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Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report Program Year (PY) 2024-2025



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CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

The Program Year (PY) 2023-2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) illustrates the County of Charleston's efforts to coordinate funding in order to deliver comprehensive community development projects and services to its citizens. This report summarizes how federal funds were invested between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 to meet the goals and objectives identified in the 2021-2025 Charleston County Consolidated Plan. The County's partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has enabled significant re-investment in the county to create more safe and livable neighborhoods. Progress relating to these efforts is due in large part to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding received from HUD. Over the past year, Charleston County and the City of North Charleston have invested federal CDBG funds into infrastructure improvements, housing repairs, and important public services for the low-to-moderate income community at large. Likewise, the strategic investment of Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) funds have improved the quality of life for lower income residents and homeless families.

The Consolidated Plan is a comprehensive document that describes the County's housing market conditions, identifies the need for affordable housing and community development, and provides the strategies to address the needs over a five-year period. The County plan coordinates a unified vision for community development and housing actions with the primary goals of providing clean and safe drinking water, connecting neighborhoods, promoting fair housing, providing community and supportive services, investing in public infrastructure, and building affordable housing opportunities.

This CAPER provides an assessment of progress towards the five-year goals and the one-year goals. As a large and growing community, Charleston County must successfully balance a diverse array of housing and community issues. Given the range of competing needs, the County must invest its scarce resources wisely. Overall, the County has had efficient and effective program performance in delivering community development activities.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Access to Clean Water and Sanitary Sewer	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	15	0	0.00%	33	8	24.24%
Access to Clean Water and Sanitary Sewer	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	100	60	60.00%			
Action on Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	25	29	116.00%	22	12	54.55%
Action on Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	750	441	58.80%	195	292	149.74%
Action on Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	25	0	0.00%			

Broadband Internet Access	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	50	0	0.00%			
Demolition	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	50	16	32.00%	20	7	35.00%
Direct Services to the LMI Community	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	6250	5126	82.02%	1311	2550	194.51%
Direct Services to the LMI Community	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	250	151	60.40%	28	60	214.29%
Direct Services to the LMI Community	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	150	313	208.67%	36	140	388.89%
Economic Development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	35	0	0.00%			
Economic Development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	10		22	10	45.45%

Emergency Housing Repairs	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	100	134	134.00%	27	48	177.78%
Homeownership Expansion	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	40	0	0.00%			
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	14	6	42.86%	2	1	50.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	1	0	0.00%	0	0	
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	0		0	0	
New Housing Construction	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	6	120.00%	9	1	11.11%
Program Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$22842	Other	Other	0	0				

Sidewalk Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	12500	16740	133.92%	2450	2440	99.59%
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Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

This is the County's third year of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and applicants were encouraged to submit proposals that align with the Consolidated Plan Goals. For CDBG, "Affordable Housing & Suitable Living Options" was made a top priority for the County in Program Year 2023. Under this priority, approximately 21% of CDBG funds were used to support emergency repair programs for four different entities: Home Works of America, Operation Home, Town of Awendaw, and Charleston Habitat for Humanity. These emergency repair programs are responsible for providing updates to owner-occupied units that address health & safety concerns. Specific activities include, but are not limited to, roof repairs, ramp installations, and handicap accessibility updates. These programs, in addition to programs funded in previous program years, resulted in 46 emergency repair projects completed in PY23.

Access to sanitary and clean water outcomes do not reflect Well and Septic maintenance service provided to eligible LMI households. This component of access to clean water is critical to ensuring that our investment to Well and septic upgrades is protected and citizens continue to receive quality Well and Septic systems operations.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME
White	733	1
Black or African American	1,647	1
Asian	13	0
American Indian or American Native	6	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Total	2,399	2
Hispanic	189	0
Not Hispanic	2,399	2

Describe the clients assisted (including the racial and/or ethnicity of clients assisted with ESG)

	HESG
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	23
Asian or Asian American	8
Black, African American, or African	247
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	10
Middle Eastern or North African	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1
White	134
Multiracial	5
Client doesn't know	0
Client prefers not to answer	0
Data not collected	10
Total	438

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Please note: In Table 2, the CDBG and ESG numbers reflect the number of individuals - not the number of families. In addition, the table does not include a line for any other racial groups. Under CDBG, 189 LMI persons identified themselves as races that are not listed on this page, which brings the total number individuals receiving assistance under CDBG to 2,602.

CDBG funds were used for housing and non-housing services during PY2023. According to the HUD PR23 report, a total of 2602 LMI persons received benefits through public services, emergency housing repairs, and access to clean drinking water and sanitary sewer systems. Around 62% percent reported their race as Black or African American, while about 38% percent were White or Caucasian. Around 9 percent of persons receiving a benefit from CDBG funds were Hispanic.

About 50% percent receiving benefit of the HOME Program identified as Black or African-American. No individuals identified themselves as having a Hispanic origin.

Homeless individuals reported their racial background for the Emergency Solutions Grant was approximately 31% percent White or Caucasian and about 56% percent Black or African American.

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CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,773,806	1,702,034
HOME	public - federal	877,289	809,139
ESG	public - federal	156,837	286,830

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The 2023 CDBG allocation from HUD was \$1,773,806 and a \$10,678 decrease from the 2022 CDBG allocation of \$1,784,484. CDBG funds supported infrastructure projects, public service activities, and emergency housing repairs. Recaptured CDBG funds go to the County's Well and Septic Upgrade/utility connection/maintenance program.

Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

The 2023 HOME allocation from HUD was \$877,289 a \$7,417 decrease from the 2022 HOME allocation of \$884,706. The HOME program supports development and preservation of affordable housing stock for both County and City of North Charleston residents. The total HOME Funds expended is a total of applicable line items from PR07 report that comprise the County's Revenue Records for Fiscal Year 2023.

Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG)

The 2023 allocation for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program was \$156,837, a \$1,186 decrease from the 2022 allocation of \$159,411. These funds support core programs addressing homelessness in Charleston County, such as emergency shelter operations and rapid re-housing services. The total ESG Funds expended is a total of applicable line items from PR05 report that comprise the County's Budget to Actual for Fiscal Year 2023.

HOME-ARP

Admin Funds in the amount of \$14,032.99 was used to develop the HOME-ARP plan.

ESG-CV

Florence Crittenton expended \$45.95 to close out their ESG-CV round two staff cost.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City of North Charleston	50	50	City
Countywide	50	50	County

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**Narrative**

The table above represents the location data for the distribution of funding plus the cost of administration and contracting of the CDBG, HOME and Emergency Solutions Programs. The funds were distributed to organizations serving areas throughout Charleston County, with 17% of the funds focused on well/septic upgrades, water/sewer connections, and well/septic maintenance. The well/septic/connection/maintenance program is open to the entire County (outside the City of Charleston) but typically serves those living in rural areas.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

HESG Match Information:

Total Match PY22: \$159,511

Match Required PY22: \$159,511

Total Match PY23: \$127,311

Match Required PY23: \$127,311

In addition, applicants to the County's HOME program must provide evidence of a minimum of 25% non-federal, non-administrative match funds. All HOME activities require 25% match by subrecipients. The "Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match" provides more information about the ways federal funds leveraged additional resources.

No publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction was used/leveraged to address the needs identified in the plan.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	2,666,011
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	202,423
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	2,868,434
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	87,042
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	2,781,392

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
01-CHDO-2104-19	06/30/2024	78,340	0	32,000	0	0	0	110,340
01-CHDO-2105-19	06/30/2024	33,915	0	35,000	0	0	0	68,915
01-CHDO-2218-2219-2220-22	06/30/2024	19,703	0	0	0	0	0	19,703
01-HOME-2243-22	06/30/2024	3,465	0	0	0	0	0	3,465

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
8,631	29,849	0	0	38,480

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	971,563	971,563	0	0	0	0
Number	7	0	0	7	0	0
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	971,562	11,750	959,812			
Number	7	1	6			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired		0		0		
Businesses Displaced		0		0		
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0		0		
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0		0		
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	22	292
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	67	12
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	89	304

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	50	60
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	9	1
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	30	48
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	1
Total	89	110

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The number of homeless households supported, as indicated in Table 11, includes outcomes achieved through ESG funds dedicated to rapid re-housing, with non-homeless households were supported through CDBG-funded project. The second table includes outcomes for HOME-funded projects and CDBG-funded emergency repairs. Housing projects often require several years to complete, which accounts for differences between goals and actuals. Rehab of existing units includes completed outcomes funded by PY2023 allocations.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The completion of HOME projects will continue in the coming year. Housing projects often require several years to complete, which is the main issue in completing HOME-funded projects. The Community Development and Revitalization Department will continue working with subrecipients to move projects forward.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	1,769	0
Low-income	615	1
Moderate-income	238	1
Total	2,622	2

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Note: The CDBG totals represent individuals and households served - not households only.

In PY23, Charleston County utilized CDBG and HOME resources to increase affordable housing through funding the emergency repair of 48 units, construction of 1 unit for homeownership, and rehabilitation of 1 vacant rental unit.

The County provided housing assistance through all three grant programs - CDBG, HESG, and HOME. CDBG funded critical home repair services by Town of Awendaw, Home Works, Charleston Habitat for Humanity, and Operation Home 48 LMI owner-occupied housing units. Homeless prevention activities supported 60 at-risk households through Humanities Foundation with CDBG funding.

The HESG Program provided essential services to address the needs of homeless persons in emergency shelters and enabled homeless persons secure permanent housing and support services. These funds provided operational support to The Formation Project and One80 Place, Inc. for food, shelter, education, legal and veteran services to 414 homeless individuals. Florence Crittenton provided rapid re-housing services and case management to 29 homeless individuals consisting of adults and children during PY2023.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

People experiencing homelessness are engaged and assessed through the Coordinated Entry System. The core elements of the Coordinated Entry System include system entry points, housing needs assessments, and prioritization of individuals and families for referral to appropriate and available housing resources. The entry points to our system include all emergency shelters, street outreach teams, and the housing crisis phone line, website, and texting. These entry points are announced throughout the community using local media and community partners. When households present at any entry point, the first step of our assessment process is the diversion and prevention protocol. If their current housing needs are not resolved, the household is added to the prioritization list for referrals to available housing projects.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

One80 Place provides emergency shelter for individual men, women, families with children and transitional housing for veterans.

One80 Place

1. 26 beds for individual women or families with children
2. 40 transitional housing beds for men or male Veterans
3. 5 transitional housing beds for female Veterans

Lowcountry Continuum of Care (CoC) manages the Housing Crisis Phone Line for all requests for shelter services in the jurisdiction. Available shelter beds are prioritized for households with children, persons living in unsheltered situations, persons with long histories of homelessness, and for persons with disabling conditions.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Supportive services offered to households who have recently been housed are key to ensuring that

homelessness remains a one-time occurrence. The CES aims at shortening the length of time persons experience homelessness by targeted engagement through outreach and inclusion on our community's Prioritization List for Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless Persons, and Rapid Re-Housing for households experiencing episodic homelessness. More resources are needed for both Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing in order for our community to reach a "functional zero" of homelessness; where all persons experiencing homelessness can transition to housing within 30 days. Case managers at institutions such as hospitals or corrections programs work to ensure that no one is discharged into homelessness. However, more meaningful collaborations and more frequent communication between homeless service providers and these institutions are needed in order to prevent discharges to a homeless setting.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The Coordinated Entry System that is managed by the CoC relies upon a common assessment that assesses the vulnerability of homeless persons to help with the decision making process about who to prioritize for services and how best to serve those persons and families experiencing homelessness. This process recommends certain persons and families for Permanent Supportive Housing (almost always these are chronically homeless persons), Rapid Re-Housing, or general support in finding suitable housing (but no financial support). Using this consistent method across Charleston County helps the CoC focus the limited resources available on those who are in greatest need. All entry points to our Coordinated Entry System use a Prevention and Diversion assessment to help households identify alternative ways to avoid becoming homeless and entering the service system.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

There are two Public Housing Authorities located in Charleston County that benefit the citizens of North Charleston and residents located outside the city limits of Charleston, South Carolina. North Charleston Housing (NCH) and Charleston County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (CCHRA) are funded directly by HUD and do not receive Urban Entitlement funds from either the County or the City.

There are 1112 vouchers allocated for use in Charleston County. CCHRA also oversees the management and operations of 381 one-, three-, and four-bedroom housing units (125 single-family homes and 256 elderly residences). The single-family homes are located in 50 different subdivisions throughout Charleston County. Through both programs CCHRA serves an average of 1600 families annually.

Currently, the North Charleston Housing Authority administers 1,756 Housing Choice Vouchers, 343 RAD Project Based Vouchers, and 49 Emergency Housing Vouchers. Additionally, it oversees seven tax credit apartment communities comprising a total of 600 apartment units.

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

CCHRA administers the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program, a Section 8 program of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) encourages communities to develop local strategies to help assisted families obtain employment that will lead to economic independence and self-sufficiency. Residents in the Section 8 Program may sign up to participate in FSS. The program works with residents, who establish goals such as, continuing their education, job training, purchasing a first-time home, or starting a small business. Residents who participate in the program must agree to work toward achieving their goals and participate in specific training. Participants build escrow accounts from their rent payments to help them reach their final goal at the completion of the program. The Resident Services Department works with various agencies in the community to develop resources for participating FSS family members.

NCHA also has the FSS Grant

Additionally, CCHRA recently adopted the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Homeownership Voucher. Allowing current voucher participants, who meet the requirements, to use their voucher for homeownership instead of rental.

CCHRA will also begin utilizing the Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMR's), October 1, 2024, to increase choices for voucher holders.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The local PHA in Charleston County was designated troubled in 2023. On February 1, 2022, Charleston County Council entered an agreement to purchase 18 vacant/distressed homes from the Charleston County Housing and Development Authority. The homes will be rehabilitated/renovated resulting in both rental and homeownership housing units. In order to maintain affordability of the converted residences, the County will require a 90-year deed restriction.

US Treasury/ARPA funds were utilized to purchase the vacant units and US Treasury/ARPA have been committed to support project logistics, design and oversight. The funds will cover the ongoing maintenance of lots leading up to development /renovations and staffing needs for property assessment and construction management oversight.

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CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

See Appendix C - Fair Housing Outcomes (under "Impediment 3: Affordability") for more information.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County seeks to meet underserved needs through its housing and community development programs. A particular need in the Charleston County is financial assistance to persons who are homeless or who are at-risk of becoming homeless. The County addresses this need by providing funds to nonprofit organizations serving homeless individuals and households. In addition, infrastructure improvements, mostly in underserved communities, will help to foster safe and decent living environments for the residents of Charleston County.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County and its partners continue to incorporate Lead-Based Paint (LBP) hazards and testing and LBP project management as part of all of its housing rehabilitation efforts. All homeowners, potential homeowners, and renters occupying housing subject to the Lead Safe Housing Rule (LSHR) are notified regarding the hazards of lead-based paint. An initial LBP test and, when applicable, LBP Hazards Clearance test are conducted on each home subjected to the LSHR. Results of these tests are provided to the homeowners and tenants along with educational materials regarding the prevention of lead poisoning.

LBP Hazards project management and documentation are reviewed and monitored during the implementation of rehabilitation projects. Charleston County LBP Hazards policies and procedures are reviewed with all rehabilitation awardees. Further, requirements and expectations pertaining to LBP Hazards project management are a part of each legally binding that is executed between the County and rehabilitation awardee.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The strategies outlined in the Charleston County 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan's Strategic Plan are intended to serve the County's anti-poverty strategy by planning for expanded housing, economic development, and community development opportunities for low- to moderate-income persons. It is only by improving citizens' living conditions, employment opportunities, and access to services that they may emerge from poverty.

For the Program Year 2023, Charleston County has taken the following actions to reduce the number of poverty-level families:

- 1) Through the use of collaborative partnerships, provide additional and improved housing by engaging in the rehabilitation and creation of housing;
- 2) Provide essential legal services supporting home and family stability through a non-profit partner funded for that purpose;
- 3) Through the County's partnering institutions, provide persons who are at risk of becoming homeless with rapid re-housing, rental, mortgage, and/or utility assistance; and
- 4) Fund partners that assist homeless individuals and households with overnight shelter.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Charleston County's Community Development Department continues to improve its processes and program by participating in HUD-sponsored training and other training activities that will increase our capacity to deliver superior service to low- and moderate-income citizens in Charleston County. The Department is also building its capacity by continuing to partner with non-profit housing and public service providers as well as engaging professional services (e.g. well drilling) when necessary to ensure that the needs of the community are being addressed. The Department is fortunate to have a Community Development Advisory Board to assist in making funding decisions and meeting the needs of the community.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Charleston County has targeted significant CDBG and HOME resources for its housing partners to build affordable housing and rehabilitate existing units and owner-occupied homes. The County will continue to work with its partners to encourage affordable housing.

In addition, County staff communicate with the Charleston County Housing and Redevelopment Authority to better partner. Recently, CD staff have been in communication with the CCHRA Executive Director and Board members as well as attended CCHRA Board meetings.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

See Appendix C - Fair Housing Outcomes for more information.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

Charleston County Community Development monitors 100% of the grant-funded Sub-Recipients; the monitoring system incorporates the following standards:

Accurately Assessing Risk

The Primary Tenants of Monitoring utilizes a risk assessment model with project scoring to determine the Sub-Recipients' monitoring level for the program year. Risk variables analyzed include, organizational capacity/experience, demonstrated performance, documented program compliance (i.e., prior year monitoring status or findings) and current funding amount(s). The Risk Analysis Model is inclusive of an assessment scale, which provides the basis for evaluating risks and subsequently ranking projects in categories ranging from *high to low risk*.

Identifying Technical Assistance Needs

Sub-Recipients receive trainings and support in areas of policy and procedures review and development, review of program design and recommendations for managing grant-funded services and most importantly, incorporating regulatory elements into program operations. Offering Sub-Recipients technical assistance sessions has been an effective strategy promoting Sub-Recipients enhanced performance and grant management competency, resulting in increased regulatory compliance.

Evaluating Performance Capacity

Timeliness of Expenditure Reporting

All reimbursement requests undergo a rigorous review; cost allowability, beneficiary eligibility, procurement/pricing practices, and cost reasonableness are all examined as are timeliness of expenses. These elements continue to be a critical indicator as we are constantly examining organizational performance capacity of newer Sub-Recipients and the sustained capacity of more veteran Sub-Recipients who have expanded their service focus and services areas.

Timeliness and Accuracy of Progress Reporting

The review and analysis of monthly/quarterly progress reports enables County staff to conduct an "early intervention", to address problems, and to develop strategies to ensure regulatory compliance as well as compliance with the Sub-Recipient agreement. The monitoring of expenditures and progress reporting is a valuable tool that aids in establishing the framework to develop and implement meaningful and appropriate levels of technical assistance.

Charleston County Community Development is responsible for the administrative oversight of the City of North Charleston Urban Entitlement grant funded projects. Like the Urban Entitlement funds for countywide projects, it continues to be necessary to ensure that the Risk Analysis Model annually evaluates performance variables associated with grants awarded in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range. These grants would typically score as "low risk" and not meet the established criteria or be subject to a site monitoring or desktop review. The risk model was amended to include pre-contract technical assistance (for Sub-Recipients who are new to the Urban Entitlement funding arena), and formal performance reviews with written reports. The performance reviews primarily affect the smaller grants awarded but can be applied to any level of funding.

Monitoring Schedule.

See Appendix B for the PY 2023 Monitoring Schedule.

Charleston County DBE Program

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program ensures nondiscrimination in the award of federally assisted contracts assists in the development of DBEs, in order to increase their competitiveness in the market place. This program aims to maximize participation of minorities and women in contracting and procurement. Those receiving DBE assistance are now being referred to Community Development to determine the firm/individuals' interest and Section 3 eligibility. Community Development provides information sessions to discuss the Section 3 self-certification and registration requirements. Charleston County Urban Entitlement Sub-Recipients' use of the Section 3 online database during their procurement of HUD-funded services and products is routinely reviewed by Community Development staff. Sub-Recipients also been offer Section 3 firms with feedback and mentoring to increase their marketing and responsiveness to bid/pricing/procurement opportunities. In accordance with Sections 3 mandates and the DBE initiative, the availability of the Section 3 Business Registry and DOT funded employment/ On the Job Training (OJT) opportunities are made available to residents who reside in public housing. The DBE Program hosts training opportunities that focus on the fundamentals of cost estimating. Previous workshops were geared towards enhancing contractor skill competencies and taught by registered Section 3 business partner who has expressed an interest in both hiring and mentoring novice Section 3 business firms.

Section 3

Section 3 Effective November 30, 2020, HUD's Section 3 Final Rule was issued and was

designed to improve a focus on economic opportunity outcomes while simultaneously reducing the regulatory burden on those entities that receive those funds. HUD's Office of Field Policy and Management hosted three virtual trainings to review the purpose, scope, and intent of Section 3, and detail the new Section 3 Final Rule. It included presentations, exercises, and knowledge checks. This training was a part of a training series that took place throughout 2021. Each training delivery was offered to grantees within a specific HUD Region. Community Development staff participated in October 2021. At the conclusion of the virtual training sessions, Community Development staff provided Charleston County Urban Entitlement Sub-Recipients an overview of the training highlights and copies of relevant printed materials with information detailing how the changes would impact their existing and future agreements. Due to limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person training sessions were not hosted for Sub-Recipients.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

Charleston County Community Development conducted the following actions prior to submission of the 2023 CAPER. The public review and comment period will be held August 30, 2024 - September 25, 2024.

- A public hearing will be held in Council Chambers of the Public Services Building on Bridge View Drive at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 24, 2024.
- A public notice was published in the Post and Courier on August 24, the area's widest circulated newspaper to announce the availability of the CAPER for public review and comment.
- A draft copy of the CAPER was made available on the County's website <https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/community-development/index.php> for public review.
- A draft copy of the CAPER was made available in the Community Development Department located at 5010 Lawyers Lane North Charleston, 29418.
- Written comments will be accepted as outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

N/A

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

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CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

As reported in Appendix B- (Tables for CR 40 and CR 50), thirty five (35) HOME-Funded rental units were inspected during PY 23.

Charleston County Community Development will continue to collect, review and address concerns identified in the property owners' Annual Certification of Habitability for Home-Assisted Rental Projects which is collected annually in December. See Appendix B for table of inspections.

The HOME-funded rental units while habitable were in need of additional housekeeping attention. The Charleston County Community Development and Revitalization staff has identified strategies to assist tenants with gaining home maintenance skills. We have proposed the development of tenant home maintenance curriculum. Funding for this initiative is being explored.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

Sufficient evidence of Affirmative Marketing and Minority Outreach efforts has been provided by owners of HOME-assisted rental projects; specifically rental projects consisting of five or more units. Affirmative Marketing and minority outreach practices and adherence to the Community Development Affirmative Marketing requirements are reviewed annually in coordination with the scheduled HOME rental project inspections. Owners of HOME-assisted homebuyer projects will receive technical assistance to ensure compliance with HOME regulatory requirements and implementation of Affirmative Marketing standards as outlined in the Charleston County HOME Program Operating and Procedures Manual.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

No HOME Program Income was expended during FY23.

**Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k)
(STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable
housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)**

The County has also worked with partnering agencies to maintain affordable housing by repairing 46 owner-occupied homes, rehabilitating 1 vacant units for rental, constructed 1 unit for homeownership. Also see Appendix C.

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CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours					
Total Section 3 Worker Hours					
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours					

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).					
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

Other.					
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

To be updated

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