### **Executive Summary**

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls 2019 Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the result of a 32 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 serves the low to moderate income population in our community. This AAP sees a decrease in public participation at initial planning meetings, but increased opportunities and new strategies to increase public participation throughout the course of the AAP. Continued improvements to processes that impact compliance with CDBG, HOME, and ESG program requirements have been implemented and executed in order to better serve the community needs 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.

This action plan furthers the goals of improving the city's housing stock, providing services to the most vulnerable populations of our city, and incorporating public feedback into funding decisions in order to best direct funding to those areas where it will be most impactful. The introduction of Habitat for Humanity into our CHDO programming adds an experienced community partner to our Action Plan and will help in ensuring the timely expenditure of CHDO funding.

The action plan also provides programming and services to children through an expanded and improved NFHA youth program as well as an expanded and improved homeless youth counseling program carried out by Pinnacle Community Services.

#### Other highlights:

Funding for Heart, Love, & Soul provides a safety net of services for some of the most vulnerable individuals in our city's population.

Funding is also being provided to Isaiah: 61, whose new leadership and close partnership with Habitat for Humanity have made their program one of the most innovative and impactful approaches to workforce development that is active in Niagara Falls today.

### 3. Evaluation of past performance

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

In light of the City's difficulty in meeting timeliness deadlines since the change in HUD policy that incorporated Revolving Loan funds into the annual timeliness calculation, the City has elected to dedicate program income to the Commercial Rehabilitation program.

In order to more efficiently expend HOME and specifically CHDO funds, we have added a third, well-established organization to our HOME action plan: Habitat for Humanity.

Finally, funding made available for housing rehabilitation has been moderated from past years to levels that better correspond to subrecipient productivity.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Niagara Falls conducted 5 public meetings, 2 public hearings, and 2 30-day public comment periods for its Public Participation Process. In addition, the City of Niagara Falls made available a Citizen Survey both online and in paper available at the first 4 public meetings. The City of Niagara Falls offered both in-person, mail, and online methods for residents to provide public comments throughout the Public Participation Process. Newspaper notices were printed to inform the public of upcoming public hearings, consistent with the City of Niagara Falls Public Participation Plan. Social media posts were also made to inform the public of all upcoming meetings and stages of the 2019 Annual Action Plan development.

The City of Niagara Falls consults residents, non-profit organizations, business leaders, and elected officials on a regular basis. The City of Niagara Falls consulted \_\_\_\_ agencies specific to developing the 2019 Annual Action Plan over the course of 8 months.

### 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 majority of public comments related to youth programming. The City of Niagara Falls received an appeal letter on its Draft 2019 Action Plan from the Niagara Falls Housing Authority as well as many public statements made at the Draft 2019 Action Plan public hearing held January 16, 2019. Other public comments received had to do with crime reduction, housing stock and renovation, homelessness services, and public space programming.

Please see attached document for all comments received and accepted.

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

The City of Niagara Falls received two comments through the online comment submission form that the City of Niagara Falls did not accept. One comment appeared to be spam. The other comment appeared to be meant for a different online contact form and contained personally identifiable information.

### 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	Name	
CDBG Administrator	NIAGARA FALLS	Depa	rtment of Community Development
HOME Administrator	NIAGARA FALLS	Depa	rtment of Community Development
ESG Administrator	NIAGARA FALLS	Depa	rtment of Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

**Narrative (optional)** 

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information** 

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Niagara Falls consulted with public and private entities to develop the 2019 Annual Action Plan. The City of Niagara Falls hosted four "Neighborhood Planning Meetings," an informal public meeting titled "Pizza with the Plan," two public hearings, over 60-days of public comment periods, and various meetings with individual organizations and collaborative groups during the development of the 2019 Annual Action Plan. In accordance with 24 CFR 91.100, these individuals and organizations provided a wide range of input and value to the planning process through coordinated meetings and public meetings and hearings.

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))

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The City of Niagara Falls is a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Public Housing Authority (PHA) and provides housing assistance to those that qualify for Section 8 HCV funds. Community Planning and Development (CPD) and Public and Indian Housing (PIH) federal programs are managed by the City of Niagara Falls Department of Community Development and there is close coordination among staff members regarding CPD and PIH programs.

The City of Niagara Falls regularly attends Niagara County Coalition for Services to the Homeless monthly meetings and the South End Housing Initiative monthly meetings. Both collaborative groups are comprised of non-profit and for-profit organizations in the public and assisted housing, private and governmental health, mental health, and service agency industries. The City of Niagara Falls works closely with these collaborative groups and with the individual agencies themselves in determining the needs of residents of Niagara Falls and the planning process for delivering these needs through CPD 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.

The City of Niagara Falls staff regularly attends Continuum of Care (CoC) monthly meetings hosted by the CoC lead agency, Homeless Alliance of Western New York (HAWNY) that often feature trainings and updates on best practices for addressing the needs of homless and at risk of homelessness person in the region. The City of Niagara Falls and HAWNY have a standing second Thursday monthly meetings to discuss specific details in regards to homelessness service strategy and programs to alleviate and

eliminate homelessness and the root causes of homelessness in Niagara Falls. The City of Niagara Falls and HAWNY are focused on refining Coordinated Entry in Niagara Falls after the first year of implementation in order to improve services to homeless and at risk of homelessness persons.

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

The City of Niagara Falls coordinates with the CoC lead agency, HAWNY, closely in its decisions to fund Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding. HAWNY staff sit on the Funding Review Selection Committee to evaluate submitted ESG funding applications. Ongoing communication among City and HAWNY staff have continued to improve the policy, procedures, and performance standards for ESG as well as CDBG programs and subrecipients.

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	City of Niagara Falls		
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Grantee Department		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis		
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency was consulted regarding public housing assistance. The City of Niagara Falls anticipates further coordination of HUD PIH and CPD programs and funding.		
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, Inc.		
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Regional organization		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs		
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency consulted regarding youth services. While not accepted as a subrecipient, the need of comprehensive pregnancy prevention is something that will be considered for future Annual Action Plans.		
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Niagara Falls Housing Authority		
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Services-Children Regional organization		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs		

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency consulted regarding youth services. The City of Niagara Falls anticipates an increase in youth services provided by Niagara Falls Housing Authority in the coming program year.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	NIAGARA FALLS NHS INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency consulted regarding low-mod income housing needs in Niagara Falls.  Agency also consulted regarding Project Based Vouchers in units owned and operated by agency. The City of Niagara Falls anticipates a closer relationship with Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services through a collaborative housing rehab model using CDBG and HOME funds.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Center City NDC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency consulted regarding low-mod income housing needs in Niagara Falls.  Agency also consulted regarding Project Based Vouchers in units owned and operated by agency. The City of Niagara Falls anticipates a closer relationship with Center City Neighborhood Development Corporation through a collaborative housing rehab model using CDBG and HOME funds.

6	Agency/Group/Organization	Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency was consulted regarding CHDO activities and a collaboration with a workforce development program through another agency (Isaiah 61). The City of Niagara Falls anticipates quicker spenddown of CHDO funds and increased collaboration among subrecipients for a shared goal and outcome in increasing housing and workforce development goals.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	The Isaiah 61 Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency was consulted regarding CDBG workforce development activities and a collaboration with CHDO activities through another agency (Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity). The City of Niagara Falls anticipates increased collaboration among subrecipients for a shared goal and outcome in increasing housing and workforce development goals.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Pinnacle Community Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Health Services - Victims

	What section of the Plan was addressed by	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless			
	Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children			
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans			
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth			
		Homelessness Strategy			
		Non-Homeless Special Needs			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization	Agency consulted regarding youth mental health counseling as well as			
	was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of	substance abuse and addiction services. The City of Niagara Falls anticipates			
	the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	increased services to youth for mental health counseling and a better strategy			
	·	for how to use CDBG funds for substance abuse and addiction in the upcoming			
		Strategic Plan.			
9	Agency/Group/Organization	HOMELESS ALLIANCE OF WESTERN NEW YORK			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless			
	What section of the Plan was addressed by	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless			
	Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children			
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans			
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth			
		Homelessness Strategy			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization	Agency consulted in regards to ESG programs and funding. The City of Niagara			
	was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of	Falls anticipates better coordination with the CoC lead agency, Homeless			
	the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Alliance of Western New York, and improved ESG programming and			
		homelessness strategy.			
10	Agency/Group/Organization	NIAGARA County Department of Health			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing			
		Services-Health			
		Other government - County			

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization	Agency consulted regarding collaboration with the City's HUD programs and the
was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of	County's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. The City of Niagara Falls
the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	anticipates improved coordination between City clients and County services
	regarding lead poisoning prevention and lead-based paint remediation.

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?
Continuum of	Homeless Alliance of	The 2019 Action Plan ESG funds are allocated in an effort to end homelessness in Niagara Falls
Care	Western New York	through providing emergency shelter, rapid re-housing, essential services, and homelessness
		prevention projects to the homeless and at-risk of homelessness populations in Niagara Falls.

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

The City of Niagara Falls began its 2019 public participation process with a Citizen Survey and four (4) neighborhood planning meetings in different neighborhoods throughout Niagara Falls held between October 9, 2018 and November 9, 2018. A total of 17 respondents completed the Citizen Survey. A total of 18 attendees were present for the neighborhood planning meetings. Neighborhood planning meetings were held in conjuction with a request for proposals (RFP) for 2019 Action Plan funds for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. The City of Niagara Falls received thirty-one (31) applications from the 2019 Action Plan RFP. The City of Niagara Falls then developed a Draft 2019 Action Plan based on the Citizen Survey and applications and released to the public on December 17, 2018 to start a 30-day comment period. The City of Niagara Falls held a public meeting and public hearing during the 30-day comment period to take comments on the Draft 2019 Action Plan. The City of Niagara Falls was notified of funding allocation amounts on April 19, 2019 and a Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan was created and released to the public that same day, kicking off another 30-day public comment period. The Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan had all the same projects, but adjusted funding levels based on the funding allocation amounts. A public hearing was held. The Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan was presented to Niagara Falls City Council for approval and was approved on May 29, 2019 by a 5-0 vote.

### **Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Orde	Mode of Outreac	Target of Outreac	Summary of	Summary of	Summary of commen	URL (If
r	h	h	response/attendanc	comments receive	ts not accepted	applicable)
			е	d	and reasons	
		Non-		Citizen Survey - 19		
1	Internet		Citizen Survey - 17	Comments - See	Citizen Survey - All	
1	Outreach	targeted/broad	Respondents	Attached for Full	comments accepted	
		community		Comments		

Sort Orde r	Mode of Outreac h	Target of Outreac h	Summary of response/attendanc e	Summary of comments receive d	Summary of commen ts not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Niagara Street Elementary (2513 Niagara Street) - Mon, Oct 22, 6pm - 3 Attendees	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Niagara Street Elementary (2513 Niagara Street) - Mon, Oct 22, 6pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Niagara Street Elementary (2513 Niagara Street) - Mon, Oct 22, 6pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	
3	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - LaSalle Public Library (8728 Buffalo Ave) - Tue, Oct 23, 12pm - 10 Attendees	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - LaSalle Public Library (8728 Buffalo Ave) - Tue, Oct 23, 12pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - LaSalle Public Library (8728 Buffalo Ave) - Tue, Oct 23, 12pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	

Sort Orde r	Mode of Outreac h	Target of Outreac h	Summary of response/attendanc e	Summary of comments receive d	Summary of commen ts not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Doris Jones Family Resource Center (3001-9th Street) - Thu, Oct 25, 6:30pm - 1 Attendee	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Doris Jones Family Resource Center (3001-9th Street) - Thu, Oct 25, 6:30pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Doris Jones Family Resource Center (3001-9th Street) - Thu, Oct 25, 6:30pm - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	
5	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Sat, Oct 27, 10:00am - 4 Attendees	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Sat, Oct 27, 10:00am - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	Neighborhood Planning Meeting - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Sat, Oct 27, 10:00am - Comments Received through Citizen Survey	
6	Public Meeting	Non- targeted/broad community	Pizza with the Plan - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, Jan 8, 6:00pm - 16 Attendees	Pizza with the Plan - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, Jan 8, 6:00pm - 4 Comments - See Attached for Full Comments	Pizza with the Plan - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, Jan 8, 6:00pm - 4 Comments - All Comments Accepted	

Sort Orde r	Mode of Outreac h	Target of Outreac h	Summary of response/attendanc e	Summary of comments receive d	Summary of commen ts not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
7	Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - City Hall Council Chambers (745 Main Street) - Wed, Jan 16, 6:00pm - 30 Attendees	Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - City Hall Council Chambers (745 Main Street) - Wed, Jan 16, 6:00pm - 13 Speakers - See Attached for Full Comments	Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - City Hall Council Chambers (745 Main Street) - Wed, Jan 16, 6:00pm - 13 Speakers - All Comments Accepted	
8	Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, May 21, 6:00pm - 0 Attendees	Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, May 21, 6:00pm - No Comments Received	Revised Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing - Carnegie Building (1022 Main Street) - Tue, May 21, 6:00pm - No Comments Received	

Sort Orde	Mode of Outreac h	Target of Outreac	Summary of response/attendanc	Summary of comments receive	Summary of commen ts not accepted	URL (If applicable)
•			e	d	and reasons	аррисавіс,
9	Internet Outreach	Non- targeted/broad community	The City of Niagara Falls provided an online public comment contact form hosted at nf- cd.org/participate. This online public comment form was available for use from October 9, 2018 through Wednesday 22, 2019.	2 Comments were received, but both were not accepted.	One comment appeared to be spam. One comment was a general question that did not relate to the 2019 Action Plan. The nf-cd.org website hosts many online public comment forms for various projects and general contact.	nf- cd.org/participat e
10	Newspaper Ad	Non- targeted/broad community	Notices were placed in the Niagara Gazette to inform residents of both public hearings 2-weeks prior to the public hearing dates, consistent with the citizen participation plan.	No comments were received through ads.	No comments were received through ads.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# **Expected Resources**

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

### Introduction

### **Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1		ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description	
	of		Annual	Program	Prior Year	Total:	Amount	
	Funds		Allocation:	Income:	Resources:	\$	Available	
			\$	\$	\$		Remainder	
							of ConPlan	
							\$	
CDBG	public -	Acquisition						3474000 made up of revolving loan,
	federal	Admin and						program income, and previous year
		Planning						entitlement grants. RL will be
		Economic						repurposed to commercial
		Development						rehabilitation, program income will be
		Housing						used for administration/planning and
		Public						commercial rehabilitation.
		Improvements						
		Public Services	2,309,381	130,000	3,474,000	5,913,381	0	

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	cted Amoui	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for						915000 in HOME funding from past years is available for expenditure. The 2019 plan includes a larger portion of CHDO funding than in past years, and incorporates a new subrecipient.
		ownership TBRA	427,400	44,000	915,000	1,386,400	0	

Program	Source		Expe	cted Amou	nt Available Ye	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of Funds		Annual Allocation:	Program Income:	Prior Year Resources:	Total: \$	Amount Available	
			\$	\$	\$	•	Remainder	
							of ConPlan \$	
ESG	public -	Conversion and					Ψ	
	federal	rehab for						
		transitional						
		housing						
		Financial						
		Assistance						
		Overnight						
		shelter						
		Rapid re-housing						
		(rental						
		assistance)						
		Rental						
		Assistance						
		Services						
		Transitional						
		housing	199,282	0	0	199,282	0	

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

 $$408\ in\ PI\ will\ be\ used\ for\ Closing\ Cost\ grant\ recording\ fees.$ 

\$104,000 will be used for Commercial Rehabilitation.

\$35,700 in HUD and FHA grant funding will be used to fund the NHS Homebuyer Education program.

\$12,000 from NYS AHC, NYS HCR, and FHLB FHC incentives will be used to fund the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative rehabilitation programs.

\$25,000 from private fundraising will be used to fund Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative housing rehabilitation.

\$200,000 in foundation funding will be used to fund the Heart, Love, and Soul Daybreak Facility project.

\$36,673 from the Niagara County Youth Bureau will be used by Pinnacle Community Services to fund the homeless youth program.

\$23,327 from the United Way of Greater Niagara will be used by Pinnacle to fund the Homeless Youth Counseling program.

\$160,000 from NYS HCR will be used to fund the NF Housing Collaborative CHDO program.

\$30,000 from Neighborworks America will be used to fund the NF Housing Collaborative CHDO Program.

\$233,000 from Habitat for Humanity's grantwriting and fundraising efforts will be used to fund the Habitat CHDO program. \$

A total of \$210,560 in HESG match will be provided by HESG subrecipients, including:

\$30,000 from NYSSHP to YWCA Carolyn's House

\$35,000 from private fundraising from YWCA Carolyn's House

\$105,560 in dontaions from Community Missions.

\$20,000 from United Way of Greater Niagara to Pinnacle Community Services.

\$20,000 from the Niagara County Department of Social Services to Pinnacle Community Services.

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

Participatory Budgeting program is focused on improving the Hyde Park Rose Garden and bocce court areas and to programming our public spaces to provide health and recreation services to low/mod income individuals, especially children.

### Discussion

Additional funding will be provided by the City of Niagara Falls for the administration of these programs. Firm figures for this leveraged amount will be established at the conclusion of the 2020 City of Niagara Falls budget process.

# **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		Year	Year		Area			
1	Higher percentage	2015	2019	Affordable	City-Wide	Housing	CDBG:	Rental units rehabilitated: 2
	of home ownership			Housing	Target Area	Renovation	\$534,163	Household Housing Unit
	& renovation						HOME:	Homeowner Housing Added: 2
							\$427,400	Household Housing Unit
								Homeowner Housing
								Rehabilitated: 12 Household
								Housing Unit
								Direct Financial Assistance to
								Homebuyers: 16 Households
								Assisted
2	City Park/Public	2015	2019		City-Wide	Public Space	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure
	Space Improvement				Target Area	Improvements	\$783,342	Activities other than
								Low/Moderate Income Housing
								Benefit: 28000 Persons Assisted
4	Increased youth	2015	2019	Non-Housing			CDBG:	Public service activities other
	services			Community			\$130,000	than Low/Moderate Income
				Development				Housing Benefit: 175 Persons
								Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

## **Goal Descriptions**

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
2	Goal Name	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
4	Goal Name	Increased youth services
	Goal Description	

# **Projects**

# AP-35 Projects - 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The 2019 Action Plan demonstrates a commitment to housing issues and improved resources for low to moderate income individuals.

### **Projects**

#	Project Name
1	2019 Clean Neighborhood Program
2	CD Closing Cost Grant Program - 2019 CDBG
3	2019 CD Housing Rehabilitation
4	2019 Participatory Budgeting
5	2019 CD Commercial Rehabilitation
6	2019 NHS Closing Costs and Homebuyer Education
7	2019 Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Program Delivery
8	2019 NFHA Youth Program
9	2019 Heart, Love, and Soul - Project Daybreak
10	2019 Isaiah: 61 Workforce Development
11	Pinnacle Homeless Youth Counseling
12	2019 City of Niagara Falls CDBG Administration
13	2019 City of Niagara Falls HOME SF Rehab
14	2019 NF Housing Collaborative CHDO
15	2019 Habitat for Humanity CHDO
16	2019 City of Niagara Falls HOME Admin
17	2019 HESG

**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	Project Name	2019 Clean Neighborhood Program		
	Target Area			
	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement		
	Needs Addressed	Public Space Improvements		
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000		
	Description	Department of Public Works - Special Operations Project. Targeted clean-up task force that includes activities from both the Departments of Public Works and Code Enforcement.		
	Target Date	6/30/2020		
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	28,000 Low/Mod Families.		
	Location Description	All activities performed within low/mod areas of City.		
	Planned Activities	A single activity will be created: 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.		
2	Project Name	CD Closing Cost Grant Program - 2019 CDBG		
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area		
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation		
	Needs Addressed			
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,408		
	Description	New Home Owner Closing Cost Assistance Grants. Approximately \$2,500 awarded per closing cost grant to first time home buyers.  Approximately \$408 in program income will be used for mortgage recording fees.		
	Target Date	6/30/2020		
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least 8 clients will be assisted through this closing cost grant program.		
	Location Description	Every neighborhood is eligible, grants are provided based on client eligibility.		

	Planned Activities	A separate activity for each client will be created. One additional activity will be created to cover the cost of recording fees.
3	Project Name	2019 CD Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Renovation
	Funding	CDBG: \$567,103
	Description	The City will administer deferred home rehabilitation loans for eligible Niagara Falls Home Ownership Auction houses and oversee the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10 low/mod households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Service area is city-wide. Exterior rehabilitation program is reported as slums and blight, within the City's Community Development Area.  Other programs reported as low/mod housing benefit, eligibility determined based on client income.
	Planned Activities	Separate activities will be created for each address. Program Delivery Funds will be divided between several activities (soft costs, personnel costs, and supplies and services). Programs include SF rehab, Multifamily rehab, exterior rehabilitation, and lead abatement program.
4	Project Name	2019 Participatory Budgeting
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement Increased youth services
	Needs Addressed	Public Space Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$360,000
	Description	Niagara Falls Community Development will execute a participatory budgeting process with residents to plan, budget, rank and ultimately vote on quality of life improvements.
	Target Date	6/30/2020

	T	<u> </u>
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will provide a City-wide LMA benefit, benefiting approximately 28,000 low-mod income individuals in addition to roughly 21,000 non low-mod income individuals.
		The programming activity (or activities) created under this project will benefit approximately 50 individuals.
	Location Description	Activities will be performed at the Hyde Park Rose Garden and adjacent area, as well as other public spaces as determined by the voting process.
	Planned Activities	Separate activities will be set up for the public space improvements at Hyde Park and for programming in other public spaces. Progarmming will likely be setu p as a public service, unless otherwise determined by voting process.
5	Project Name	2019 CD Commercial Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$264,000
	Description	City of Niagara Falls will administer commercial rehabilitation activities for businesses in the city.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Businesses within the Community Development Area are eligible under the Slums and Blight national objective.
	Location Description	Businesses within the Community Development Area are eligible under the Slums and Blight national objective.
	Planned Activities	Separate activities will be set up for each business assisted.
6	Project Name	2019 NHS Closing Costs and Homebuyer Education
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$65,000

	Description	First-time homebuyer education and closing cost grant program.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 16 low-mod individuals will be assisted by the closing cost program. Approximately 100 low-mod individuals will participate in the homebuyer education program.
	Location Description	Homebuyer classes will take place at the NHS offices. Clients from all areas of the City are eligible to participate in courses. Closing Cost grants are provided in the NHS service area.
	Planned Activities	The Homebuyer Education program will be set up as a single activity, while closing cost grants will be set up address-by-address.
7	Project Name	2019 Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Program Delivery
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Renovation
	Funding	CDBG: \$400,000
	Description	Program delivery costs for 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. Rehabilitation costs will be funded by grants allocated in previous year action plans, as well as from matching sources.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 low/mod households will be renovated.
	Location Description	Program is City-wide, though when possible, subrecipients serve their traditional service areas.
	Planned Activities	Separate activities will be set up for each address served. 2019 funding is for program delivery, and this will be set up as a separate project.
8	Project Name	2019 NFHA Youth Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Increased youth services

	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Doris Jones Family Resource Building youth programming.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 75 children will be served by this program.
	Location Description	Program serves children in NFHA housing.
	Planned Activities	One activity will be set up to support the program's activities, to which a STEAM component has been added in 2019.
9	Project Name	2019 Heart, Love, and Soul - Project Daybreak
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	City Park/Public Space Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Public Space Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$433,342
	Description	HLS will develop a one-stop center called Daybreak to increase access to services essential for helping low-income populations meet basic needs, improve quality of life, and achieve goals like increasing financial literacy, gaining job skills, and acquiring education credentials. The Daybreak program model builds on HLSâ¿¿ core strengths of providing basic services; supporting and empowering guests; and connecting and strengthening community. The project deepens the scope and impact of HLS' work while addressing community-identified needs for improved collaboration and efficiency among providers. The new program center will include a community room, computer lab, shower and laundry facilities, office space for existing HLS case management and care coordination services, and â¿¿flexâ¿② offices for partner agencies to deliver onsite services related to health, wellness, housing, legal advocacy, financial literacy, education, and employment.
	Target Date	6/30/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Project provides a city-wide benefit. Services will be made available to 28,000 low-mod individuals. There are over 70 service providers in Niagara Falls dedicated to providing essential resources to those in need. Unfortunately, the system of support can be challenging to navigate. The process to secure benefits and services can be bureaucratic and confusing, a barrier that is even more challenging for those afflicted with mental illness, substance use disorders, and disabilities. Oftentimes, people seeking assistance do not understand or do not prioritize the need to follow up on process steps to secure benefits or referrals to services, or they are simply unable to follow up for a variety of reasons (i.e. limited transportation, child care responsibilities, etc.). By locating services in one location, barriers are reduced and clients are better able to follow through on requirements and action plans. Additionally, program staff and case managers onsite will be better able to assist clients by connecting them to partners located directly onsite. Daybreak, then, ensures that a continuum of care is established onsite to effectively support individuals and move them along a path toward stability and success. Service delivery and outcomes are improved because agencies can more easily collaborate and coalesce around individuals needing multiple supports. To date,
	Location Description	no other such facility exists in the City of Niagara Falls.
	Location Description Planned Activities	The daybreak facility will be located at 939 Ontario Avenue.  One activity will be set up to support this program.
10		
	Project Name	2019 Isaiah: 61 Workforce Development
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Workforce development program, training low income individuals in trade skills.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 16 individuals will be placed in new employment.

	Location Description	Services are available to individuals city-wide. These individuals are trained at various sites where housing rehabilitation is performed, as well as in a classroom at 1625 Buffalo Avenue.	
	Planned Activities	One public service activity will be set up for this project.	
11	Project Name	Pinnacle Homeless Youth Counseling	
	Target Area	0	
	Goals Supported	Increased youth services	
	Needs Addressed	,	
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000	
	Description	Mental health counseling for homeless youth.	
	Target Date	6/30/2020	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Counseling services will be provided to homeless youth served by the City's HESG subrecipients. In 2019 grant year, services will be made available to children outside of these organizations as well.  Approximately 50 homeless children are expected to be served throughout the program year.	
	Location Description	Services will be provided at Casey House as well as on-site at other service provider locations, depending on where the children live.	
	Planned Activities	One public service activity will be set up for this project.	
12	Project Name	2019 City of Niagara Falls CDBG Administration	
	Target Area		
	Goals Supported		
	Needs Addressed		
	Funding	CDBG: \$487,876	
	Description	Administration - Cannot Exceed 20% of the total 2019 CDBG Amount.	
	Target Date	6/30/2020	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Administration of CDBG program. 20% of PI received in program year will be committed to this activity.	
	Location Description	Administration of CDBG program. 20% of PI received in program year will be committed to this activity.	

	Planned Activities	Two activities will be set up under this project: personnel, supplies and services.
13	Project Name	2019 City of Niagara Falls HOME SF Rehab
	Target Area	City-Wide Target Area
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Renovation
	Funding	HOME: \$284,529
	Description	Niagara Falls Community Development will oversee the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative and execute deferred rehabilitation loans at targeted properties.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 3 units will be rehabilitated through this funding.
	Location Description	Program is available city-wide to low/mod households.
	Planned Activities	A separate activity for each addres will be created.
14	Project Name	2019 NF Housing Collaborative CHDO
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Renovation
	Funding	HOME: \$190,173
	Description	Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) housing rehab projects. \$15,173 reserved for CHDO operating costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2 low/mod rental units will be rehabilitated.
	Location Description	Collaborative-owned buildings are clustered in traditional subrecipient areas.
	Planned Activities	A separate activity for each address will be created, along with a separate operating activity.

Project Name 2019 Habitat for Humanity CHDO		2019 Habitat for Humanity CHDO
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Higher percentage of home ownership & renovation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Renovation
	Funding	HOME: \$208,990
	Description	Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) new housing unit projects. \$6,197 reserved for CHDO operating costs.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
Estimate the number  and type of families  that will benefit from the proposed activities		Two single family homes will be built using these funds.
	Location Description	Entire City is eligible, however planned projects at present are in Echota neighborhood.
	Planned Activities	A separate activity for each address will be created, along with a separate operating activity.
16	Project Name	2019 City of Niagara Falls HOME Admin
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
Needs Addressed Funding HOME: \$42,740		
		HOME: \$42,740
	Description	Administration - Total administration costs cannot Exceed 10% of the total 2019 HOME Amount.
	Target Date	6/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	N/A
	Planned Activities	One activity will be created for administrative expenses.
17	Project Name	2019 HESG
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	

Noode Addressed	David Dahawaina/Chroat Outrooch
Needs Addressed	Rapid Rehousing/Street Outreach
Funding	ESG: \$199,282
Description	Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, and Rapid Rehousing, Admin
Target Date	6/30/2020
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,215 homeless or at-risk individuals will be served.
Location Description	542-6th Street (YWCA), 1570 Buffalo Avenue (Community Missions), 710 Cedar Ave (Pinnacle Community Services - Casey House), 1522 Main Street (Pinnacle Community Services [Passages is in an undisclosed location]), 1022 Main Street (NF CD).
Planned Activities	Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, and Rapid Rehousing, Admin

### 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

City-Wide Target Area: 23% of CDBG funds - Housing Rehab and Closing Cost programs following low-moderate housing regulation standards

Niagara Falls Community Development Area: 4% of CDBG funds - Area is comprised of South End, Center City, portions of Downtown, and LaSalle. The Niagara Falls Community Development Area was designated by Niagara Falls City Council as meeting the conditions set forth in 24 CFR 570.208(b). Specific Census Tract Block Groups are as follows:

Census Tract 202, Block Groups 1,2,3

Census Tract 204, Block Groups 2

Census Tract 205, Block Groups 1,2

Census Tract 206, Block Groups 1,2

Census Tract 207, Block Groups 3,4

Census Tract 209, Block Groups 1,2,3

Census Tract 210, Block Groups 3,4

Census Tract 211, Block Groups 2

Census Tract 212, Block Groups 1,2,3,4

Census Tract 213, Block Groups 1,2

Census Tract 214, Block Groups 3

Census Tract 217, Block Groups 1,2,5

Census Tract 220, Block Groups 2,3

#### **Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds	
City-Wide Target Area	23	

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution** 

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

City-Wide Target Area: Since this program is to benefit low-moderate income persons, geography is not a factor in this target area.

Niagara Falls Community Development Area: Funds will go towards addressing deteriorated properties to alleviate conditions set forth in 24 CFR 570.208(b) through residential and commercial rehab

programs.

Discussion

# **Affordable Housing**

# AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to	be Supported
Homeless	1,215
Non-Homeless	45
Special-Needs	0
Total	1,260

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Sup	ported Through
Rental Assistance	178
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	45
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	223

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

# Discussion

The City of Niagara Falls will advance affordable housing by providing closing cost assistance and rehabilitation deferred loans to low to moderate income households. The City of Niagara Falls will also provide housing to homeless or at-risk of homelessness families through rapid re-housing and homeless prevention grants to homeless service agencies.

# **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 resident involvement.

The City of Niagara Falls also manages a Section 8 program that supports Housing Choice Vouchers, Project Based Vouchers, and Homeownership programs.

The City of Niagara Falls 2015-2019 Strategic Plan supports the NFHA and City of Niagara Falls PHA Plans through expanding the supply of decent, affordable housing in Niagara Falls through use of CDBG and HOME funds. The Housing Choice Voucher program provides residents with housing choice, which is a way to deconcentrate areas of poverty. The City of Niagara Falls also funds youth services directed primarily towards NFHA residents.

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

The City of Niagara Falls will work with the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative, comprised of NFNHS and CCNDC, using CHDO funds to renovate rental units for the purpose of Project Based Vouchers.

The City of Niagara Falls will also work with Belmont Housing for an adaptive re-use project that will convert an unused private school into mixed income housing that will also provide rental units for the purpose of Project Based Vouchers.

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

The City of Niagara Falls will market its Family Self-Sufficiency program to its current clients as well as new clients expected through an opening of the Leased Housing Waiting List in Fall of 2019.

The City of Niagara Falls will market its closing cost assistance grant and home ownership auction programs to residents of NFHA public housing.

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

Neither PHAs in Niagara Falls are designated as troubled at this time.

#### Discussion

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

The City of Niagara Falls is committed to serving the needs of our homeless and at-risk of homelessness populations in Niagara Falls. The 2019 Annual Action Plan program year will serve as a means to increase understanding of the needs, create baseline data to measure against future years, and to develop strategies and best practices in serving homeless and at-risk of homelessness populations in a more pro-active fashion.

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

Goal: Improve Coordinated Entry Implementation in Niagara Falls

Actions: The City of Niagara Falls is working with HAWNY to develop a more pro-active Coordinated Entry approach that puts more resources towards street outreach and assessment. The City of Niagara Falls, the CoC, and other service agencies will work together to secure additional sources of funding for street outreach and assessment.

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

Goal: Create Performance Metrics and Standards Based on Need and Capacity

Actions: The City of Niagara Falls is working with HAWNY to develop goals, metrics, and strategies to address emergency shelter and transitional housing needs in Niagara Falls. The City of Niagara Falls routinely checks HMIS data and HAWNY quarterly performance reports to determine the need of emergency shelter and transitional housing needs in Niagara Falls. The work on improving Coordinated Entry will also address the needs of homeless or at-risk of homelessness persons that would typically use emergency shelter or transitional housing, but may be better served through other programs or services.

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

Goal: Reduce Shelter Stays at ESG-funded Shelters

Actions: The City of Niagara Falls will work closely with ESG-funded Shelter subrecipients and HAWNY to develop a strategy to reduce shelter stays in Niagara Falls. The Rolling 12-Month Performance Report for the CoC 1/1/2018-12/31/2018 will be used as the benchmark metric for shelter stay reductions. The City of Niagara Falls will work with ESG-funded Shelter subrecipients to increase efficiencies and creating partnerships with other service organizations that may help alleviate or reduce the need to stay in shelters. The City of Niagara Falls will work with HAWNY to track performance and seek additional technical assistance in increasing efficiencies and partnerships with other service organizations.

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.

Goal: Develop an empirical risk model and a strategy to guide service providers in providing pro-active aid to families at-risk of homelessness.

Actions: The City of Niagara Falls, in collaboration with HAWNY, will research and develop an empirical risk model for families at-risk of homelessness and a strategy to reach families at-risk of homelessness before need of homeless services such as shelter or rapid-rehousing. Once developed, the City of Niagara Falls will work with service providers and other partner organizations to implement the strategy and create baseline data to inform performance tracking going forward.

#### Discussion

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

#### Introduction:

The City of Niagara Falls seeks to expand affordable housing through investing in adaptive re-use projects such as the True Bethel project included in the 2018 Action Plan as well as creating more Project Based Voucher housing to be ready in time for opening of the City of Niagara Falls Leased Housing Waiting List, which will provide more affordable housing for those that qualify for leased housing assistance.

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 of Niagara Falls does not impose any public policies that constrain housing development or access to affordable housing.

#### **Discussion:**

# **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

#### Introduction:

The City of Niagara Falls plans to increase its role in strategic planning and fostering collaboration among various service agencies in Niagara Falls and the region to better serve the residents of Niagara Falls and to reduce duplicative programs that give rise to inefficiency in service to residents.

# Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Niagara Falls will conduct a needs assessment and market analysis for its 2020-2025 Strategic Plan during the 2019 Annual Action Plan program year. This needs assessment and market analysis will identify obstacles to meeting underserved needs and a strategy to address obstacles will be developed, adopted, and implemented.

## Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Niagara Falls will continue to offer a home ownership auction of City-owned residential properties. The City of Niagara Falls will also create more Project Based Voucher rental units to match the need of current and new Section 8 clients.

## Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Niagara Falls will work closely with the Niagara County Department of Health to address homes that are found to have lead-based paint hazards through both City and County-led programs.

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

The City of Niagara Falls will work with the Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative (ESPRI) and other partner organizations to reduce the number of poverty-level families by addressing root causes of poverty and developing strategies and initiatives to sustain poverty reduction programs and collaboration.

#### Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Niagara Falls will continue to develop institutional structure by creating standard operating procedures, re-evaluating current plans and policies, and attending appropriate trainings for staff to gain a mastery over administering HUD CPD programs.

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

# service agencies

The City of Niagara Falls will study the best use of social service agencies' programs for public and private housing agencies and create the discussion to link these programs more closely to serve the housing needs of residents.

# **Discussion:**

# **Program Specific Requirements**

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

#### Introduction:

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

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

<ol> <li>The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed</li> <li>The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.</li> <li>The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements</li> <li>The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan</li> </ol>	0 0 0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0
Other CDBG Requirements	
1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate	
income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. 92	.00%

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

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

The City of Niagara Falls will dedicate 2019 HOME funds to home owner renovation projects, executed by the Niagara Falls Community Development Department. CHDO funds have been awarded to the Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative, a partnership between Center City

Annual Action Plan

Neighborhood Development Corp, Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services Inc., and Niagara Falls Community Development, and Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity. For the first time in recent memory, the City will fund the creation of new (rather than rehabilitated), affordable housing units through the use of CHDO funding.

The use of the City's 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:

Neither the City of Niagara Falls nor its subrecipients use HOME funds for acquisition.

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:

Neither the City of Niagara Falls nor its subrecipients does not use HOME funds for refinancing.

# 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 ESG guidelines for providing ESG assistance and applicable federal language. ESG subrecipients are required to follow the CoC Coordinated Entry Writeen Standards found here: https://wnyhomeless.org/app/uploads/Written-Standards-Feb-2019.pdf

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 CoC has established Coordinated Entry for Niagara County service providers that can be found at the link below. The City of Niagara Falls is working with HAWNY to increase efficiencies and fill gaps in our current Coordinated Entry model.

Coordinated Entry Written Standards: https://wnyhomeless.org/app/uploads/Written-Standards-Feb-2019.pdf

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).

Organizations may competitively apply for ESG funds during our annual application process. The application requires documentation of certificate of incorporation, most recent audited financial statements, IRS 501(c)3 tax exempt determination letter, board of directors membership list, board minutes from previous 3 meetings, staff resumes, verification of matching funds, and an authorization to submit application form. Applicants also provide narrative and budgets for their proposed projects. Applications are reviewed by City of Niagara Falls staff that works on the ESG program as well as HAWNY staff to determine the best use of annual ESG funds. A final determination is made and is presented in the Draft Annual Action Plan for public review. Once the Draft Annual Action Plan is approved, final funding is allocated based on final funding allocation determined by HUD.

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

All ESG subrecipient applications must provide narrative describing homeless participation in board governance, other equivalent policy-making entity, or some other participation plan. The City of Niagara Falls reviews these homeless participation plans of all applicants as well as consulting HAWNY regarding policy and funding decisions.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

HAWNY provides quarterly performance reports for ESG and CoC funded agencies. The City of Niagara Falls uses these reports to evaluate performance standards of ESG subrecipients.

# **Attachments**

# 2019 Action Plan Survey Results

17 Participants Total (9 online submissions, 8 paper submissions)

# Category Results

Ranking	Category Category	Total Score
i	Youth Programs & Facilities	9
/2/	Street, Sidewalk, & Green Space Improvements	8
3.1	Targeted Blight Clearance	6
1 0 7 18	Crime Prevention Services	3
4	Housing Rehabilitation	3
J 3 3 3 1 =	Storefront/Local Business Investment	3
7.4	Workforce Development	11
4 File -	Public Facility Improvements	1

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# **Public Comments**

Full Public Comments as Written (14 Comments total)

When	prom	pted	:
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Is there anything else you think is important to target in the 2019 Action Plan?

Overall maintenance of streets and public spaces	
The city playgrounds.	
	20
clean-up of the Cauga island rane Park Waterfront, so families can enjoy this valuable as access to river waterfront in LaSalle.	sett, and the only large public
Not at this time	
T-01 - W 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1	
We have to get rid drug houses! {Remainder of comment contains personally identifiable	le information.]
Teens and young adults. NF Board of Education and BOCES should take the lead. CD co- should <u>NOT</u> compete with or try to out do educational programming.	uld offer some funding. CD
3 <del>1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1</del>	
Target blight/housing rehab. Lobs	
Youth programming!	

Roads Roads Roads. Health and welfare programs. Keep kids busy. Bring back LaSalle field day, not just a carny.

Community programs alerts.

When prompted:

Community Development wants to hear your input. Please provide any further comments you have.

Thank you for the hard work you do for this city. I appreciate it and feel hopeful knowing there are people trying to help tips city.

Keep up the good work and reaching out to the community is all of the various methods that I've seen.

CD's role in my opinion is not dealing with the opiod problem. Alleys, cameras, lighting, housing, blight is where CD's focus should be, Also demolitions.

Outside housing renovation. Resident pilot program for home improvements.

Great job, friends!

- Children William Co., and William Co. and Co

City of Niagara Falls -- Department of Community Development DRAFT 2019 Action Plan Pizza with the Plan Public Meeting Written Comments January 8, 2019, 6pm -- 7pm

Project #	Organization	Project Name	Public Comment
12	City of Niagara Falls	Housing Rehabilitation	"I strongly support this funding. Home owners need help in updating their properties."
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"Youth Program"
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"The program I want to see is a art and music."
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"The type of programs that I would like to see are building and veterinarian programs."

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City of Niagara Falls – Department of Community Development DRAFT 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing City Hall – Council Chambers – 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301 January 16, 2019 – 6pm

Public Attendance: Approximately 30 members of the public attended, though not all

members signed the sign-in sheet.

City Staff in Afrendance: Seth Piccirillo, Director, Community Development

Jarrett Steffen. Compliance Officer, Community Development

The public hearing began at 6:00pm. Copies of the Draft 2019 Action Plan were available for members of the public to take.

Seth Piccirillo (Director, Community Development) welcomed all those in attendance and introduced Jarrett Steffen (Compliance Officer, Community Development). Seth Piccirillo explained the format for the meeting, explained the Action Plan process and public comment process, and reviewed the Action Plan process to date.

Jarrett Steffen read aloud the Draft 2019 Action Plan projects line-by-line and stopped to answer questions on each project.

Jarrett Steffen explained that the purpose and scope of the Community Development Block. Grant (CDBG) funding source is to fund projects that primarily benefit low-moderate income persons, shows and blight removal, and emergency disaster relief. Jameii Steffen read the proposed CDBG projects line-by-line.

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Jarrett Stoffen explained that the Draft 2019 Action Plan uses estimated budget numbers and that actual funding allocation must be provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) before the 2019 Action Plan submission is provided to HUD.

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Jarrett Steffen asked if there were any comments regarding the proposed projects listed in the Drull 2019 Action Plan. There were no further comments on the proposed projects at this time, Jarrett Steffen opened up the meeting for general public comments.

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David Houghton (Development Director, Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission) expressed that the 2019 Draft Action Plan has some wonderful and deserving organizations that provide great services to the community. Dave Houghton stated that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission applied for 2019 ESG funds and was disappointed not to be included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Dave Houghton provided an overview of the projects and programs that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission provides as well as planned future projects at Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission.

Fomorrow Allen Collins, a staff member at Niagara Falls Housing Authority, stated she is attending to support funding the Niagara Falls Housing Authority's application for the summer and after-school youth program. Tomorrow Allen-Collins said that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority learned a lot of information about the CDBG program since the last public meeting. Tomorrow Allen-Collins stated that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority was disappointed not to be included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Tomorrow Allen-Collins explained that Niagara Falls Housing Authority has made amendments to the program and has submitted that information to the Department of Community Development. Fomorrow Allen-Collins noted that there are no preventive programs on the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Tomorrow Allen-Collins stated that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority serves approximately 200 children and that any funds to support the program are critical.

Legend Lewis gave her support for funding the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program and read written comments from other children that supported the project.

Brooklyn Arec spoke in favor of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program:

Lucia Ligammari stated her support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and afterschool program and read a written statement supporting the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program.

Elizabeth Day expressed her support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and afterschool program and read written comments from other children that supported the project.

Jarrett Steffen asked if copies of the written statements that were read could be made and submitted to the Department of Community Development for inclusion in the Draft 2019 Action Plan Public Communits. A staff member of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority stated that she will do so.

Saladin Allah, a facilitator for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program, stated that many past participants in the program come back to volunteer and work as paid youth summer staff through the Niagara County summer youth job program. Saladin Allah stated other positive projects, outcomes, and results that grow out of the program.

Rachel Williams explained the positive benefits of the Niagara Falls Hoosing Authority summer and after-school program for her son. She stated that the program was a safe and streetured program that has yielded positive personal and social health and development results for her son.

A CONTROL AND SECURE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Tyrone Fields, a program aide for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program, stated the positive benefits of the program and how he has been drawn back to the program over the course of his life. He further stated that the program is instrumental in educating children and also learning from children.

Lynn Wiley asked a question about when the list of projects will be out for line item #4. City of Niagara Falls (Participatory Budgeting Process). Jarrett Steffen explained that the Participatory Budgeting topic has not been selected yet and explained the Participatory Budgeting process for those that entered the room after the initial Participatory Budgeting discussion. Jarrett Steffen stated that the Department of Community Development will solicit feedback from the community regarding the topic 2019 Participatory Budgeting and that a topic should be selected by April. Jarrett Steffen stated that the project details are not fully sketched out to date, but that the Draft 2019 Action Plan does provide funding for the project.

Lynn Wiley stated she would like to see more park improvements. She also stated that the City needs to lead the community on how to keep up the parks and work on other community projects.

David Houghton explained the community projects scheduled this upcoming summer at Niagara. Gospel Rescue Mission.

Sr. Both Brosmer, Director of Heart, Love & Soul, expressed gratitude for the Heart, Love & Soul facility project being included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Sr. Beth Brosmer explained the services to be provided by the new Daybreak facility and that the Daybreak facility will stabilize the surrounding community.

Ivonne asked for an update on the conversation had so far at the public hearing. Jarrett Steffen gave a summary of the purpose of the meeting and what was discussed so far. Jarrett Steffen provided a copy of the Draft 2019 Action Plan to Ivonne.

Ivonne supported the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program. Ivonne also advocated for more green space (with a focus on lawn space) in her neighborhood (North End neighborhood). Ivonne stated that summer programming is crucial. Ivonne also pointed out that

Ivonne also asked if the Draft 2019 Action Plan finds were guaranteed at this point in time. Jarrett Steffen explained that these funds must be approved by U.S. Congress and that the 2019 HUD budget has not been set to date. Jarrett Steffen also clerified that the Draft 2019 Action Plan includes the Department of Community Development's estimates for projected 2019 funds based on previous annual allocations.

1 ...

Ivonne asked for clarification on the home rehabilitation programs included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan, specifically if the programs are for renters or owners. Jarrett Steffen explained that the program is for home owners, but some projects do include rental properties, but that homeowhers are the participants in the program.

CHERRY BUILDING CONTROL OF SERVICE CONTROL CON

Legend Lewis provided further support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program.

Jasmine White explained that the Niagara Falis Housing Authority summer and after-school program provides a continuity of care to the children in the program and that it is important to keep funding this program so that local children receive this type of care. She also explained that the children, parents, and staff have a trusting relationship among each other that makes the program impactful for relationship hutlding in the community and is a good investment in our local children and for community pride.

Ivonne stated that she did not see any funding for pregnancy prevention, supporting those transitioning from prison, or addiction services. Ivonne expressed support for funding agencies that provide those services. Jarrett Steffen explained that these projects are not included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan and that CDBG would be the funding mechanism for projects that provide those services. Jarrett Steffen also explained that these comments will factor into the Department of Community Development's considerations in reviewing the Draft 2019 Action Plan and making any amendments.

David Houghton stated that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission uses its gymnasium as a community conter. David Houghton, building off of Ivonne's statements, expressed the importance of preventative programs in the community.

No more public comments were made. Jarrett Stoffen reiterated the timeline for the 2019 Action. Plan process and provided further information on how to submit comments for the public comment period and ways to learn more about the Department of Community Development.

The public hearing ended at 6;48pm,



# Niagara Falls Housing Authority

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Administrative Offices: 744 Tenth Steen • Niggaté Falls, NV 14,901 hope: (1) (1) 365-696: • Fax:: 316; 285-3507 • TDD: 4-808-515-1803-3405 Perkate www.puba.org - Sepaid admissible.com.

January 16, 2019

Mr. Seth Piccirillo, Director Community Development 1022 Main Street Niagara Falla, NY 4402

Dear Mr. Piecinilo:

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## COBG Appeal – Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

In response to the Community Development Block Grant announcements, the Niagara Fulls Housing Authority respectfully submits an appeal for review:

We would like to revise our previous request of \$50,000 to just \$30,000 to continue to provide an enhanced 5-week Summer Enrichment Program to the Niegara Palls community. This: funding is cracial in support of quality care for our children. Through our programming efforts, we offer not only children who reside in public housing opportunity, but those in the surrounding neighborhoods.

We eagerly have changed the name of our Summer Enrichment Program to "Full Steam—Ahead," where we will incorporate interactive STEAM activities - Science. Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math into the doily routine. These activities will cultivate a creative culture and provide thought provoking fun.

Personnel Costs	Projected Hours	Hourly Rate	lotal
STEAM Instructor (2)	350	\$20,00 ·	-\$7,000.00.
Summer Camp Workers (8)	1,400	\$14.00	\$19,600:00
		1. July 19	
Non-Personnel Costs	Quantity	Cost Per Unit	Total
Art Supplies	125	\$13.60	\$1,700,00
TEM Activities	125	\$13.60	51,700.00
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th noting the CDBG 2019 Action Plan Survey Results, Youth Programs and Facilities ranked the number one community concern of our city. Yet, the majority of projected funding does not reflect the need. We, as a community, need to look into our own backyards and notiforget the children that are struggling in poverty each and every day. The NFHA wisles to take the lead in continuing the learning process through the summer months thus providing a safe haven and aurturing environment for our children.

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- According to City-Data com, the median household income for those residing in zip code
  14301 is significantly below state average. The median house value is significantly
  below state average and the unemployed percentage is above state average. For those
  residing in zip code 14305, the median household income is below state average and the
  median house value is significantly below state average.
- · A review of area summer programs notes the following:
  - Niagara University Summer Youth Camp \$150 per week (does not include lunch)
  - -Niagara Arts and Cultural Center Stages Summer Cump \$150 per week
  - -Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club \$70 per week + \$10 registration fee (program is held outside at Hyde Park)

The custs are extraordinary.

- Each year, we serve a minimum of 125 children and youth through our summer enrichment programs. That's 125 children who gained exposure and experiences and who are now equipped to evolve.
- Youth development experts agree that children need a variety of experiences in their lives to help them grow into healthy adolescents and adults. What's the most important part of camp? It's fun! Our program speaks for itself. It is witnessed in the number of children that we serve and in the number of children who return to the program year after year. We have numerous testimonials - many from who simply have outgrown the program, but now come back and volunteer - teaching what they learned. For instance, Niegara Falls Firefighter and Niagara Falls School Board Member Earl Bass -- a former resident of public housing who continues to volunteer his time serving as a mentor and role model to those in need, public housing resident Owen Steed Jr. (son of Legislator Owen Steed) who continues to lend a supportive hand at numerous community events, former resident and Air Force Servicemen Tyrone Fields, who volunteered so much that we now employ him as a Resource Aide working with children at the Packard Court Community Center. Art Educator Caedyn Metz who was originally paid with CDBG funds and volunteered countless overage hours to the program - parents noticed and returned the favor - helping her to develop her studio at the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center. "It was a great lesson in building," she said. Just as she lifted them, they lifted her, former Greenbay Packer James Starks who grew up in our summer programs and played in our biddy basketball league and now donates countless very much needed school supplies to children in need.

Our program guarantees to help children feath and grow in a positive, safe and nurturing environment and provides the foundational principles that foster self-confidence, builds self-esteem and provides positive decision making skills. Through weekly adventurous field trips our participants set sails on new discoveries, passions and interests thus providing a glimpse into the world that awaits them. Please give them the chance at opportunity.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA FALLS HOUSING AUTHORITY

PATRICIA L. BARONE

Interim Executive Director

#### **Grantee Unique Appendices**

I hereby certify that the following is an excerpt of the Minutes from the Meeting of the City Council held on March 6, 2019:



#### CITY OF MIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK.

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TO:

City Council

FROM:

Niagara Falls Community Development

DATE:

March 6, 2019

RE:

City Council Agenda Item:

DRAFT U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 2019

Consolidated Annual Action Plan

#### Council Members:

The City of Ningara Falls Department of Community Development requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of the draft Fiscal Year 2019 Community Development Consolidated Annual Action Flan. It is year five of the 2015-2019 Five Year Strategic Plan. Based on our projections, it consists of \$2,530,000 in federal investment, \$996,668 in non-municipal matching funds for a\$3,496,668 ustal leveraged plan. The draft FFY 2019 Consolidated Armual Action Plan consists of the following U.S. Department of Hausing and Urban Development (HUD) programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Program (BSG).

Draft 2019 CDBG Amount:

\$ 2,000,000

Dyaft 2019 HOME Amount:

\$ 335,000

Draft 2019 ESG Amount:

\$ 195,000

These budgets are presented to the City Council in draft form, based on estimated amounts, to accommodate the city and federal governments' differing fiscal year budget schedules. HUD's final FFV allocations are generally posted in the spring of each calendar year. A final schedule for 2019 has not yet been set by the federal government. The Niagara Falls Department of Community Development will request City Council approval of the final HUD allocations when those allocations are announced. Historically, draft budget estimates have been within 2 percent of final allocations.

The draft 2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan was created through a fifteen week civic engagement process, which included online and print citizen surveys, five public meetings, one public hearing, and an online comment submission form. Public comments received during the civic ongagement process are included in the supporting documentation. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department is confident that our process is a national model of transparent and well-explained public engagement and budgeting. Below is a list of major imleatones in the public participation process:

Citizen Survey

Opened October 9, 2018 Closed November 9, 2018

17 Respondents

14 Comments

(Results and comments attached)

Annual Action Plan 2019

Neighborhood Planning Meetings

Mon, Oct 22, 6:00 pm

Niagara Street Elementary - 2513 Niagara Street

THE PART OF MAINING BUILDING WARM SHOWS TO MINING BUILDING TO A PART OF THE PA

3 Attendees

Tue. Oct 23, 12:00 pm

LaSa'le Public Library - 8728 Buffalo Ave

10 Attendees

Doris Jones Family Resource Center - 3001-9th Street

Thu, Oct 25, 6:30 pm 1 Attendoe

Carnogie Building – 1022 Main Street

Sat, Oct 27, 10:00 am

4 Attendees 18 Attendees Total

Pizza with the Plan

Tue, Jan 8, 6:00 pm

Camegie Building - 1022 Main Sheet

16 Attendees 4 Comments

(Comments (diached)

Public Hearing

Wed, Jan 16, 6:00 pm

City Hall Council Chambers - 745 Main Street

30 Attendens 13 Speakers

(Minues attached)

#### Other Comments

One speed letter from the Nisgara Falls Housing Authority was received. No other public comments were received by the Department of Community Development via mail, hand delivery, email, or online submission.

(Letter attached)

The action plan is not finalized until HOD allocations are posted and the City approves the action plan with the HOD-allocated amounts. Upon City Council approval, the draft 2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan will be submitted to HOD for programmatic review and approval. For HOD add City of Niagars Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council.

Will the Council vote to approve the Draft 2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan?

Respectfully submitted,

Poul a Double M

Nichalas Melson, City Administrator

Seth A. Piccirillo
Director of Community Development

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Council Member Tompkins moved that the Communication whe Received and Filed and the Recommendation whe Approved Yeas-5 Nays-0 APPROYED Witness my Hand and Seal this 7th day of March 2019

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk

Councily Y Scott (Tompkins Y Vocalo Y Teams Y

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# 2019 Action Plan Survey Results

17 Participants Total (9 online submissions, 8 paper submissions)

# Category Results

Ranking	Category 2	Total Score
1	Youth Programs & Facilities	9
2/2 -4	Street, Sidewalk, & Green Space improvements	8
3	Targeted Blight Clearance	_ 6
410.0	Crime Prevention Services	3
(A // c	Housing Rehabilitation	3
·17	Storefront/Loral Business Investment	3
86 3	Workforce Development	1
7,5	Public Facility Improvements	11

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# **Public Comments**

When prompted:

Full Public Comments as Written (14 Comments total)

wallest product of the A
Is there anything else you think is important to target in the 2019 Action Plan?
Overall maintenance of streets and public spaces
The city playgrounds.
clean-up of the Cauga island Jane Park Waterfront, so families can onjoy this valuable assett, and the only large public
access to river waterfront in LaSalle.
Not at this time
We have to get rio drug nouses! [Remainder of comment contains personally identifiable information.]
Teens and young adults. NF Board of Education and BOCES should take the lead. CD could offer some funding. CD
should NOT compete with or try to out do educational programming.
Target blight/housing rehab. Jobs
Youth programming

Roads Roads, Health and welfare programs. Keep kids busy. Bring back LaSalle field day, not just a carry. Community programs alerts.

When prompted:

Community Development wants to hear your input. Please provide any further comments

Barrelland Harris and Comparison Barrelland Comparison and Comparison (Branch Marie Barrelland Barrelland Barr

you have.

Thank you for the hard work you do for this city. I appreciate it and feel hopeful knowing there are people trying to help

Keep up the good work and reaching but to the community in all of the various methods that I've seen.

CD's role in my opinion is not dealing with the oplod problem. Alleys, cameras, lighting, housing, blight is where CD's focus should be. Also demolitions.

Outside housing renovation. Resident pilot program for home improvements.

Great job, friends!

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City of Niagara Falls – Department of Community Development DRAFT 2019 Action Plan Pizza with the Plan Public Meeting Written Comments January 8, 2019, 6pm – 7pm

Project #	Organization	Project Name	Public Comment
. 12	City of Niagara Falls	Housing Rehabilitation	"I strongly support this funding. Home owners need help in updating their properties."
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"Youth Program"
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"The program I want to see is a art and music."
N/A	General Comment	General Comment	"The type of programs that I would like to see are building and veterinarian programs."

City of Niagara Falls – Department of Community Development DRAFT 2019 Action Plan Public Hearing City Hall – Council Chambers – 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301 January 16, 2019 – 6pm

Public Attendance:

Approximately 30 members of the public attended, though not all

members signed the sign-in sheet.

City Staff in Attendance:

Seth Piccirillo, Director, Community Development

Jarrett Stoffen, Compliance Officer, Community Development

The public hearing began at 6:00pm. Copies of the Draft 2019 Action Plan were available for members of the public to take.

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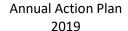
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David Houghton (Development Director, Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission) expressed that the 2019 Draft Action Plan has some wonderful and deserving organizations that provide great services to the community. Dave Houghton stated that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission applied for 2019 ESO funds and was disappointed not to be included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Dave Houghton provided an overview of the projects and programs that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission provides as well as planned future projects at Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission.

Tomorrow Allen-Collins, a staff member at Niagara Falls Housing Authority, stated she is attending to support funding the Niagara Falls Housing Authority's application for the summer and after-school youth program. Immorrow Allen-Collins said that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority learned a let of information about the CDBG program since the last public meeting. Tomorrow Allen-Collins stated that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority was disappointed not to be included in the Draft 2019 Action Pian. Tomorrow Allen-Collins explained that Niagara Falls Housing Authority has made amendments to the program and has submitted that information to the Department of Community Development. Tomorrow Allen-Collins noted that there are no preventive programs on the Draft 2019 Action Pian. Tomorrow Allen-Collins stated that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority serves approximately 260 children and that any funds to support the program are critical.

Legend Lewis gave her support for funding the Niagara Fells Housing Authority summer and after-school program and read written commonts from other children that supported the project.

Brooklyn Arce spoke in favor of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program.

Lucia Ligaramari stated her support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and afterschool program and read a written statement supporting the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program.

Elizabeth Day expressed her support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and afterschool program and read written comments from other children that supported the project.

Jarrett Steffen asked if copies of the written statements that were read could be made and submitted to the Department of Community Development for inclusion in the Deaft 2019 Action Pian Public Community. A staff member of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority stated that she will do so.

Saladin Allah, a facilitator for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program, stated that many past participants in the program come back to volunteer and work as paid youth summer staff through the Niagara County summer youth job program. Saladin Allah stated other positive projects, outcomes, and results that grow out of the program.

Rachel Williams explained the positive benefits of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program for her son. She stated that the program was a safe and structured program that has yielded positive personal and social health and development results for her son.

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Tyrone Fields, a program aide for the Niagara Falis Housing Authority summer and after-school program, stated the positive benefits of the program and how he has been drawn back to the program over the course of his life. He further stated that the program is instrumental in educating children and also fearning from ediferen.

Lynn Wiley asked a question about when the list of projects will be out for line item #4, City of Niagara Falls (Participatory Budgeting Process). Jarrett Steffen explained that the Participatory Budgeting topic has not been selected yet and explained the Participatory Budgeting process for those that entered the seom after the initial Participatory Budgeting discussion. Jarrett Steffen stated that the Department of Community Development will solicit feedback from the community regarding the topic 2019 Participatory Budgeting and that a topic should be selected by April. Jarrett Steffen stated that the project details are not fully sketched out to date, but that the Draft 2019 Action Plan does provide funding for the project.

Lynn Wiley stated she would like to see more park improvements. She also stated that the City needs to lead the community on how to keep up the parks and work on other community projects.

David Houghton explained the community projects scheduled this upcoming sommer at Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission.

Sr. Beth Brosmer, Director of Heart, Love & Soul, expressed gratitude for the Heart, Love & Soul facility project being included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan. Sr. Beth Brosmer explained the services to be provided by the new Daybreak facility and that the Daybreak facility will stabilize the surrounding community.

Ivenne asked for an update on the conversation had so far at the public hearing. Jarrett Steffen gave a summary of the purpose of the meeting and what was discussed so far. Jarrett Steffen provided a copy of the Draft 2019 Action Plan to Ivenne.

Ivenne supported the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program. Ivenne also advocated for more green space (with a focus on lawn space) in her neighborhood (North End neighborhood). Ivenne stated that summer programming is crucial. Ivenue also pointed out that

Ivonne also asked if the Draft 2019 Action Plan funds were guaranteed at this point in time. Jarrett Steffen explained that these funds must be approved by U.S. Congress and that the 2019 HUD budget has not been set to date. Jarrett Steffen also clarified that the Draft 2019 Action Plan includes the Department of Community Development's estimates for projected 2019 funds based on previous annual allocations.

Ivonne asked for clarification on the home rehabilitation programs included in the Draft 2019. Action Plan, specifically if the programs are for renters or owners. Jarrett Steffen explained that the program is for home owners, but some projects do include rental properties, but that homeowners are the participants in the program.

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Legend Lewis provided further support for the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program.

Jasmine White explained that the Niagara Falls Housing Authority summer and after-school program provides a continuity of care to the children in the program and that it is important to keep funding this program so that local children receive this type of care. She also explained that the children, parents, and staff have a trusting relationship among each other that makes the program impactful for relationship building in the community and is a good investment in our local children and for community pride.

Ivonne stated that she did not see any funding for pregnancy prevention, supporting those transitioning from prison, or addiction services. Ivonne expressed support for funding agencies that provide those services. Jarrett Steffer, explained that these projects are not included in the Draft 2019 Action Plan and that CDBG would be the funding mechanism for projects that provide those services. Jarrett Steffer also explained that these comments will factor into the Department of Community Development's considerations in reviewing the Draft 2019 Action Plan and making any amendments.

David Houghton stated that Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission uses its gymnasium as a community center. David Houghton, building off of Ivonne's statements, expressed the importance of preventative programs in the community.

No more public comments were made. Jarrett Steffer, reiterated the timeline for the 2019 Action. Plan process and provided further information on how to submit comments for the public comment period and ways to learn more about the Department of Community Development.

The public hearing ended at 6:48pm.



# Niagara Falls Housing Authority

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Administrative Overes: 244 Least Street - Ningary 1945, NY 14'90 Prome: 1716) 285-6981 - Proc. 1716 (285-380) - 2111 Sel - 400 515-18 20 gents. Website - www.ning.org - Empilordox 9 (fee.org

January 16, 2019

Mr. Seth Piccirillo, Director Community Development 1022 Main Street. Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Dear Mr. Piccarillo:

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CDBG Appeal - Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup. July 1, 2019 - Jone 30, 2020

In response to the Community Development Block Grant announcements, the Niagara Falis Housing Authority respectfully submits an appeal for review.

We would like to revise our previous request of \$60,000 to just \$30,000 to continue to provide an enhanced 5-week Summer Enrichment Program to the Niagara Falls community. This finding is crucial in support of quality care for our children. Through our programming efforts, we offer not only children who reside in public housing opportunity, but those in the surrounding neighborhoods.

We eagerly have changed the name of our Summer Enrichment Program to "Fulf Steam Ahead," where we will incorporate interactive STEAM activities – Science, Technology, Engineering, Aits and Math into the daily tentine. These activities will cultivate a creative culture and provide thought provoking fun.

東西の大学的   中国   1984 - 1984	Full Steam Ahead	l" Budget	range de la la companya de la compa
Personnel Costs	Projected Hours	Hourly Rate	Total
STEAM Instructor (2)	350	\$20.00	37,000.00
Summer Camp Workers (8)	1,400	\$14.00	\$19,600.00
Non-Personnel Costs	Quantity	Cost Per Unit	Total
Art Supplies	125	\$13.60	\$1,700.00
STEM Activities	325	\$13.60	\$1,700,00
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In noting the CDBG 2019 Action Plan Survey Results, Youth Programs and Facilities ranked the number one community concern of our city. Yet, the majority of projected funding does not reflect the need. We, as a community, need to look into our own backyards and not forget the children that are struggling in poverty each and every day. The NFHA wishes to take the lead in continuing the learning process through the summer months thus providing a safe haven and murtaring environment for our children.

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Harry S. Jordan Gardens - Authory Spalline Towers - Henry E. Wrotel Towers - Packard Quart - Beloved Community Deels W. Jones Frankly Restource Busining - Packard Coord Community Center Located in zip codes 14301 and 14305, the NFHA Summer Enrichment Program has been a steple in the Niagara Falls community for over 14 years. Serving the low to very-low income population, the program levels the playing field and opens children and youth to a variety of educational, recreational, cultural and social experiences. Many parents in our neighborhoods lack both transportation and to put it frankly—money. Children and youth in higher income level households have more advantages. They tend to do more, see more and experience more. Our goal is to level the playing field.

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- According to City-Data.com, the median household income for those residing in zip code
  14301 is significantly below state average. The median house value is significantly
  below state average and the unemployed percentage is above state average. For those
  residing in zip code 14305, the median household income is below state average and the
  median house value is significantly below state average.
- A review of area summer programs notes the following:
  - Niagara University Summer Youth Camp \$150 per week (does not include lunch)
  - -Niagara Arts and Cultural Center Stages Summer Cump \$150 per week
  - -Niegera Falls Boys and Girls Club \$70 per week + \$10 registration fee (program is held outside at Hyde Park)

The costs are extraordinary.

- Each year, we serve a minimum of 125 children and youth through our summer enrichment programs. That's 125 children who gained exposure and experiences and who are now equipped to evolve.
- Youth development experts agree that children need a variety of experiences in their lives to help them grow into healthy adolescents and adults. What's the most important part of camp? It's fun! Our program speaks for itself. It is witnessed in the number of children that we serve and in the number of children who return to the program year after year. We have numerous testimonials - many from who simply have outgrown the program, but now come back and volunteer - teaching what they learned. For instance, Niagara Falls Firefighter and Niagara Falls School Board Member Earl Bass - a former resident of public housing who continues to volunteer his time serving as a menter and role model to those in need, public housing resident Owen Steed Jr. (son of Legislator Owen Steed) who continues to lend a supportive hand at numerous community events, former resident and Air Force Serviceman Tyrone Fields, who volunteered so much that we now employ him as a Resource Aide working with children at the Packerd Court Community Center, Art Educator Caedya Metz who was originally paid with CDBG funds and volunteered countless overage hours to the program - parents noticed and returned the favor - helping her to develop her studio at the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center. "It was a great lesson in building," she said. Just as she lifted them, they lifted her, former Greenbay Packer James Starks who grew up in our summer programs and played in our biddy basketball league and now donates countless very much needed school supplies to children in need.

Our program guarantees to help children learn and grow in a positive, safe and nurturing environment and provides the foundational principles that foster self-confidence, builds self-esteem and provides positive decision making skills. Through weekly adventurous field trips our participants set sails on new discoveries, passions and interests thus providing a glimpse into the world that awaits them. Please give them the chance at opportunity.

Very truly yours,

NIAGARA FALLS HOUSING AUTHORITY

PATRICIA L. BARONE

Interim Executive Director

## I hereby certify that the following is an excerpt of the Mibutes from the Meeting of the City Council held on May 29, 2019:

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Niagara Falls City Council

From:

Niagara Falls Community Development

Date:

May 29, 2019

Re:

Federal Budget Finalization - 2019 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME

Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs

The City Council approved the draft Fiscal year 2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan in March 2019. The Consolidated Annual Action Plan includes annual funding allocations from HUD for the City's CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. These budgets were created following a public participation process and then presented to the City Council in draft form, using a conservative estimate of the 2019 budget amounts, to accommodate the city and federal governments' differing fiscal year budget schedules. HUD's final Fiscal year 2019 allocations were released on April 19, 2019. Cumulatively, the City's final CDBG, HOME, and ESG allocation is \$2,936,063, a 13.8 percent increase from the \$2,530,000 budget previously presented to the community and approved by the City Council.

The individual programs for FFY 2019 are affected as follows:

Source	Draft 2019 Action Plan	HUD 2019 Final Allocation	* Change	% Change
CDBG	\$2,000,000	\$2,309,381	\$309.381	+15.5
HOME	\$335,000	\$427,400	\$92,400	+27.5
ESG	\$195 000	\$199,282	\$4,282	÷0,2
TOTAL	\$2,530,000	\$2,936,063	\$406,063	+13.8

The Community Development Department proposes the following revisions to the 2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan to bring the budget estimate in line with the final allocations:

#### 2019 Programmatic Changes

Budgeted CDBG Program	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
City of Niagara Falls – CDBG Rehab Program		(\$62,495)
Niagara Falls Housing Authority – Doris Jones Family Programming	Resource Building Youth	530,000
Heart, Love & Soul - Project Daybreak Facility	- x	\$230,000
City of Niagara Falls CDBG Administration	men = 2	\$61,876

377	Budgeted HOME Program	\$-Change
13	City of Niagara Falls – HOME Renab Program	(\$94,253)
W.	Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative - CHDC	\$3,281
	Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity – CHOO	\$174,132
	City of Niagara Falls - HOME Administration	\$9,240

Council Member Tompkins moved that the Communication be Received and Filed and the Recommendation be Approved Yeas-5 Ways-0 APPROVED Witness my Hand and Seal this 30th day of May 2019

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Lia a Vitelle

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk

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Budgeted ESG Program	& Change
Firmacie Community Services (Gasey House) – Emergency Shelter	\$1,980
Pinnacle Community Services (Passage House) - Emergency Shelter	\$1,980
City of Niagara Falls - ESG Administration	\$322

No additional public comments were received during the public comment period.

Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the City will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council. Will Council vote to so approve and authorize the Community Development Director to make the necessary adjustments?

Paul Dyster, Mayor

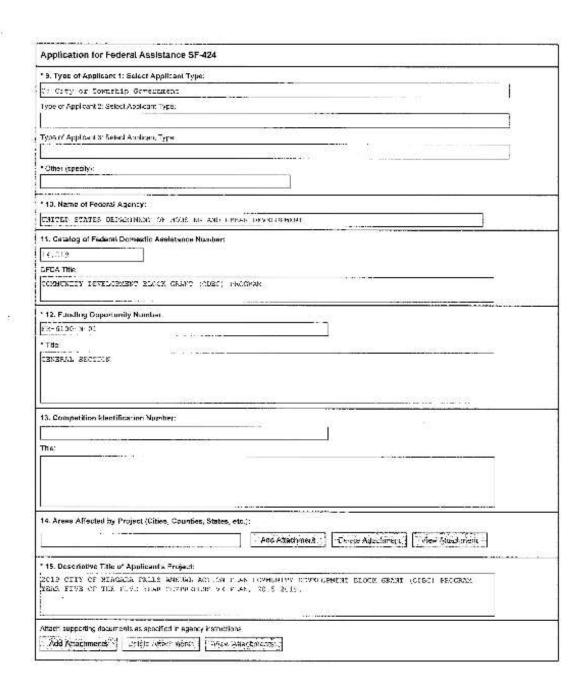
Nick Meison, City Administrator

Seth-Piccirillo, Director

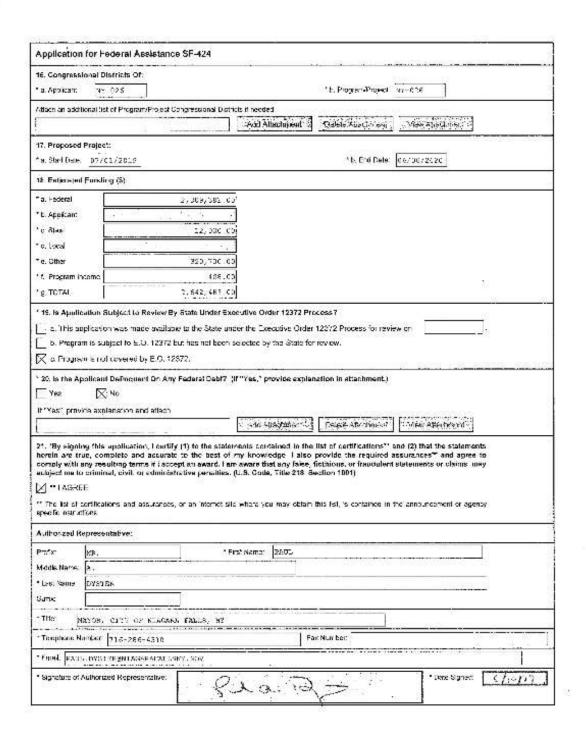
Niagara Falls Community Development

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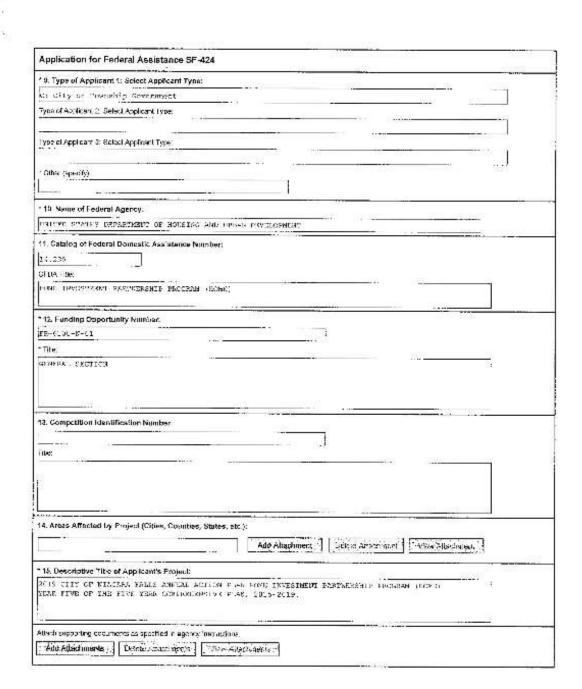
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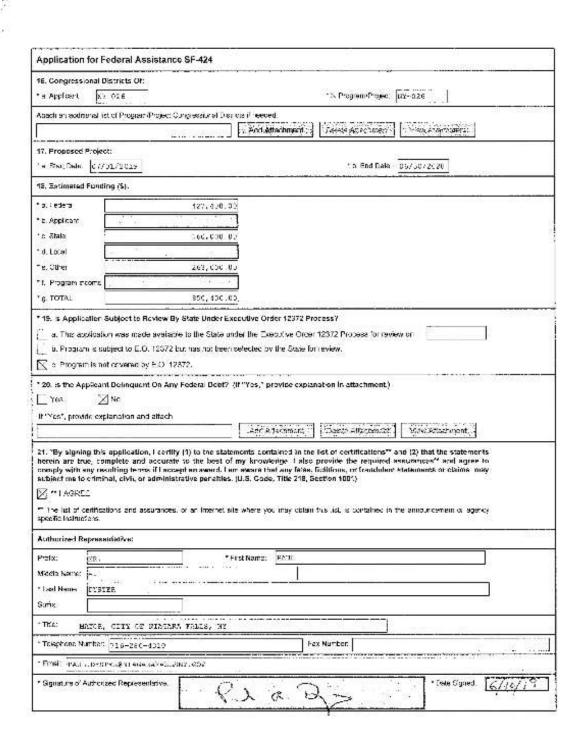
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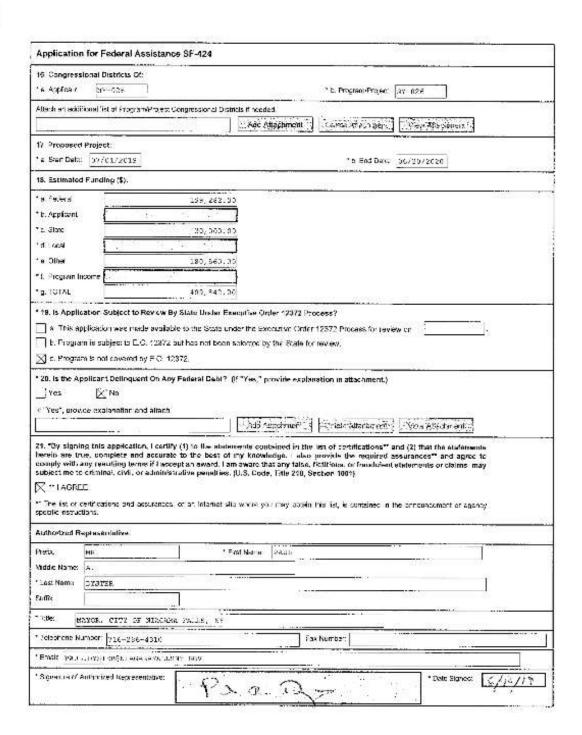
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