors.

Neighborhood Elementary Schools, Community Center Facilities, Young Adult Programs (Recreational 21-35), Young Adult Mentorship

Ironically, the segment of our society in which we improportionately spend the greatest amount of criminal justice funds is also the segment of society that we spend improportionately the least amount recreational funds, and that segment 's recreational choice is basketball, a recreational activity that has continuously been avoided in the city's largest and most complete park. Others and I believe, on good sources, that the reason for such is race-based.

Of further irony, the segment of society of which we have the least criminal justice burden, senior citizens, is also the segment that we spend an improportionate amount of resources. It is clear that such exists for political purposes.

We need to put basketball at Hyde Park. Furthermore, we need to make Hyde Park's pool a year-round amenity.

I have often said, we don't need more police, we need less crime; less crime saves us money now and often far into the future when you consider the cost of police, police overtime, and the legacy cost of their medical and pensions. have long said that we need to take on an aggressive crime abatement program so that in the future that we actually drop our costs and improve the quality of our citizens lives. We need to be able to attract families, that have working parents, that will build houses and buy vacant, to reduce the cost of services to any individual. A covered swimming pool as a part of the expansion of the John Duke Center to make it a city sponsored family Recreational Center would serve such a purpose, if we have programmed things for our children to do then we can reach those goals.

John Duke Center is a Senior Citizens Center, one of two that we have in the city. We can imply that community centers, for senior citizens are working because they have and had all of those items while they were growing up. We need to stick to the things that do and have worked and stop seeking new ways of not doing things.

I know that you are not proud of what the city has become, few peopleare, but we can be very proud of what it can become if we employ pragmatic vision combined with hard work, we could have a pretty decent little place here. If we don't start moving into that direction soon, we will only get worse.

Buildings should be right up to sidewalk.
Find ways to hide parking lots from street view, especially downtown.
More spaces that bring the community together.
you're only as rich as your poorest citizen, to progress as a whole we have to lift up our lower class
I loved the idea behind the skate park because children were involved in making something for them. It gives them responsibility, ownership & pride. I'd like to see more of this sort of collaboration in development of green space, entertainment facilities and community development. Maybe work with Library board & hold parental workshops, and bullying or pro paynit forward kind of thing. I admire all you have done. Keep up the good work making NF the place to be.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAM
100

There seem to be some historic buildings that aren't in use. I'd like to see more museums that might attract more

tourism. A Tesla museum, for example.

Niagara falls and the entire area stretching from Buffalo to Niagara falls, should be one of the most sought after areas to live and work. We have such extraordinary natural resources, beautiful architecture and public areas. Most importantly, the people who call the Niagara Frontier their home are welcoming, intelligent and resourceful. We have a wealth of well educated young people, skilled workers and forward thinkers. We must push back on the political machine that kept the area stagnant for 100 years and fight to move forward bringing cutting edge jobs to the region. By bringing new jobs into the city in particular, will encourage other businesses to come and the people who work or tourists visiting will spend more time and money in the city. It will encourage them to stay! More activities, more destinations and more gathering places! More concerts, galieries. Better public transportation. We must fix the schools! Better educated parents will encourage education for their children. An educated population and well educated entrepreheurs will change everything!

A P . . . . A Date of the Control of

Evaluate different opportunities to utilize the NF Public Library in a manner to create an attractive on Main St. Its simple presence architecturally draws folks. City of Niagara Falls History Museum. Continue to look at and invest in connecting our public parks to our downtown through trails, etc. Highlight our waterfront recreation opportunities and stage "popup" events to raise awareness of kayaking, paddle boarding, etc especially within Hyde Park. Evaluate different opportunities to invent Hyde Park as a Niagara's Recreation Destination.

Yes don't have home owners wait so long for home rehabilitation it should be done before the person moves in. Waiting makes some homeowners have to pay for costly repairs that they really cannot afford thats not fair! All sidwalks should be fixed and trees taken care of. This city is not kept up. I am a tax payer and been here all my life its terrible!

know this might be a stretch, but an indoor waterpark would be awesome not only for local residents but for visitors. It really would be economically Feasible

#### Workforce development

An increase in police presence in at-risk areas of the North End and other troubled areas of the city. Increase in investigations of unprofessional business practices of area corner stores which have had a high volume of crime and violence in the city. Keep building more opportunities for youth to be able to enjoy structured recreational opportunities such as the new NF Skate Park. Build something more for them to do in the new areas of the North End as well. Also look into developing youth leader internships and vocational apprenticeships for our youth to learn job experiences. The Pop-Up Park experiences and other new opportunities (such as the NF Skate Park) should be found a way to be experienced during the winter time as well. Create new winter festival ideas for the city to come out enjoy and/or add on to the already present activities with enhancements. The city has recently shown a lot of growth —keep going forth.

Helping middle class purchase homes. First time home buyers. New Small business devlopment

Community Development should be working on improving our city's infrastructure and making its public spaces more accessible and inviting. There is private interest in building rehabilitation that does not need city funding. It just needs the city to release some of its individual land banked residential properties.

Develop telehealth for distant comunities

Esparcimiento para los adolescentes en actividades iúdicas (Original). Recreation for adolescents in play activities (Google Translate)

We have been trying to buy a house for years. We first had ideas of getting a house through a city-owned property auction, but those are designed to favor investors. Investors are also favored by bank-owned homes as they can pay cash, and we can't. We are approved for a mortgage, and we would love to live in Niagara Falls; however, most homes are out of our reach because of the high taxes. Even though we can afford the purchase price, the extremely high taxes mean we can't even look. A \$30,000 home is out of our reach when the taxes are over \$2,000 a year. Homes in Buffalo usually have taxes of less than \$1,000. If you want homeowners instead of "investors", "landlords", and "flippers", taxes need to be more reasonable. If taxes were reasonable, individual homeowners could buy and live in more homes, increasing the tax base and offsetting the lower taxes. We are forced to look in Buffalo, despite the fact we WANT to live in Niagara Falls. Additional note: it's not easy to discern the different areas where grants are available and know who to call. We wish we were notified about auctions, too. The idea of the Isaiah training program is worthy, but the application is awful. They should be helping people stay in their houses—fix roofs, gutters, and foundations. Help poor homeowners not get over their heads. Don't bother ruining a lovely old house by scraping it out and making it "new" because you remove the charm, AND you price it out of range. Update electrical and help regular people who can't help thomsolves because they are too poor to maintain their homes adequately. If you do that, then these houses won't end up falling down, city-owned, and empty.

Help retree Niagara Falls	
2300	
Not	
Provide capabilities to live in the countryside so as to a	avoid a rural exodus
adult education and literacy	
ree power for all	19
	ity blocks would look much better with trees along the streets
Many trees have been taken down because of age or d	lisease but very few if any have been replaced.

Safety issues need to be addressed including a focus on mental health issues and vagrancy. No matter how well lit a neighborhood is or how many parking spaces there are, if it appears fearful and the sidewalk are congested with seemingly scary people, many will continue to retreat to the suburbs for shopping, dining and residing.

Jibreel K, Riley 836 Eggert Road Eggertsville, NY 14226 (716) 310-1228 rilevik@me.com February 2, 2017

Niagara Falls Community Development Staff and City of Niagara Falls City of Niagara Falls 1022 Main Street, P.O. Box 69 Niagara Falls, NY 14302

Dear Niagara Falls Community Development Staff and City of Niagara Falls:

Lurge the staff and the City of Niagara Falls to "think twice about blight." I encourage the communities of the city of Niagara Falls to look deep within itself to imagine an alternative tomorrow, that involves a growing city with residents. Too often, urban officials approach the issues of "urban blight" with utopian ideologies that harken from the great architects and planners of modernism however in too many cases, these measures have left urban communities more distressed than in previous said blighted conditions. The past that created the blight or slum conditions, is in the past. I urge the staff and officials to see a better tomorrow within these communities, implement bold measures for sustainability, specially the adoption of adaptive-reuse technology and other sustainable development techniques that have been applied in successfully implemented in cities around the world.

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood..." Daniel Hedson Burnnam

Lencourage Magara Fails to push even further in sustainability efforts by adopting the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, commonly known as The Paris Agreement. Along with UN Agenda 2030, Niagara Falls can lead the globe and New York State at accomplishing climate resiliency with bold vision to make Niagara Falls and Western New York a climate resilient region for ages to come.

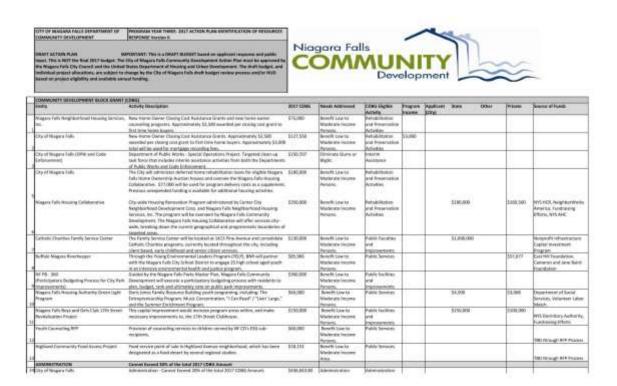
I would like to stress again for the staff and Niagara Falls to "think twice about blight." Give rehabilitation a chance within the city. Many remarkable neighborhoods are home to many architectural treasures that can ever he regressed again. Architectural organisht is not criminal por is the people that happen to be agart of

ICACI DE LECLEURES ORC	Bill. McDicettara on american in the committee for the bearing man melbers are an area
these communities. Wi	ithin the urban planning community, the usage of "blight" is a loaded term that has
been used to Justify th	e elimination of many urban communities, in haste. Decriminalize architecture,
revitalize the remarkal	ble city that already exist.

Sincerely,

Jibreel K. Riley

#### **Grantee Unique Appendices**



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#### Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

#### CERTIFICATIONS

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In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard,

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan - It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as arrended, to connection with any activity assisted with fonding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

- No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
- If any funds other than I ederal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person 2. for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
- 3. If will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants. and contracts under grants, loans, and ecoperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction -- The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is scaking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

Signature/Authorized Official Date

Annual Action Plan 2017

#### Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation — It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

**Community Development Plan** — Its consolicated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan — It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HTJD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

- Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health, or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);
- Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG fauds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) , (a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;
- 3. Special Assessments, it will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it tacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

#### Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its

jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-yielent civil rights demonstrations; and

Principal and the same and same and the same

 A policy of enforcing applicable State and local taws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws — The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 2001-3619), and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R;

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

Signature/Authorized Official Detc

ત્રાહ⊖ાદા Title Specific HOME Certifications

And the track and the respect to the second

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

**Femant Based Rental Assistance** — If the participating jurisdiction intends to provide tenant-based rental assistance:

The use of HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of the participating jurisdiction's consolidated plan for expanding the supply, affordability, and availability of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable bousing.

Eligible Activities and Costs — it is using and will use HOMff funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR § 92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME (ands for probibited activities, as described in § 92.214.

Appropriate Financial Assistance — before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in secondance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing:

Signature/Authorized Official Date

24110110212-741 (-7411-4411)

\_COSSORUL\_\_\_ Title

## **ESG** Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program Recipient certifies that;

Major rehabilitation/conversion — If an emergency shelter's rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation. If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion. In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the jurisdiction will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to sirect outreach or emergency shelter, the jurisdiction will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the jurisdiction serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

**Renovation** – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The jurisdiction will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal State, local, and private assistance available for such individuals.

**Matching Funds** – The jurisdiction will obtain marching amounts tequired under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The jurisdiction has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement — To the maximum extent practicable, the jurisdiction will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the jurisdiction undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The jurisdiction will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from

publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

PERL LET'S ONLY LESSES OF THE LESSES LET'S PERLET AND THE

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

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## APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

## INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING:

## A. Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to fife the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such isilare.

Questing 70/25

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Explication Date; 10/81/2019

Application for Federal Assis	stance SF-424		70 Transaction
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Application	Continuation	* Other (Specify):	
Changed/Corrected Application	34 (22		
·			988
18 Date Received:	4. Applicant Identifier		
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5a. I-oderal Fintity Identifier:		5b, Federal Award Identifier.	
			7222
State Use Only:	39	STATE OF STA	
6 Date Received by State	7, State Application	n Identifiar.	
8, APPLICANT INFORMATION:			
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'a Legal Name; City of Missage	gra. Pa. Le	T	
* b. Employer/Lexpayer Identification	Number (EIN/TIN).	10 Organizationa DUNS:	
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d. Address:		58 5054 5065	
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e. Organizational Unit:		9772	
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The Director, Magada Pal	As Community Jeve opnes	mi.	
Organizational Affiliation.			
City of Niagoro Madia			
*Telephone Number (718) 635	0794	Fax Nurrben	-493)
*Email: seth.plecirilloznia	agara Fall sny, gov		

THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:	
the City of Township Government	
Type of Applicant 2: Soloct Applicant Type:	20%
	5751 BANKS MARKET
Type of Applicant 3, Select Applicant Type.	
· Other (specify):	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:	
United States Department of Housing and Orban D	Pevelopment
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	
14,231	
CFDA Title	
EMERGERCY SOLUTIONS CHAYT PROGRAM	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:	
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Comeral Section	8.3943.917.02
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13. Competition Identification Number:	
13. Competition Identification Number:  Inte:  14. Areas Affected by Project (Gities, Counties, States, etc.):  * 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:  2017 City of Miagary Fall's Annual Action Plan.	Adk Atachnent Oeste Starringel Wew Atlaining to
13. Competition Identification Number:  Inter  14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):  * 15. Descriptive "Itle of Applicant's Project:	Adk Atachnent Oelete Starringel Wew Atlaining to

6. Congressional Districts Of:	<u> </u>
a. Applicant MY-026	*b Frogrem/Project SY -026
Attach an additional ist of Program/Project Congr	rassional Districts if moded.
	Add Attachment   Dolete Attachment   View Attachment
7. Proposed Project:	
a. Start Date:   d0/od/2012	* L. Enii Dale.   05/20/2018
8. Estimated Funding (\$):	
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b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but n	nas not been selected by the State for review.  Goral Debt? (if "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)
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OMB Number 4040 0004 Expiration Data: 10/31/2019

Application for	Federal Assista	ince SF-424	10.000000000000000000000000000000000000	
*1. Type of Submiss Proapplication Application Changes/Core		* 2. Type of Application:  New Confinuation Revision	*If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):  **Cither (Specify):	
* 3. Date Received:	8520	4 Applicant Identifier:		
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8. APPLICANT INF				<u> </u>
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Department Name		1500	Division Name:	
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Title: Director,	Nagora Kalita	community Esveloped	ent	-
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City of Kieger	a Falls	1125		
* Telephone Numbe	C (716) 696-0	794	Fax Number:	
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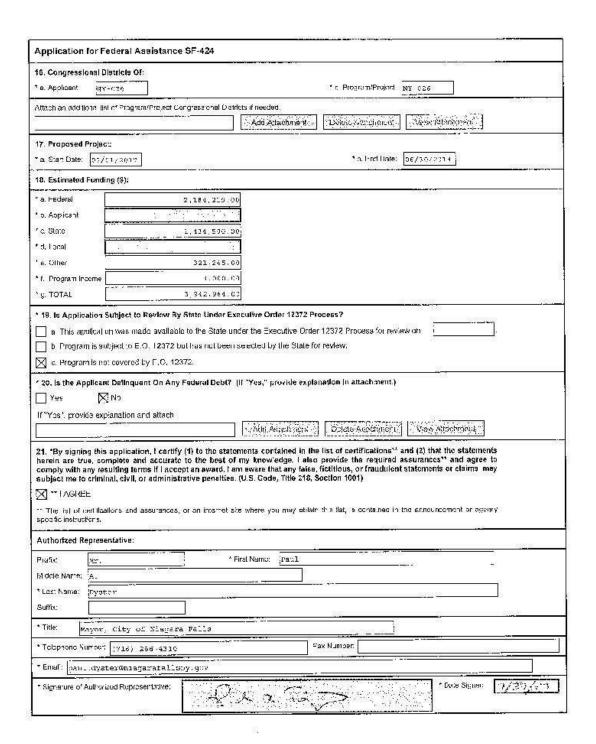
Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
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ype of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:	***
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Other (specify):	
10. Name of Federal Agency:	
Dilled States Department of Dousing and Tuban Development	Ť
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OME REMOVATION PROGRAM	
12. Funding Opportunity Number:	
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Year three of the Five Year Corprehensive Flam, 2015-2019.  Viano supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.	

Application for Federal Assistance	, GI - TAT
6. Congressiona: Districts Of:	
a. Applicant MY-026	*b. Frogram/Project wy-026
ktach an add tional list of Program/Project Co	ongressional Districts if needed
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7. Proposed Project:	
a Start Date: 0 //01/2017	*b. End Date:   06/x0/2628
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c. State	50,000.00
d. Local 9 5 13321	To periodical
e. Other	24.500,60
f. Frogram Incoma	18,000,53
a TOTAL	426.722.00
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C Program is not covered by E.O. 12:	372. Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)
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OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 10/31/2019

Application for Federal Assist	ance SF-424	
1. Type of Submission.  Preapplication  Appiration  Changed/Corrected Application	`2. Type of Application    New     Continuation     Revision	* f Havision, salact appropriate letter(e):  *Other (Specify):
<sup>7</sup> 3. Date Received:	4. Applicant Ident flor:	
07/26/2017	L	(a)
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62		
State Use Only:		
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8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		www.cearast
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<ul> <li>5. Employer (expayer Identification N.)</li> <li>1.6-5002548</li> </ul>	nuner (EIN/TIA).	*c. Organizational DUNS:
d. Address:		
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91/ee12:		
*City: Klagara Fall County/Parish:	<del>2</del>	
'State:		EY: New York
Province:	0) 9/1/20	
*Country:		ISA: INTER SPAINS
^ Z 57 Postal Gods: 1430 1112	3865	
e. Organizational Unit:	vict vivotas	
Department Name:		Civisian Name
Community Development Depar	tric	
f. Name and contact information of	person to be contacted on	matters involving this application:
Prefix: Pr.	* First Na	PMF Selt:
Middle Name.		
'LastName' Piccirillo		
ESIL/Fix;		######################################
Tio: Director, Niagara Fall	s Community Developm	ent
Organizational Affiliation:	1546	
City of Ningara Falls		
* Le aphone Number: (716) 696:0	794	Fax Number:
*Email: aest.piccirillomolog	aralailany.gov	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
병, Yype of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:	
5; City or Textiship (loverment)	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:	
Type of Applicant 3: Scloot Applicant Typo:	
Other (specify):	
10. Name of Federal Agency:	
Drited States Department of Housing and Grown Development	
1). Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	
14,714	
CFDA Title:	<b>—</b> 18
Community Development Block Granes/Small Cities Program	
12. Funding Opportunity Number:	
FR-6"(0-N-0"	
Geroral Mochaer	
13. Competition Identification Number:	******
'ile'	
	li e
	_3
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cilies, Counties, States, etc.):	
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attechmen	
15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:	
Selv City of Risgard Mallo Account Action Plan CDES Program Year three of the Five Year Comprehensive Plan, 2015-2019.	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency Instructions.	



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