

CITY OF BUFFALO
PROPOSED ANNUAL ACTION PLAN-YEAR 43

October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018

Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnerships
Emergency Solutions Grant
Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS

HUD requires the City of Buffalo to prepare an Annual Action Plan that outlines its proposed use of funds from four entitlement programs: CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA, by August 16, 2017. The city anticipates it will receive approximately \$16.5 million in grant funding for the 2017 program year, which will be combined with \$1.3 million in CDBG and HOME program income, generated largely from loan repayments. The allocations for CDBG, ESG, HOME and HOPWA were all generally maintained to remain consistent with prior year funding levels, despite the PY 2017 allocations not being announced by HUD until mid June of 2017.

SUMMARY	<i>PY 2016</i>	<i>PY 2017</i>
TOTAL	\$17,873,088	\$17,852,895
CDBG grant	\$12,543,125	\$12,480,174
CDBG program income	\$1,100,000 ¹	\$1,000,000
HOME grant	\$2,414,585	\$2,307,774
HOME program income	\$120,000	\$300,000
ESG grant	\$1,137,467	\$1,129,225
HOPWA grant	\$557,911	\$635,722

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

CDBG funding is used for a variety of activities, including emergency home repairs; demolition of abandoned city-owned structures; improvements to public facilities such as community centers, parks, streets, and sidewalks in HUD-eligible neighborhoods; and support for community groups serving youth and seniors. Funding for program delivery and administration covers the costs for community-based organizations, the Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency (BURA), and the city to provide these services. 70% of this grant must be used for low-moderate income areas and/or persons. This requirement was surpassed in the last program year by almost 20% as 89.66% of CDBG funding was used to benefit low-moderate areas/persons. Please note below that the program delivery listed for NYBDC will be to support economic development activities. Additionally, this year the planning and administration line will include a Historical Preservation Plan in order to conduct the initial assessment, research, investigation, and strategy for the City's many historical buildings and sites. All other items summarized below are detailed on pages 4-15.

TOTAL	Approved PY 2016 \$13,643,125	Proposed PY 2017 \$13,480,174
Housing	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000
Clearance	\$705,000	\$1,107,689
Community facilities	\$1,977,375	\$1,449,725
Parks/Pools	\$800,000	\$800,000
Street resurfacing	\$1,075,218	\$1,375,000
Sidewalk replacement	\$1,375,000	\$1,075,218
Public services	\$2,209,907	\$2,201,507
Program Delivery: NYBDC	\$72,000	\$75,000
Planning and administration	\$2,728,625	\$2,696,035

Housing

The Emergency Loan Program administered by BURA helps low- and moderate-income homeowners to replace roofs, furnaces, and hot water tanks; or to repair water, sewer, and electrical systems. Belmont Shelter and six community-based organizations assist with this program by providing loan originations, work write-ups, and property inspections. BURA anticipates assisting approximately 105 homeowners during the 2017 program year.

TOTAL	\$2,700,000
Rehab loans	\$1,789,000
Program delivery: CBOs	\$270,000
Program delivery: Belmont	\$350,000
Program delivery: City	\$291,000

Clearance

Funding is used to demolish vacant and abandoned residential, commercial, and industrial properties that are within targeted neighborhoods. This supplements other funding, such as the city's capital budget and general fund. If all funds were used for residential demolition, at an average cost of \$20,000 per residence, 25 residential structures can be demolished during PY 2017. This year the amount of \$502,689 will be budgeted to support the improvement/rehabilitation and stabilization of properties throughout the City of Buffalo. The national objective satisfied with this effort is the removal of slum and blight. These efforts will seek to remove conditions that are detrimental to health and safety, improve, rehabilitate, and stabilize the properties for potential future use.

TOTAL	\$1,107,689
Demolitions	\$500,000
Rehabilitation & Stabilization	\$502,689
Program delivery	\$105,000

Community Facilities

In 2014, the Department of Public Works (DPW) provided BURA with a list of \$11.1 million in repairs and upgrades needed at 14 city-owned community centers: Asarese-Matters, Autumnwood, CRUCIAL, Dulski, Hennepin Park, JFK, Matt Urban Hope Center, North Buffalo, Northwest Buffalo, Old First Ward, Gloria Parks, Pratt-Willert, Edward Saunders, and Schiller Park. After confirming that these facilities serve HUD-eligible neighborhoods, BURA worked with DPW on preparing a six-year capital plan to address all repairs, starting with the most critical needs. The PY 2017 represents the fourth year of this plan, and repairs are proposed at the centers listed below. The amounts for capital improvements are estimated and subject to change depending upon bids received. There are also two additional city-owned community centers that will be funded this year-Seneca Babcock Comm. Association and 271 Grant Comm. Center. CRUCIAL and 271 Grant will be partially funded with anticipated program income.

TOTAL	\$1,449,725
CRUCIAL	\$209,975
Edward Saunders	\$458,275
Seneca Babcock	\$82,500
271 Grant Community Center	\$300,000
Program Delivery	\$200,000
A & E	\$198,975

Parks/ Pools

DPW provides BURA with an annual list of improvements needed at city parks. After confirming that the parks serve HUD-eligible neighborhoods, BURA worked with DPW to address as many park needs as funding will allow. For PY 2017, improvements are proposed at the two parks listed below. The amounts for capital improvements are estimated and subject to change depending upon bids received.

TOTAL	\$800,000
Lovejoy Pool	\$552,000
Schiller Park	\$152,000
A&E	\$96,000

Streets

DPW provides BURA with an annual list of streets that require resurfacing. Based on HUD guidelines, BURA conducts a three-part review to determine eligibility. The first step is a check to ensure that each street segment is located within a HUD-eligible neighborhood. The second step requires counting the individual parcels on both sides of the street, and confirming that at least 51 percent are currently in residential use. The final step takes the estimated cost of resurfacing each segment and divides it by the number of residential parcels, to eliminate any segments that have an unusually high cost per unit. After conducting this analysis, the following 20 street segments were determined to be eligible for CDBG funding. Depending on bid amounts, DPW aims to do as many of the street segments identified below with the requested funding.

TOTAL	\$1,375,000
Street resurfacing	\$1,325,000
Program Delivery (PD)	\$50,000

Street	From	To
Arden	Bailey	Newburgh
Brunswick	Jefferson	Humboldt
Butler	Lonsdale	Humboldt
Chauncey	Bailey	Greene
Clare	East Eagle	North End
Deer	Hertel	Gladstone
Dempster	Bailey	Greene
Dover	Memorial	Curtiss
Gladstone	Foundry	Military
Goulding	Lonsdale	Humboldt

Street	From	To
Greeley	Hertel	Race
Holmes	West End	Page
Imson	Quinn	North End
Moreland	Bailey	Greene
Proctor	Bailey	Newburgh
Townsend	William	Broadway
Troupe	Seneca	North End
Verdun	Fillmore	Kensington
Wade	Fillmore	Holden
York	Porter	Richmond

Sidewalks

DPW provides BURA with an annual list of sidewalks in need of repair. Based on HUD guidelines, BURA conducts a three-part review to determine eligibility. The first step is a check to ensure that each street segment is located within a HUD-eligible neighborhood. The second step requires counting the individual parcels on both sides of the street, and confirming that at least 51 percent are currently in residential use. The final step takes the estimated cost of sidewalk replacement for each segment, and divides it by the number of residential parcels, to eliminate any segments that have an unusually high cost per unit. After conducting this analysis, the following 32 sidewalk segments were determined to be eligible for CDBG funding. Depending on bid amounts, DPW aims to do as many of the sidewalk segments identified below with the requested funding.

TOTAL	\$1,075,218
Sidewalk replacement	1,025,218
Program Delivery (PD)	50,000

Sidewalk	From	To
Virgil	Tacoma	Taunton
Austin	Niagara	Tonawanda
Hamilton	Niagara	Tonawanda
Adams	Genesee	Sycamore
Busti	Pennsylvania	Porter
Dodge	Masten	Jefferson
Fargo	Hudson	Pennsylvania
Hickory	South Division	Clinton
Hickory	William	Broadway
Phyllis	Bailey	Orleans
Berkshire	Bailey	Westminster
Millicent	Bailey	Orleans
Amber	Hopkins	South Park
Lockwood	Hopkins	South Park
Gibson	Memorial	South Market
Lombard	Memorial	South Market
Sweet	Memorial	Broadway
Warren	Memorial	Broadway

Sidewalk	From	To
B	Fillmore	Mills
Gold	William	East Lovejoy
Davey	William	East Lovejoy
Domedion	Heminway	Genesee
S. Domedion	South End	Genesee
Crossman	Heminway	Genesee
S. Crossman	South End	Genesee
Hill	Wakefield	Central Park
Richlawn	Wakefield	Central Park
Marigold	Shawnee	North End
Manhattan	Leroy	Central Park
Bird	Niagara	Dewitt
Hoyt	Potomac	Forest
Chenango	Rhode Island	Massachusetts

Public Services

A total of 44 CDBG applications were submitted seeking CDBG funds to provide public services to low-to-moderate income residents of the City of Buffalo. All applications were rated on a HUD-approved evaluation form by the Contract Administration Unit team. Applications were initially assessed for meeting a set of threshold requirements that address organizational strength. Once this review was passed, each application was rated based on the program's benefit to low and moderate-income populations, along with the need for the proposed activity, previous and current experience with CDBG funds and financial and program monitoring results. Scores were then tallied, cost per unit of service determined, and then all programs were ranked. Additional consideration was given to information gleaned during site visits, monthly reports, attendance at mandatory meetings and workshops, as well as general responsiveness to requests for timeliness and other items. In light of proposed Federal funding cuts, an additional consideration was given to optimum program performers. Some funding increases were given to what the City has deemed to be "critical centers" in an effort to increase services to youth and/ or provide organizational support.

The city is able to direct up to 15 percent of its annual CDBG award to public service agencies and an additional 15 percent of the program income received in the *prior* program year. The plan for YR43 calls for the allocation of \$329,481 in program income to public services to help fund and improve the delivery of public services in the City. In line with last year, a total of approximately 2.2 million dollars in CDBG funds will be awarded to eligible public service providers.

The Review Committee (monitors and staff from the Department of Community Services) made the following initial recommendations based on a ranking of the agencies that was determined by funding priorities:

- Maintain the cap on individual program awards at \$100,000;
- Funding levels for existing Youth, Crime, and Fair Housing Programs will remain comparable to last year. Fifteen senior programs will be funded, in order to fully implement programming. *Two underperforming senior programs (CAO Pratt Willert & Friends of the Elderly) were not funded this year, however an RFP line will be funded to continue services in the area. One youth agency did not receive CDBG funding this year due a funding source change (Back to Basics).* Nineteen

youth serving agencies will provide critical programs at 35 sites throughout the City of Buffalo.

- A Homeownership Assistance category will be added to the annual action plan this year to fund a Tenant Coordinator. This individual will be responsible for delivering services and assistance to tenants of city-owned and BURA owned properties. Assistance includes, but is not limited to, the facilitation and ensuring the execution of, tenant follow-up, ensuring resident property concerns are brought to reasonable resolution, collection of rent, scheduling of repairs, property inspections, service referrals. Additionally, the Tenant Coordinator will provide resources that encourage stability and sustainability for the residents. All activities conducted under these functions will be charged to program delivery in support of those and other, applicable affordable housing efforts.

	CDBG	Program Income	TOTAL
TOTAL	\$1,872,026	\$329,481	\$2,201,507
Youth	CDBG	Program Income	TOTAL
	\$ 926,900	\$129,800	\$1,056,700
African American Cultural Center	\$59,700	\$5,000	\$64,700
Belle Center	\$60,000	\$10,000	\$70,000
Belle Center-Belle Corps	\$24,000		\$24,000
Big Brother/Big Sister	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
CAO/Pratt Willert	\$39,700		\$39,700
Computers for Children	\$39,200	\$5,800	\$45,000
Compeer		\$20,000	\$20,000
Cornell Corporative Extension		\$20,000	\$20,000
CRUCIAL	\$20,000		\$20,000
Delavan-Grider Community Center	\$54,100	\$7,800	\$61,900
Gloria Parks Community Center	\$64,300	\$7,800	\$72,100
George K. Arthur CC		\$20,000	\$20,000
King Urban Life Center	\$31,900		\$31,900
Lt. Colonel Matt Urban Center	\$82,300		\$82,300
North Buffalo CDC	\$40,000	\$7,800	\$47,800
Northwest Buffalo Community Center	\$100,000		\$100,000
Old First Ward	\$21,500		\$21,500
Police Athletic League	\$100,000		\$100,000
Resource Council	\$20,000	\$7,800	\$27,800
Seneca-Babcock Community Association	\$26,700		\$26,700
West Side CS	\$78,500	\$7,800	\$86,300

YWCA (for CRUCIAL)	\$45,000	\$5,000	\$50,000
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Seniors	CDBG	Program Income	TOTAL
	\$731,307	\$22,200	\$753,507
ABLEY-Hennepin	\$65,000		\$65,000
Delavan-Grider Community Center	\$25,000		\$25,000
Gloria Parks Community Center	\$56,200		\$56,200
Hispanics United of Buffalo	\$19,100		\$19,100
Matt Urban Center	\$52,600		\$52,600
Northwest Buffalo Community Center	\$84,300		\$84,300
North Buffalo CDC	\$41,100		\$41,100
Old First Ward	\$22,200		\$22,200
Salvation Army Golden Age	\$20,000		\$20,000
Schiller Park CS	\$80,000		\$80,000
Seneca Babcock Community Association	\$25,000		\$25,000
South Buffalo Community Association	\$100,000		\$100,000
Valley Community Association	\$21,000		\$21,000
West Side CS	\$69,807		\$69,807
William Emslie YMCA	\$35,000		\$35,000
RFP Senior Serv.- Ellicott District	\$15,000	\$22,200	\$37,200

Other services	CDBG	Program Income	TOTAL \$391,300
	\$213,819	\$177,481	
Buffalo Urban League	\$30,000		\$30,000
Center for Employment Opportunity		\$30,000	\$30,000
Citizen Services	\$34,262	\$108,038	\$142,300
Housing Opportunities Made Equal	\$50,400		\$50,400
Legal Aid Bureau	\$46,900	\$20,000	\$66,900
Neighborhood Legal Services	\$23,700		\$23,700
West Side Community Service Crime Prevention	\$18,000		\$18,000
RFP Agency Board & Staff Training		\$10,000	\$10,000
Homeownership Assistance	\$10,557	\$9,443	\$20,000

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS

HOME funding is used to support new construction, or the substantial rehabilitation of owner-occupied and rental housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families. HOME funding is also used to assist with the work of Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). BURA administers the City's HOME funds via a HUD-approved subrecipient agreement.

HUD requires that the city allocate at least 15 percent of its HOME grant to assist CHDOs with the acquisition and rehabilitation of housing, and up to five percent to cover their operating expenses.

The city distributes the balance of its HOME funding through a request for proposals (RFP) process. Proposals to build, rehab, or convert structures for affordable housing are rated based on the development team's qualifications and experience, minority and women business enterprise (M/WBE) participation, the market analysis, and the amount of outside funding being leveraged. Upon completion of the evaluation and proposal process HOME awards are then made.

Lastly, the new HOME Commitment Rule requires grantees to plan for all program income received the prior to January 3, 2017 in the 2017 annual action plan. Those program income funds will also need to be committed prior to committing Entitlement funds for the planned year. As a result, as of June 2017 the City of Buffalo has received \$296,657 in program income and expects to receive another \$3,343 of HOME PI. Therefore, the intended use of YR42 unallocated program income received is to continue HOME efforts of new construction and substantial rehabilitation of properties.

TOTAL	\$2,607,774*
Construction/rehab (City)	\$2,000,831
Construction/rehab (CHDOs)	\$346,166
Administration	\$260,777

**Includes program income received and anticipated from YR42. YR43 HOME PI will be used for YR43 and any remaining will be included in YR 44 annual action plan.*

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

ESG funding provides support for street outreach, prevention, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing to assist the homeless and other special needs populations. Applications for ESG funding are reviewed and rated by the Continuum of Care Committee, which has been designated by HUD to coordinate homelessness efforts in the region.

Outreach funding to locate homeless persons and secure appropriate services and case management for them will be provided to the Matt Urban Center, Salvation Army, Friends of the Night People and the Restoration Society. Prevention funding will be provided to Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) to assist tenants facing eviction to avoid homelessness.

Funding will be directed to four emergency shelters (Compass House, Hope House, Jericho Road/Vive, and Salvation Army); and three transitional housing providers (Back to Basic, Saving Grace Ministries, and Teaching & Restoring Youth) for operating expenses and support services.

Code Blue funds will be distributed on a "per event" basis to Restoration Society and the Matt Urban Center for a total of \$1,500 per Code Blue event throughout the program year. Rapid Rehousing funds will be distributed to Matt Urban, Catholic Charities. Prior year funds will be used to continue Rapid Rehousing efforts at Compass House and HOME (Housing Opportunities Made Equal). The Homeless Alliance of WNY will receive funding to manage the HUD-mandated Homeless Management Information System that collects data on program participants. Additionally Project Homeless Connect (PHC), is an annual event to support outreach, education, and connect homeless individuals and families to services throughout Western New York. This event had over 400 attendants last year with a plethora of vendors available to meet the needs of those experiencing housing crisis. Funds for PHC is included in HAWNY's allocation.

TOTAL	\$1,129,225
Street Outreach	\$275,000
Shelter	\$323,876 Includes Code Blue
Prevention-NLS	\$40,000
HMIS- HAWNY	\$65,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$340,657
Administration	\$84,692

After careful consideration of the 12 ESG applications that were submitted to the City of Buffalo for federal funding, the following agencies were recommended for funding. Decisions made were evaluated based on previous performance measures, prior outcomes, eligibility according to HUD guidelines, possible community impact and overall implied, or proven success of the program as it relates to the purpose of ESG funding. This funding breakdown also took into consideration the need for 60% of ESG funding to support shelter and outreach.

TOTAL	\$543,258
Matt Urban- Outreach	\$175,000
Matt Urban- Hope House	\$40,000
Compass House	\$63,000
Salvation Army-Shelter and Outreach	\$61,758
Jericho Road (VIVE)	\$25,000
Saving Grace Ministries	\$25,000
Friends of Night People	\$20,000
Back to Basic	\$20,000
Teaching & Restoring Youth	\$33,500
Restoration Society	\$80,000

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

HOPWA funding is used to assist individuals and families who are either HIV-positive or living with AIDS. As the only HOPWA grantee in the region, HUD requires that the city support providers who offer services to all residents of Erie and Niagara Counties.

The city will provide HOPWA funds to the sole RFP responder, Evergreen Health Services, who is also the largest HUD-eligible HOPWA provider in Western NY. This award will be provided to deliver housing placement, housing assistance, and supportive services.

TOTAL	\$635,722
TBRA Tenant Based Rental Assistance	\$151,495
Facilities Based Housing Subsidy Assistance	\$151,495
STRMU Short Term Rent, Mortgage Utility	\$47,069
PHP Permanent Housing Placement	\$70,295
Supportive Services	\$178,756
Project Sponsor Admin	\$17,539
Administration	\$19,072