# Maine Annual Action Plan

# CDBG, HOME, HTF and ESG

Plan Year 2017

Prepared by

Maine State Housing Authority

Maine Department of Economic and Community Development

November 2016

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# **Executive Summary**

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

#### 1. Introduction

The State of Maine receives block grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help address housing and community development needs. These grant funds include: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the Housing Trust Fund (HTF).

The Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) will administer the CDBG program. Maine State Housing Authority (MaineHousing) will administer the HOME, HTF and ESG programs.

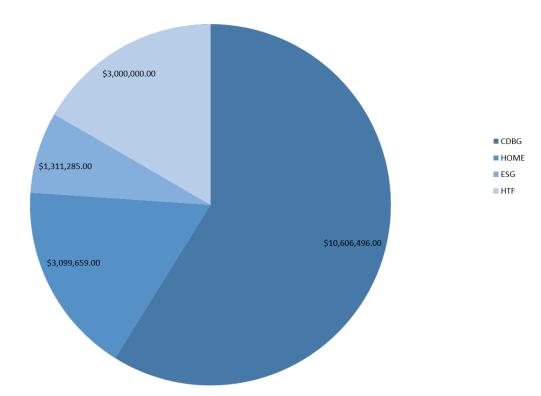
HUD requires that Maine complete a five year strategic plan called a Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan). The Consolidated Plan identifies the State's housing and community development needs and specifies how block grant funds will be used to address the needs.

This document, the 2017 Maine Annual Action Plan, is the third action plan in the Consolidated Plan cycle. It describes how DECD and MaineHousing plan to allocate HUD block grant funds during the 2017 program year, which runs from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

Details about HTF funding will be included in the HTF Allocation Plan, which will be submitted to HUD at a later date.

MaineHousing and the DECD look forward to continued coordination of programs and will involve other partners to leverage resources.

#### Maine 2017 Allocations



#### 2017 Annual Allocations

#### 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.

All activities funded in 2017 will address one of the following goals:

- Improve Housing Quality
- Expand the Supply of Affordable Housing
- Help Maine People Attain Housing Stability
- Improve Economic Opportunity
- Improve Public Infrastructure

To achieve these goals, the State will use a combination of federal and state funds and other public and private funds for project leveraging to address priority housing and community development needs.

In 2017, the State proposes to allocate funding to the following activities.

# CDBG:

- \$6.5 million for Housing and Community Development
- \$3.4 million for Economic Development
- \$537,000 for Administration, Technical Assistance and Planning

## HOME:

- \$1.5 million for rental housing
- \$1.2 million for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (STEP)
- \$300,000 for administrative costs

## ESG:

- \$734,000 for emergency shelter operations and essential services
- \$479,000 for rapid rehousing
- \$98,000 for administrative costs

HTF:

• \$2.7 million for rental housing

## 3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The State's evaluation of its past performance has been completed in a thorough Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). This document states the objectives and expected outcomes identified in the Consolidated Plan and includes an evaluation of past performance through measurable goals and objectives compared to actual performance. This document can be found on the MaineHousing website.

It is important to note that the State provides affordable housing and community development through a variety of assistance programs, many of which are funded through agency resources or State appropriations. In 2015 MaineHousing assisted more than 600 First Time Home Buyers, 7000 Renters, 400 Homeowners (not including over 37,000 helped with Energy Assistance) and more than 4500 Homeless households.

While production results have sometimes exceeded or fallen short of stated goals significant progress has been made to address Consolidated Plan priorities and objectives. Rental units constructed (123% of 2015 goal) and use of tenant based rental assistance (104% of 2015 goal) both exceeded 2015 goals.

DECD reviewed the 2016 CDBG program which awarded funding in accordance with the adopted "Method of Distribution".

These funds were allocated to municipalities for a wide range of activities directed toward downtown revitalization, economic development, community infrastructure and facility improvements, workforce development and other actions to address identified needs.

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

#### Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The public consultation process for this plan included several public forums. The 2017 Annual Action Plan forums occurred June 27 at the MaineHousing office in Augusta, and June 28th at the Presque Isle Public Library. A forum was also included in the June 30 Maine Affordable Housing Coalition meeting. The topic of these forums was the allocation of 2017 CDBG, HOME and ESG funds, and these meetings were held prior to the drafting of the 2017 Annual Action Plan.

Public hearing notices of the Augusta and Presque Isle forums were placed on both the DECD and MaineHousing websites, and stakeholder groups were notified of the forums via email.

The draft plan was made available on the MaineHousing and DECD websites for a 30-day period beginning October 7, 2016.

A Public Hearing was held October 24. Notice of the meeting was provided through posting on the MaineHousing and DECD websites and via email to individuals and organizations. The MaineHousing email list includes community leaders, developers, CHDOs, local housing authorities, advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, providers of housing and services to the homeless, and individuals.

Public hearings were announced in state newspapers two weeks before the meetings were held.

#### 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.

Input received during the public forums was used during the drafting of the Annual Action Plan. MaineHousing received seven comments on the draft Annual Action Plan. A summary of the comments and responses to the comments is attached to this document.

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

Comments shared during the 2017 Annual Action Plan comment period were considered in the development of the final plan.

#### 7. Summary

The Maine Department of Economic and Community Development and MaineHousing will be partner agencies for the 2017 Annual Action Plan.

The format of this Plan is mandated by HUD. HUD has provided an online template for grantees as part of its planning and reporting system called IDIS. The questions in bold and many of the tables are created automatically by IDIS. After the Plan is approved by HUD, results of plan goals will be reported each year in the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report ("CAPER"), another on-line document which will be produced in IDIS.

# PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.300(b)

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

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
HTF Administrator	MAINE	MaineHousing
CDBG Administrator	MAINE	Department of Economic & Community Development
HOME Administrator	MAINE	MaineHousing
ESG Administrator	MAINE	MaineHousing

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

#### Narrative

The Annual Action Plan was developed in partnership between the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and the Maine State Housing Authority (MaineHousing). MaineHousing has been designated as the lead agency.

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

Paula Weber, PMP Compliance Officer MaineHousing 353 Water Street Augusta, Maine 04330 207-626-4600 Email: pweber@mainehousing.org

# AP-10 Consultation - 91.110, 91.300(b); 91.315(l)

#### 1. Introduction

The Annual Action Plan reflects consultation with many agencies, organizations and private citizens of the State of Maine. These groups and individuals represent a variety of housing and community development **programs** and concerns. Other entities consulted include state and local governments, non-profit organizations, regional housing authorities, representatives of the private sector, social services providers, housing providers, the Continuums of Care, and local authorities among others.

#### Provide a concise summary of the state's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies

MaineHousing and DECD work closely to ensure that housing providers, private organizations, State and local governmental agencies, service providers, as well as the general public, are consulted during the development of the Annual Action Plan. Participation is encouraged through mailings to targeted individuals and agencies, website postings, and newspaper notices across the state. Public input is received and accepted in the form of telephone consultations, emails, Facebook comments, and testimonies at meetings and hearings. Additionally MaineHousing works with homeless service providers and other organizations toward a shared goal of preventing and eliminating homelessness in Maine. Collaborative efforts underway include:

- Continuum of Care
- Homeless Management Information System
- Statewide Homeless Council

#### 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

MaineHousing is the Collaborative Applicant for the Maine Continuum of Care (CoC) and in 2016 became the Collaborative Applicant for the Portland Continuum of Care. MaineHousing is also the Maine HMIS lead agency. The mission of the Maine CoC is to plan and coordinate an inclusive system that helps people avoid or quickly exit homelessness, while addressing the underlying causes of homelessness. The Maine CoC develops and manages the annual Continuum of Care application process, identifies and addresses service gaps and risk factors in the community, and establishes specific goals and action steps to address homelessness.

Since 1998, MaineHousing has prepared and submitted the annual HUD application for funding on behalf of the Maine CoC. Over \$11 million are leveraged annually to support programs and services for homeless individuals and families. Leadership is specifically interested in serving the needs of homeless persons within the following sub-populations: chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth.

In the fall of 2015, both CoC's created a formalized Joint CoC Board of Directors. The Board of Directors serves as the oversight body for the Maine Continuum of Care (MCoC) and Portland Continuum of Care (PCoC). The CoC Board exists to:

- Coordinate a statewide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
- Approve CoC funding recommendations for ending homelessness;

• Promote access to, and effective use of mainstream resources, by homeless individuals and families; and

• Promote housing retention, stability, and success in the community for people who have experienced homelessness.

The Board established written standards for the development of a statewide Coordinated Entry System (CES). The written standards establish that persons experiencing homelessness will have access to assistance no matter where/how they present. The Maine CES is designed to be easy on the client, provide quick and seamless entry into the homelessness services, refer clients to the most appropriate resources, prevent duplication of services, and reduce the overall length of homelessness.

In collaboration with the CoC's, the MaineHousing Homeless Rule specifically targets long term stayers, including both individuals and families. The Homeless Rule also includes performance measures to better determine shelter success in meeting the needs of sub-populations and shelter stayers as a whole.

MaineHousing works collaboratively with Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). MaineHousing produces reports that indicate geographic needs and usage of Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers (which MaineHousing administers). In the fall of 2015, both CoC's requested HUD Technical Assistance to address the goal of ending Veteran homelessness in the state. HUD approved the request, and there is a committee that meets weekly to address the needs of homeless veterans statewide. A By-Name List has been created and members of this committee are actively working to end homelessness for those on the list. It is anticipated that by the end of the 2016, the CoC's will submit an application to the United States Interagency on Homelessness so that Maine will be recognized as having ended veteran homelessness by meeting the criteria and benchmarks established by the United States Interagency on Homelessness .

Staff of all Maine State homeless programs that service unaccompanied youth regularly attend MCoC and PCoC meetings and are frequently relied upon as the experts in this area. MaineHousing provides data to all interested parties to assist in the identification of needs and resource prioritization.

#### Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the State 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

MaineHousing is the ESG administrator for all areas of Maine except Portland and is the Maine CoC Collaborative Applicant. In 2015, MaineHousing sought input from the Maine CoC, the Statewide Homeless Council, and the PCoCregarding Homeless Rule changes. This rule governs MaineHousing's allocation of resources for programs serving the homeless population, program design, and allocation of ESG funds. MaineHousing consulted regularly with the CoC's to solicit feedback on changes for each section of the rule. Among these changes were the introduction and formalization of performance measures, the introduction of funding to support Rapid Re-Housing and long-term stayer stabilization, and a move away from funding shelters based on bed-night counts. During the fall of 2015, 4 shelter forums were conducted with youth, domestic violence, family and low barrier shelters to solicit input into the performance measures that would inform the shelter funding for 2017. New data sharing activities and policies are tailored to domestic violence programs working under VAWA. Work with the CoCs and ESG subrecipients to create written procedures and policies that work for the providers and meet Federal requirements will be ongoing in 2017.

In 2015, MaineHousing worked with Maine CoC Leadership to develop a Coordinated Assessment System. The Client Access Assessment and Referral Experience (CAARES) group includes members from both the Portland CoC and the Maine CoC. MaineHousing supported the effort to develop this system by contributing resources in the form of Collaborative Applicant administration and HMIS staff to assist the CoC's in accomplishing this goal. This initiative will standardize the service structure for households and individuals on the verge of, or experiencing, homelessness. It will also serve as the platform for data elements in HMIS, allowing for standardized evaluation of needs and outcome data, which will then be available to help influence policy and guide the use of funds and resources. This work continues, but is now considered the responsibility of the Joint CoC Board of Directors established in the fall.

HUD considers the active use of HMIS for planning purposes within the CoC a best practice. Annually, the CoCs are required to designate a lead agency, and they have continued to designate MaineHousing as the Lead since 2004. In January of 2014, the Maine CoC voted and approved a Joint Governance Charter for both the Maine CoC and Portland CoC, which outlines the roles, responsibilities, relationship and authorities of the two CoC's, the Maine HMIS Lead Agency, the HMIS Program and other participants. This Joint Governance Charter is updated annually and approved by the CoC's in the fall.

In 2015, MaineHousing developed new data quality standards. The new data standards were a joint release by the federal partners at HUD, HHS, and the VA, with varying program and data collection requirements. These data standards require additional training for all HMIS participating programs, and additional tasks will be needed to fully implement these standards in the next few years. It is anticipated that the new Data Quality Plan will be finalized in the fall of 2016 and approved by both CoC's so that it can be implemented in 2017.

# 2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	MaineHousing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted through Meetings, E-mail and Phone Calls
2	Agency/Group/Organization	MAINE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted through Meetings, E-mail and Phone Calls
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Maine Affordable Housing Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Forum held at June 30, 2016 meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

4	Agency/Group/Organization	Bangor Savings Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders Major Employer Private Sector Banking / Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY HOUSING OF MAINE, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group. Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Westbrook Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Curtis Thaxter
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	PENQUIS COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
9	Agency/Group/Organization	AVESTA HOUSING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Drummond Woodsum
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	Northern New England Housing Investment Fund
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

2	Agency/Group/Organization	PORTLAND
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		РНА
		Services - Housing
		Services-Children
		Services-Elderly Persons
		Services-Persons with Disabilities
		Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
		Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
		Services-homeless
		Services-Health
		Services-Education
		Services-Employment
		Service-Fair Housing
		Services - Victims
		Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	C.M Cimino Realty Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	The Szanton Company
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing

<b></b>		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Bath Savings Institution
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
		Private Sector Banking / Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

16	Agency/Group/Organization	Anew Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Credere Associates
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	CWS Architects
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Building Performance Advisors
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Raise-OP
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Benchmark Real Estate
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	People's United Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Private Sector Banking / Financing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	COASTAL ENTERPRISES INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Regional organization Business Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Eaton Peabody
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 30, 2016 MAHC meeting. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan. Requested comments from the group.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

25	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Violence Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Hearing. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Alpha One
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Hearing. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Katahdin Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.

28	Agency/Group/Organization	FORT FAIRFIELD
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Aroostook County Action Program
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Homeless Services of Aroostook
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Disability Rights of Maine
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017 Annual Action Plan.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	PRESQUE ISLE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
33	Agency/Group/Organization	Northern Maine Development Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Anti-poverty Strategy
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Forum. Discussed the 2017
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

34	Agency/Group/Organization	PREBLE STREET RESOURCE CENTER			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing			
		Services - Housing			
		Services-Children			
		Services-homeless			
		Services - Victims			
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment			
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless			
		Homeless Needs - Families with children			
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans			
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth			
		Homelessness Strategy			
		Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development			
		Lead-based Paint Strategy			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met			
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.			
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?				
35	Agency/Group/Organization	Penobscot Community Health Center Inc.			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing			
		Services - Housing			
		Services-homeless			
		Services-Health			
		Services-Education			
		Services-Employment			
		Health Agency			

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
		Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
		Homeless Needs - Families with children
		Homelessness Needs - Veterans
		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
		Homelessness Strategy
		Non-Homeless Special Needs
		Economic Development
		Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met
	consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.
	consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Shalom House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		Services - Housing
		Services-Children
		Services-Persons with Disabilities
		Services-homeless
		Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.
37	consultation or areas for improved coordination? Agency/Group/Organization	Opportunity Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Health Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy			
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.			
38	Agency/Group/Organization	Kennebec Behavioral Health			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Health Agency			

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.		
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?			
39	Agency/Group/Organization	Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter		
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy		

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.			
40	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Bangor			
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	City of BangorHousingPHAServices - HousingServices-ChildrenServices-Elderly PersonsServices-Persons with DisabilitiesServices-Persons with HIV/AIDSServices-Victims of Domestic ViolenceServices-HomelessServices-HealthServices-EducationServices-EmploymentServices - VictimsOther government - Local			
		Other government - Local			

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	<ul> <li>Housing Need Assessment</li> <li>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless</li> <li>Homeless Needs - Families with children</li> <li>Homelessness Needs - Veterans</li> <li>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</li> <li>Homelessness Strategy</li> <li>Non-Homeless Special Needs</li> <li>Economic Development</li> <li>Anti-poverty Strategy</li> </ul>		
		Lead-based Paint Strategy		
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Member of the Continuum of Care Board of Directors, met monthly consulted on Homeless Strategies.		
41	Agency/Group/Organization	Maine Statewide Independent Living Council		
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Regional organization		
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy		

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was	Attended June 27, 2016 Public Hearing. Discussed the 2017		
consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the	Annual Action Plan.		
consultation or areas for improved coordination?			

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

Not Applicable; all agencies and stakeholders were encouraged to participate and provide input to the development of the 2017 Annual Action Plan.

### Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of			
	each plan?			
MainaHousing	The Continuum of Care goals have been recognized in the Consolidated			
Manieriousnig	Plan Strategic Plan.			
	MaineHousing			

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

# AP-12 Participation - 91.115, 91.300(c)

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

The public consultation process for this plan included public hearings, public forums and meetings with the Board of the Continuum of Care. The 2017 Annual Action Plan forums were held June 30, 2016 at the Maine Affordable Housing meeting at the University of Southern Maine, and on June 28, 2016 at the Presque Isle Public Library. The Public Hearing occurred on June 27, 2016 at the MaineHousing office in Augusta. The topic of these forums was the allocation of 2017 CDBG, HOME and ESG funds. These meetings were held prior to the drafting of the 2017 Annual Action Plan.

Public notices of the Augusta and Presque Isle forums were placed on both the DECD and MaineHousing websites. Stakeholder groups were also notified of the forums via email.

The draft plan was made available on the MaineHousing and DECD websites for a 30-day period beginning October 7, 2016.

A Public Hearing was held on October 24, 2016 for public comment on the preliminary draft of the 2017 Action Plan. Notice of the meeting was provided through posting on the MaineHousing and DECD websites and via email to individuals and organizations. The MaineHousing email list includes community leaders, developers, CHDOs, local housing authorities, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, providers of housing and services to the homeless, and individuals. The public hearing notices encouraged participation by persons with disabilities.

Meetings with the Continuum of Care Board of Directors occur monthly.

Input received during the public forums was used during the drafting of the Annual Action Plan.

MaineHousing recieved seven comments on the draft Annual Action Plan. A summary of the comments and responses to the comments is attached to this document.

### **Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Non- targeted/broad community	4	Spoke to the needs for home modifications and the rental shortage in Portland.	All comments were accepted.	
2	Notifications via Social Media, websites, emails and newspapers	Non- targeted/broad community	All interested residents and stakeholders.	N/A	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Public Meeting	Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	42	Spoke to the need for accessible housing and CDBG funding in the area.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# **Expected Resources**

# AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.320(c)(1,2)

## Introduction

The following table displays the allocations of CDBG, HOME, ESG and HTF for the 2017 Action Plan year. Projections are made for the remaining two years of the Consolidated Plan cycle.

#### **Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1		Expected	Narrative Description		
	of		Annual	Program	Prior Year	Total:	Amount	
	Funds		Allocation:	Income:	<b>Resources:</b>	\$	Available	
			\$	\$	\$		Reminder	
							of	
							ConPlan	
							\$	
CDBG	public -	Acquisition						DECD through its annual Method of
	federal	Admin and						Distribution allocates funds to these
		Planning						eligible categories. UGLG then apply
		Economic						based on their community needs
		Development						
		Housing						
		Public						
		Improvements						
		Public Services	10,606,496	0	0	10,606,496	31,561,764	

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	ected Amou	nt Available Y	ear 1	Expected	Narrative Description
	of		Annual	Program	Prior Year	Total:	Amount	-
	Funds		Allocation:	Income:	<b>Resources:</b>	\$	Available	
			\$	\$	\$		Reminder	
							of	
							ConPlan \$	
HOME	public -	Acquisition					T	MaineHousing allocates HOME funds
	federal	Homebuyer						to multifamily rental new
		assistance						construction, multifamily rental rehab,
		Homeowner rehab						as well as to TBRA.
		Multifamily rental						
		new construction						
		Multifamily rental						
		rehab						
		New construction						
		for ownership						
		TBRA	3,099,659	89,268	475,000	3,663,927	6,199,318	
ESG	public -	Conversion and						MaineHousing provides grants to
	federal	rehab for						emergency shelters serving people
		transitional						who are homeless. Grants may be
		housing						used for shelter operations, rapid re-
		Financial						housing, and HMIS data collection
		Assistance						costs.
		Overnight shelter						
		Rapid re-housing						
		(rental assistance)						
		Rental Assistance						
		Services						
		Transitional						
		housing	1,311,285	0	0	1,311,285	2,622,570	

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	ected Amou	nt Available Y		Expected	Narrative Description
	of		Annual	Program	Prior Year	Total:	Amount	
	Funds		Allocation:	Income:	<b>Resources:</b>	\$	Available	
			\$	\$	\$		Reminder	
							of	
							ConPlan	
Other	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab	3,000,000	0	0	3,000,000	6,000,000	Detailed description of the HTF Allocations will be provided in the HTF Allocation Plan
Other	public -	Other						
	federal		0	0	0	0	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

ESG funds are matched with State HOME funds and the Shelter Operating Subsidy. HOME funds are matched with State of Maine DHHS funding for services used, as well as interest savings on below market rate loans. The State of Maine CDGB program requires matching funds for all housing activities, public facilities grants, public infrastructure grants and downtown revitalization program funds. The match consists of a mix of non-CDBG loans, grants, endowments and cash match.

Typical multi-family developments utilize both HOME and Low Income Housing Tax Credits for development costs.

Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program (ESHAP) participants may receive housing assistance through a limited number of Housing Choice Vouchers.

50

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

Not applicable

Discussion

Please see above

# Annual Goals and Objectives

# AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives – 91.320(c)(3)&(e)

# **Goals Summary Information**

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase the Quality	2015	2019	Affordable	State Of	Expand the Supply	CDBG:	Rental units constructed: 160
	and Supply of			Housing	Maine	of Affordable	\$1,000,000	Household Housing Unit
	Rental Housing					Housing	HOME:	Rental units rehabilitated: 100
							\$2,275,000	Household Housing Unit
							Housing Trust	
							Fund:	
							\$3,000,000	
2	Increase Use of	2015	2019	Homeless	State Of	Help Maine People	HOME:	Tenant-based rental assistance /
	Rapid Re-Housing				Maine	Attain Housing	\$1,200,000	Rapid Rehousing: 150 Households
						Stability	ESG:	Assisted
							\$478,816	
3	Support Emergency	2015	2019	Homeless	State Of	Help Maine People	ESG:	Homeless Person Overnight
	Shelter Operations				Maine	Attain Housing	\$734,123	Shelter: 7020 Persons Assisted
	& Services					Stability		
4	Improve the Quality	2015	2019	Affordable	State Of	Improve Housing	CDBG:	Homeowner Housing
	of Existing Housing			Housing	Maine	Quality	\$1,700,000	Rehabilitated: 300 Household
								Housing Unit
5	Improve Public	2015	2019	Non-Housing	State Of	Improve Public	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure
	Infrastructure			Community	Maine	Infrastructure	\$3,500,000	Activities other than
				Development				Low/Moderate Income Housing
								Benefit: 1500 Persons Assisted
6	Improve Economic	2015	2019	Non-Housing	State Of	Improve	CDBG:	Jobs created/retained: 125 Jobs
	Opportunity			Community	Maine	Economic	\$3,700,000	Businesses assisted: 30 Businesses
				Development		Opportunity		Assisted

# **Goal Descriptions**

1	Goal Name	Increase the Quality and Supply of Rental Housing	
	Goal Description	The <b>Rental Loan Program</b> (RLP) provides long-term mortgage financing at attractive interest rates for development of affordable rental housing in projects of five or more units.	
One goal of the RLP is to provide mortgage financing that enables federal low income housing tax credit		One goal of the RLP is to provide mortgage financing that enables federal low income housing tax credits to be utilized.	
	Program objectives are:		
<ul><li>Maximize use of tax exempt bonds to develop affordable housing.</li><li>Provide affordable mortgage financing that enables developers to utilize low income housing tax credits.</li></ul>		• Maximize use of tax exempt bonds to develop affordable housing.	
		• Provide affordable mortgage financing that enables developers to utilize low income housing tax credits.	
		• Provide below-market, 30 year fixed rate notes that enable project viability.	
• Provide capital for preservation of existing rental housing.		• Provide capital for preservation of existing rental housing.	
		This program is a companion to the Low Income Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and provides subsidized financing to enable use of tax credits. Administrative guidance for the Rental Loan Program is provided through the Rental Loan Program Guide, which is available at www.mainehousing.org. Administrative guidance for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program is provided through a rule making process which is required to establish the Allocation of State Ceiling for Low Income Housing Tax Credit.	
		Housing Assistance Grant Program	
		This program provides resources to communities to address their rental housing needs. They can address existing housing rehabilitation and/or conversion of properties to housing.	
		Housing Trust Fund	
		In addition to the Rental Loan Program and the Housing Assistance Grant Program, the Housing Trust Fund will be used to increase the supply of rental housing for extremely low income households. This program will produce, preserve, and rehabilitate rental housing.	

2	Goal Name	Increase Use of Rapid Re-Housing				
	Goal Description	MaineHousing's Homeless Rule states that all grantees will provide services based upon Rapid Re-Housing or Housing First tenets. Grantees are given access to both short-term STEP, and permanent HCV housing vouchers, to assist them in achieving this goal. Shelters will be provided training on Rapid Re-Housing and Housing First principals and be required to have a Housing Navigator at each grantee recipient location with a working knowledge of these services. All shelter stayers who are in shelter greater than 30 days will be assessed via the VI SPDAT, or other standardized housing assessment and prioritization tools, to prioritize and place households on the appropriate track for available housing. Although multiple housing resources are available in our communities (Shelter Plus Care, BRAP, fair market housing, and Tax Credit Properties), MaineHousing has set-aside both STEP and HCV vouchers specifically for Navigators to access in their efforts to rapidly re-house households. The use of STEP vouchers is detailed below.				
The STEP Component is designed to provide short and medium term rental assistance for up to 12 months to and families achieve housing stability. STEP focuses on rapidly re-housing people who meet HUD's definition and are willing to work with a Housing Navigator on housing stability once they are housed.						
		Navigators assist program participants in the following areas:				
		<ul><li>Assessment of housing barriers, needs, and preferences</li><li>Development of an Action Plan for locating housing</li></ul>				
Housing search support, including assistance with submitting rental applications, with owners		• Housing search support, including assistance with submitting rental applications, understanding leases, and negotiating with owners				
	Assistance with obtaining utilities and making moving arrangements					
	Coordination of resources and services to obtain federal, state, and local benefits					
		• Information and referrals to other providers				
Long term housing stability planning, including development of an individualize accomplish permanent housing stability.		• Long term housing stability planning, including development of an individualized housing and service plan to accomplish permanent housing stability.				

3	Goal Name	Support Emergency Shelter Operations & Services
	Goal Description	<ul><li>MaineHousing provides grants to emergency shelters serving people who are homeless. Grants may be used for:</li><li>Shelter operations</li></ul>
		Rapid Re-housing
		HMIS data collection
		Maine's emergency shelters
		• Provide a safety net to help homeless individuals and families by offering temporary shelter to meet their basic needs;
		• Support successful rapid re-housing and;
		• Help homeless individuals and families resolve their housing crisis and remove barriers to housing stability.
		Shelters provide a safety net, helping people get off the streets and limiting their exposure to the elements. Shelter personnel also assess their immediate needs for medical, mental and chemical health treatment. They connect homeless individuals and families with mainstream resources and provide essential services including case management. Shelter services decrease the short-term costs to municipalities (e.g. ambulance, fire, etc.) and help increase the life expectancy and quality of life for individuals.
		Shelter guests are encouraged to participate in programming and services with the goal of obtaining and maintaining stable housing, thus reducing on-going shelter costs.
4	Goal Name	Improve the Quality of Existing Housing
	Goal Description	See attached CDBG Program Statement
5	Goal Name	Improve Public Infrastructure
Goal     See attached CDBG Program Statement       Description		See attached CDBG Program Statement
6	Goal Name	Improve Economic Opportunity
	Goal Description	See attached CDBG Program Statement

# AP-25 Allocation Priorities – 91.320(d)

## Introduction

MaineHousing anticipates using funds as follows:

Rental Housing: \$2,275,000 HOME -- The Rental Loan Program

**\$2,700,000 HTF** 

Rental Assistance: \$1,200,000 HOME - Stability Through Engagement Program (TBRA)

Emergency homeless shelter operations & essential services: \$734,123 ESG

Rapid Rehousing (ESHAP): \$478,816 ESG

Percentages in the table below do not include the administrative set-aside.

### **Funding Allocation Priorities**

				Improve the			
	Increase the Quality	Increase Use of	Support Emergency	Quality of		Improve	
	and Supply of	Rapid Re-	Shelter Operations &	Existing Housing	Improve Public	Economic	Total
	Rental Housing (%)	Housing (%)	Services (%)	(%)	Infrastructure (%)	Opportunity (%)	(%)
CDBG	10	0	0	20	35	35	100
HOME	65	35	0	0	0	0	100
ESG	0	40	60	0	0	0	100
Other							
Housing							
Trust Fund	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 6 – Funding Allocation Priorities

#### **Reason for Allocation Priorities**

The funding listed above is reflective of program history and public input. Allocation amounts are estimated based on demand and capacity of the agencies.

MaineHousing strives to use federal funds efficiently and effectively by combining them with other available resources that will serve as matching funds

# How will the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and specific objectives described in the Consolidated Plan?

The proposed 2017 funding allocations address the priorities and goals outlined in the five year Consolidated Plan. The distribution of funds will follow the priorities set forth in the Consolidated Plan:

- Increase the Quality and Supply of Rental Housing
- Increase Use of Rapid Re-Housing
- Support Emergency Shelter Operations & Services
- Improve the Quality of Existing Housing
- Improve Public Infrastructure
- Improve Economic Opportunity

# AP-30 Methods of Distribution – 91.320(d)&(k)

## Introduction

This section summarizes the Method of Distributions (MOD) used to allocate CDBG, HOME, HTF and ESG funds. The housing and community development needs statewide exceed the available resources to address them.

#### **Distribution Methods**

### Table 7 - Distribution Methods by State Program

<sup>1</sup> State Program Name:	Community Development Block Grant
Funding Sources:	CDBG
Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	The CDBG Program Statement is the document that outlines the Method of Distribution by which eligible units of general government access funding for local projects.
Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	See 2017 CDBG Program Statement

If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	See 2017 CDBG Program Statement
Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith- based organizations. (ESG only)	
Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	

	Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	See 2017 CDBG Program Statement
	Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	See 2017 CDBG Program Statement
	What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	The CDBG program anticipates assisting over 2000 households with CDBG funds
2	State Program Name:	Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program (ESHAP)
	Funding Sources:	ESG

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	MaineHousing, in partnership with housing assistance agencies throughout the state, offers the ESHAP Program for individuals and families who are homeless and seeking permanent housing. MaineHousing is linking Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds with Stability Through Engagement Program (STEP) funds and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) for the Rapid Rehousing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization Share of the program.
	Program participants are assigned a trained Housing Navigator to assist them in learning and gaining valuable skills that will meet their health, housing, employment and other basic needs in order to overcome barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing.
	Navigators will help program participants to develop and work on goals as part of a Housing Stability Plan, and connect them with appropriate services and support.
	Navigators assist program participants with:
	Assessment of housing barriers, needs, and preferences
	• Development of an Action Plan for locating housing
	• Housing search activities, including assistance with submitting rental applications, understanding leases and outreach to and negotiation with owners
	• Assistance with obtaining utilities and making moving arrangements
	• Resource coordination, to include developing, securing, and coordinating services and obtaining federal, state, and local benefits
	Information and referrals to other providers
	• Long term housing stability planning, including development of an individualized housing and service plan to accomplish permanent housing stability
	• Mediation between the program participant and the owner or person(s) with whom the program participant is living as necessary to prevent the program participant from losing permanent housing

Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	<ul> <li>ESHAP participants may be eligible to receive temporary rental assistance, for a maximum of 12 months, through STEP if they meet the following requirements:</li> <li>Staying in or working with an ESHAP provider.</li> <li>Enrolled and participating in ESHAP with an approved Housing Stability Plan, and creating viable goals, to ensure that they remain housed after program participation ends.</li> </ul>
If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	
Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith- based organizations. (ESG only)	Rapid Re-housing funding for staffing will be awarded to all shelters receiving ESG awards for shelter operating expenses for 2017. It will also be made available to agencies working with individuals experiencing homelessness if they meet the minimum threshold criteria necessary to administer the ESHAP program. The funds are to be used for housing relocation and stabilization services to rapidly re-house individuals and families living in shelters or on the streets. The funding methodology is described in the attached Homeless Programs Rule. In addition to ESG funds, all successful applicants will have access to Stability Through Engagement Program (STEP) funds and Housing Choice Vouchers on a first-come-first-serve basis as the resources remain available.

Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	
Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	ESHAP funding is an integral part of funding for any shelter receiving ESG funds for supporting shelter operations.
Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	MaineHousing uses up to 60 percent of ESG funding for emergency shelter operations and the remaining funds for Rapid Re-housing and relocation activities

What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	<ul> <li>It is the expectation that 100 percent of program participants will be:</li> <li>provided a comprehensive assessment of their needs and barriers that threaten housing stability, and a plan of action to achieve housing stability will be created,</li> <li>assisted with search and placement for adequate housing, including subsidized housing programs,</li> <li>provided with coordination of services and advocacy as determined by the housing stability assessment and plan of action,</li> <li>provided ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure implementation of the housing stability plan of action and positive outcomes, and</li> <li>no more than 15% of program participants will return to an emergency shelter.</li> <li>In addition to the above performance expectations, the following may be used as criteria for future funding:</li> <li>the percentage of HCV referrals who are accepted into the program,</li> <li>the percentage of STEP participants who obtain adequate income resources to remain stably housed, and</li> <li>the percentage of STEP participants who receive the necessary support services to remain stably housed.</li> </ul>
<sup>3</sup> State Program Name:	Emergency Shelter Funding
Funding Sources:	ESG

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of	MaineHousing provides grants to emergency shelters serving people who are homeless. Grants may be used for:
Distribution.	Shelter operations
	Rapid Re-housing
	HMIS for data collection
	More detail on allowable uses is provided in the Homeless Programs Rule.
	To be eligible to receive emergency shelter funds, an applicant must:
	• Be a qualified 501(c) (3) not for-profit organization.
	• Operate a fixed facility (unless the shelter is a safe home serving victims of domestic violence) that provides overnight shelter 365 days per year and phone access 24 hours a day.
	• Provide shelter to eligible clients, regardless of their ability to pay.
	• Provide intake and assessment services that link people who are homeless with appropriate services, including services that help clients move toward appropriate stable housing.
	• Have the administrative and financial management capacity necessary to operate the shelter and to account for the use of the grant.
	• Conform to the Maine minimum shelter standards established by the Maine Statewide Homeless Council and described in the Homeless Rule.

Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	<ul> <li>MaineHousing will set forth requirements and selection and approval criteria germane to a particular Program in the applicable Program Guide. Selection criteria may include:</li> <li>Mainstream Resources</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Health Care</li> <li>Employment</li> <li>Prevention</li> <li>Data Collection Requirements</li> <li>Reporting Requirements</li> <li>Monitoring and Assessment.</li> <li>Rule Limitations</li> </ul>
If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	

Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith- based organizations. (ESG only)	<ul> <li>MaineHousing will utilize the following application process for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program:</li> <li>a. MaineHousing staff will review each application to ensure that it is complete, including the submission of required attachments, and that the applicant meets the minimum threshold required to receive funding. Only complete applications will be considered, and incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant.</li> <li>b. Applicants who are eligible for funding will be issued a grant agreement specifying terms and conditions of a funding award. Successful applicants will be expected to submit a Certification of Local Approval, verifying that the municipality in which the program will run will not be seeking additional funds from the Emergency Solutions Grant program to perform similar activities. A grant agreement will not be fully executed until this certification, and any other documents that may be required by MaineHousing, are received.</li> <li>Once applications have been approved, work plans must be completed and returned for approval within the timeframe indicated by MaineHousing. MaineHousing will issue a grant agreement once the work plan is approved. The grant agreement is required to be executed and returned by shelter program providers within the timeframe indicated by MaineHousing.</li> </ul>
Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	Funding will occur as outlined in the Homeless Programs Rule.

Describe how resources will be	Funding Formula Allocation
allocated among funding categories.	From time to time MaineHousing will allocate a certain amount of funds to be distributed, subject to availability, to Emergency Shelters and Emergency Housing Providers (the "Funding Formula Allocation") pursuant to the following funding methodology:
	A. <b>Shelter Operations</b> . An amount equal to 40% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each Emergency Shelter will receive a percentage equal to the Emergency Shelter's Bed Capacity divided by a number equal to the total Bed Capacity available statewide for the calendar year. Agencies will receive scheduled payments on a quarterly basis.
	B. <b>Rapid Re-housing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization Share</b> . An amount equal to 40% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each agency providing staffing for Rapid Re-housing, Housing First and Housing Stabilization services operated by the agency will be eligible to receive a percentage equal to the agency's number of Clients Assessed and Stabilized, divided by the total number of Clients Assessed and Stabilized statewide in the previous quarter. Agencies are reimbursed for costs on a quarterly basis.
	C. Incentives and Performance Share. An amount equal to 20% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be made available to eligible agencies that provide successful housing outcomes based on performance indicator data in HMIS (or elsewhere for providers of services to victims of domestic violence). Providers will receive a percentage of funding for each outcome performance measure that they meet. The amount of funding available for each performance measure will be the same. The percentage of funding a provider receives for each performance measure met will be equal to the number of clients served by the provider divided by the total number of clients served by all of the providers that meet the respective performance measure benchmark in the previous quarter, or in the previous calendar year for the recidivism benchmark. Agencies will receive a performance based payment on a semi-annual basis.
	Grantees that receive allocations from federal funds, including Emergency Solutions Grant or HOME Investment Partnership Act funds, may be required to provide match from local or private funds.

	Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	MaineHousing uses up to 60 percent of ESG funding for emergency shelter operations and the remaining funds for Rapid Re-housing, incentives, relocation actives and performance share.
	What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	MaineHousing provided emergency shelter for 7,020 people in 2015, and we anticipate serving a like amount in 2017. All shelters receiving funding will be tracked on performance benchmarks and will receive additional funding depending on their ability to meet these benchmarks.
4	State Program Name:	Housing Trust Fund
	Funding Sources:	Housing Trust Fund

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	<ul> <li>MaineHousing will distribute HTF funds via a competitive process that will allow for the following eligible recipients:</li> <li>Not-for-profit organizations</li> <li>Municipalities</li> <li>Tribal Housing Authorities</li> <li>Public housing authorities</li> <li>Successful LIHTC applicants</li> </ul>
	Individuals are not eligible to receive direct assistance from the HTF. The State does not intend to use sub-grantees in the 2017 funding cycle. Funds remaining after distribution under the competitive process may be distributed by MaineHousing to successful applicants under the 2018 Low Income Housing Tax Credit Qualified Allocation Plan that were awarded a point for agreeing to accept an HTF allocation.

Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	MaineHousing will distribute HTF funds through a competitive process by selecting applications that are submitted by eligible recipients. MaineHousing will issue a Request for Proposals to eligible applicants that will assign scoring based upon a combination of the required selection criteria located at 24 CFR§91.320[k][5] and selection criteria adopted by MaineHousing. The selection criteria will be included in the Request for Proposals and will include all of the following (listed in order of highest priority to least priority):
	Threshold Criteria: (Required for the application to be eligible)
	For rental housing, the duration of the units' affordability period
	MaineHousing will require that affordability be for a 45 year term. The affordability requirements will be outlined in a deed covenant that will be recorded in the applicable registry of deeds.
	Selection Criteria
	1. Applicant's ability to undertake eligible activities in a timely manner
	Applicants will be evaluated on their development capacity; their experience with public sector housing development programs; and their track-record for developing projects successfully within a reasonable time-frame.
	1. The extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources
	Applicants will be evaluated on the quantity, quality and timeliness of leveraged non-federal funding (other than market rate loans and other MaineHousing resources) that will be committed to the proposed project.
	1. Priority based upon geographic diversity
	MaineHousing will regard the entire State of Maine as the eligible area for purposes of the HTF. Applicants will receive additional scoring points for projects that will be developed in census tracts that have been designated as high opportunity areas as set forth in MaineHousing's 2018 Qualified Allocation Plan, or areas that have not recently received new affordable housing.
	1. Degree to which applicants will expand the number of adaptable and accessible units in the State.

	Applicants will be evaluated on the number of newly accessible or adaptable units which will be created as a result of the applicant's development proposal.
	1. Degree to which the applicant will serve homeless people.
	Applicants will receive scoring points for projects that serve the homeless population.
	1. <i>Applicants ability to obligate HTF funds</i> Applicants will be evaluated on project readiness, including items like local approvals, architectural plans and site control.
	2. The merits of the application in meeting the State's priority housing needs
	All applications will be required to address one or more of the following Consolidated Plan priorities: Improve Housing Quality, Expand the Supply of Affordable Housing, and/or Help Maine People Attain Housing Stability
	1. For rental housing, the extent to which the project has Federal, State or local project-based rental assistance to ensure rents are affordable to extremely low-income families.
	MaineHousing may make Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers available on a "project-based" basis for eligible units funded with HTF.
	Applicants will receive additional scoring points for projects that include project based vouchers from other Housing Authorities.
If only summary criteria were	
described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other	
state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	

Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government,	
and non-profit organizations,	
including community and faith-	
based	
organizations. (ESG only)	
Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other	
community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	
Describe how resources will be	The HTF has been allocated entirely to rental housing. An eligible activity will be one of the
allocated among funding categories.	following:
	Acquisition and rehabilitation of existing housing units
	• Adaptive re-use of existing buildings or new construction of rental housing units

	Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	In order to provide enough funding for the construction and/or rehabilitation of affordable housing units that are livable, accessible and durable, the HTF cost limits are aligned with Maine's HOME program limits, and are based on unit type. This ensures that the subsidy maximizes the number of units while adequately funding them to address Maine's housing needs and priorities. MaineHousing will award additional scoring points to projects that spend less than the maximum subsidy amount of HTF per unit. There is a \$900,000 per project maximum allocation.
	What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	MaineHousing espects to commit to 15 to 20 rental units using the HTF within twelve months of receiving an award of the funds from HUD. These units will serve 15 to 20 extremely low income households.
5	State Program Name:	Rental Loan Program
	Funding Sources:	HOME

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of	The primary goal of the Rental Loan Program is to create and preserve affordable multi-family residential rental housing in the State of Maine.
Distribution.	Preservation may include federally-assisted housing, such as HUD 202, HUD 811 and Rural Development 515 properties at risk of being lost due to the expiration of federal rental assistance contracts, physical or financial deterioration, and/or owners opting out of federal housing programs.
	To achieve the goals of this Program, MaineHousing will make various resources available in the form of amortizing loans, deferred payment loans and/or grants under this Program or in conjunction with the Program from time to time, including without limitation, the following resources:
	• taxable bond proceeds;
	• private activity tax-exempt bond;
	• 501(c)(3) or governmental unit tax-exempt bond proceeds; and
	• subsidy resources.
	These resources are usually combined with equity generated from the syndication of Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). Competitive credits and "automatic" credits are awarded in accordance with Maine's Qualified Allocation Plan.
	MaineHousing attempts to maximize the benefit of these limited resources by combining the resources and encouraging applicants to seek other non-MaineHousing resources.
	Amortizing loans, funded with the proceeds of taxable or tax-exempt bond proceeds, for developments that do not need MaineHousing subsidy are available typically on a walk-in basis.
	MaineHousing allocates competitive low income housing tax credits separately under MaineHousing's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program. All applicants who are awarded low income housing tax credits on a competitive basis or are eligible for "automatic" low income housing tax credits must comply with the applicable Qualified Allocation Plan.
	MaineHousing may make various discretionary subsidy resources available from time to time.

Describe all of the criteria that will	Qualified developers may apply. Applicants must:
be used to select applications and	• Demonstrate previous successful experience in the development of similar projects.
the relative importance of these criteria.	• Have a satisfactory credit history and demonstrate adequate financial capacity to own and operate the housing.
	• Have control of the development site.
	• Demonstrate they will provide the required number of lower income units.
	In addition, the management agent for the housing must be demonstrating successful experience in managing similar properties.
	MaineHousing generally selects for RLP funding those developments that will provide the greatest amount of long term, low-income housing at the least cost of taxpayer subsidy dollars.
If only summary criteria were	
described, how can potential	
applicants access application manuals or other	
state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	
Describe the process for awarding	
funds to state recipients and how	
the state will make its allocation available	
to units of general local government,	
and non-profit organizations,	
including community and faith- based	
organizations. (ESG only)	

	Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	
	Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	Approximately half of the HOME funds allocated to the Rental Loan Program are for the construction of new units , while the other half of the funds are allocated to the rehabilitation and preservation of existing units.

Describe threshold factors and grant	A. Combination of Available Resources
size limits.	MaineHousing attempts to maximize the impact of the limited resources it has available by combining resources and encouraging applicants to seek other non-MaineHousing sources of funding.
	B. Tax-exempt Bond Financing
	MaineHousing may issue tax-exempt bonds under Section 142(d) or Section 145 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) as a source of funding under the Program. The Code imposes certain requirements and limitations on the use of tax-exempt bond proceeds. There may be additional requirements under the Program.
	C. Non Tax Exempt Proceeds
	Non tax exempt proceeds are used mostly in conjunction with an allocation of low income housing tax credits under the competitive Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program.
	D. Subsidy Resources
	Any project receiving subsidy is subject to the regulatory requirements associated with the subsidy resource.
What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	MaineHousing expects to produce 160 new rental units and to rehabilitate 65 rental units.
<sup>6</sup> State Program Name:	Stability through Engagement Program (TBRA)
Funding Sources:	HOME

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	STEP is designed to provide short term rental assistance for up to 12 months to help individuals and families achieve housing stability. The focus is on rapidly re-housing people who are currently staying in a homeless shelter that receives ESG funding. Referrals to the STEP Program can only be made by the staff Navigators.
Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.	<ul> <li>Rapid Re-housing participants may be eligible to receive temporary rental assistance, for a maximum of 12 months, through STEP if they meet the following requirements:</li> <li>Staying in or working with an ESHAP provider.</li> <li>Enrolled and participating in ESHAP with an approved Housing Stability Plan.</li> <li>Continued contact with their housing Navigator to review their progress no less than every 30 days.</li> </ul>
If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	

Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available	Shelter and Homeless Program funding is awarded through an annual application process where the applicants must demonstrate they are able to meet minimum threshold criteria needed to receive funding, will participate in training necessary to the ESHAP program, and will participate in incentive funding which includes data sharing across all successful applicants.
to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith- based organizations. (ESG only)	
Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)	
Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.	See the ESHAP Program Method of Distribution

Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	Once applications have been approved, work plans must be completed and returned for approval within the timeframe indicated by MaineHousing. MaineHousing will issue a grant agreement once the work plan is approved. The grant agreement is required to be executed and returned by shelter program providers within the timeframe indicated by MaineHousing
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What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	Due to an anticipated increase in demand of the STEP vouchers, the goal for the STEP program is to administer 150 STEP coupons to rapidly re-house 150 individuals and/or families from shelters. Program Expectations include the following:
	• 100% of program participants will be provided a comprehensive assessment of their needs and barriers that threaten housing stability and a plan of action to achieve housing stability will be created.
	• 100% of program participants will be assisted with search and placement for adequate housing, including subsidized housing programs.
	• 100% of program participants will be provided with coordination of services and advocacy as determined by the housing stability assessment and plan of action.
	• 100% of program participants will be provided ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure implementation of the housing stability plan of action and positive outcomes.
	• No more than 15% of program participants exiting to permanent housing will return to emergency shelters.
	Future funding may depend on satisfaction of the above performance expectations. In addition, the following may be used as criteria for future funding:
	• The percentage of HCV referrals accepted into the program.
	• The percentage of HCV participants who complete one year of program requirements.
	• The percentage of STEP participants who obtain adequate income resources to remain stably housed.
	• The percentage of STEP participants who receive the necessary support services to remain stably housed.

### Discussion

The method of distribution above relates to money budgeted to the programs mentioned. Administrative costs are partially covered by 10% of the annual HOME allocation and

7.5% of the annual ESG allocation.

## AP-35 Projects – (Optional)

### Introduction

A description of project is optional for States.

#	Project Name
1	HOME17 ADMIN
2	HOME17 TBRA
3	HOME17 Rental Loan Program
4	ESG17 Maine
5	HTF17 ADMIN
6	HTF17 Projects

Table 8 – Project Information

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

Allocation priorities are based on demand and capacity of the agencies.

MaineHousing strives to use federal funds efficiently and effectively by combining them with other available resources that will serve as matching funds.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### **Project Summary Information**

### Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	HOME17 ADMIN
	Target Area	State Of Maine
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: \$309,965
	Description	HOME Admin and PA
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	HOME17 TBRA
	Target Area	State Of Maine
	Goals Supported	Increase Use of Rapid Re-Housing
	Needs Addressed	Help Maine People Attain Housing Stability
	Funding	HOME: \$1,200,000
	Description	STEP (TBRA) is designed to provide short term rental assistance for up to 12 months to help individuals and families achieve housing stability. The focus is on rapidly re-housing people who are currently staying in a homeless shelter that receives ESG funding. Referrals to the STEP Program can only be made by the staff Navigators.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	MaineHousing will use this program to rapidly re-house 150 individuals and/or families from shelters.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	HOME17 Rental Loan Program
	Target Area	State Of Maine

	Goals Supported	Increase the Quality and Supply of Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Expand the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$1,589,693
	Description	The primary goal of the Rental Loan Program is to create and preserve affordable multi-family residential rental housing in the State of Maine.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	MaineHousing expect to produce 160 new rental units and to rehabilitate 65 rental units.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
4	Project Name	ESG17 Maine
	Target Area	State Of Maine
	Goals Supported	Support Emergency Shelter Operations & Services
	Needs Addressed	Help Maine People Attain Housing Stability
	Funding	ESG: \$1,311,285
	Description	MaineHousing provides grants to emergency shelters serving people who are homeless. Grants may be used for shelter operations, rapid re- housing, and HMIS data collection costs.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	MaineHousing anticipates providing emergency shelter to over 7,000 people in 2017.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
5	Project Name	HTF17 ADMIN
	Target Area	State Of Maine
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	Housing Trust Fund: \$300,000
	Description	HTF Admin
	Target Date	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
6	Project Name	HTF17 Projects
	Target Area	State Of Maine
	Goals Supported	Increase the Quality and Supply of Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Expand the Supply of Affordable Housing
	Funding	Housing Trust Fund: \$2,700,000
	Description	The HTF has been allocated entirely to rental housing. An eligible activity will be include acquisition and rehabilitation of existing housing units, and adaptive re-use of existing buildings or new construction of rental housing units.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	MaineHousing expects to serve 15 to 20 extremely low income households with the 2017 HTF funds.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	

AP-40 Section 108 Loan Guarantee – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state help non-entitlement units of general local government to apply for Section 108 loan funds?

No

**Available Grant Amounts** 

N/A

Acceptance process of applications

N/A

## AP-45 Community Revitalization Strategies – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state allow units of general local government to carry out community revitalization strategies?

No

State's Process and Criteria for approving local government revitalization strategies

## AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.320(f)

## Description of the geographic areas of the state (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The State of Maine does not prioritize the allocation of CDBG, HOME, HTF or ESG funds geographically. Income eligible citizens, Community Housing Development Organizations, eligible HTF recipients, and housing developers may apply for grants or loans from anywhere in Maine. Low Income Housing Tax credit priorities include projects in rural areas and Difficult to Develop Areas. Home repair, lead paint hazard reduction, weatherization, and energy assistance services are delivered statewide through Community Action Agencies under contract with MaineHousing.

### **Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds			
State Of Maine	100			

 Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

### Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

While the State of Maine has not chosen to target particular geographical areas for special assistance the HTF applicants will receive additional scoring points for projects in census tracts that have been designated as high opportunity areas (as set forth in MaineHousing's 2018 HTF RFP) or areas that have not recently received new affordable housing.

### Discussion

Please see above

## Affordable Housing

## AP-55 Affordable Housing – 24 CFR 91.320(g)

### Introduction

One year affordable housing goals vary by program and the population to be served. Data in the following tables may overlap due to programs that assist both households as well as individuals.

The term affordable housing used in 24 CFR 92.252 and 92.254 includes several elements that are not requirements of ESG and CDBG. Therefore, only HOME and HTF units that receive federal assistance that can be assured of meeting the standard of "affordable housing" are described here.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported						
Homeless	150					
Non-Homeless	225					
Special-Needs	0					
Total	375					
	1 II · 1 0 · D					

 Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

150
160
65
0
375

### Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

### Discussion

The goals listed above are in relation to HOME and HTF funding only. Additional households will be assisted with other programs offered by MaineHousing and DECD.

### AP-60 Public Housing - 24 CFR 91.320(j)

### Introduction

The State of Maine does not operate any public housing units directly, nor does it receive any funding to do so. When requested, MaineHousing reviews Annual and Five-Year Plans of public housing authorities and issues certifications to those that are consistent with Maine's Consolidated Plan.

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

This Annual Plan is for the State grantee only. No summary information is available on the actions planned for the multiple public housing authorities operating in Maine. No actions are planned by the State to specifically address the needs of public housing residents to the exclusion of other classes. All residents are eligible to participate in any of the ongoing programs of the State as determined by program regulations.

Developers using HOME funds to create new construction or rehabilitate existing housing are required to demonstrate a good faith effort to provide training, employment and contracting opportunities to low and very low income residents, as required by Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

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

Public housing residents are encouraged to participate in the home buyer programs offered through MaineHousing and its participating lenders, as long as they meet the eligibility criteria.

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

### be provided or other assistance

MaineHousing is not designated as a troubled PHA.

### Discussion

Please see above

### AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.320(h)

### Introduction

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program is designed to help with: operating shelter costs as well as health, employment, and housing services; rapid re-housing and housing stabilization services for homeless individuals and families; as well as HMIS data collection. This funding opportunity is available to existing emergency shelters throughout the state sponsored by not-for-profit organizations and local municipalities. Administrative guidance for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program is provided through the Homeless Programs Rule, which is attached. In addition to ESG funds, MaineHousing provides State Shelter Assistance Program funds, totaling approximately \$3.4 million. The shelter funding methodology is governed by the Homeless Programs Rule.

# 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

ESG funding will be utilized for shelter operations and rapid re-housing activities, as well as HMIS data collection. The ESG shelter funding one-year goal is 7,020 persons served by the 41 ESG funded shelters, and at least 150 households assisted by the ESHAP Program.

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

Shelters that receive ESG and state funds shall meet basic threshold criteria as outlined in the Homeless Programs Rule, in addition to state and federal regulations:

Applicants that are Emergency Shelters or Emergency Housing Providers must do the following:

- provide access 365 days per year to assist Homeless Persons meet basic emergency shelter needs;
- provide adequate sleeping space or beds, and clean and functioning shower and toilet facilities;
- provide safe and nutritious food, including breakfast or access to breakfast and, if open 24 hours, also provide lunch and dinner or access to lunch and dinner;
- treat all guests with dignity and respect, regardless of religious or political beliefs, cultural Annual Action Plan

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background, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation;

- provide shelter and housing services based upon a Rapid Re-housing or Housing First;
- operate at Bed Capacity unless the homeless response system is experiencing demand insufficient to fill capacity;
- provide linkages and access to community resources such as health care, job readiness and employment services, Mainstream Resources, and educational services to assist guests in achieving housing stability;
- assess guests for housing prioritization and services to enable mobility to permanent housing with adequate supports;
- inform guests of their rights and responsibilities, including specific shelter policies and house rules;
- accept eligible persons regardless of their ability to pay or their eligibility for reimbursement or actual reimbursements from any third party source, including local, municipal, state, or federal funding sources;
- have no lease requirements for guests;
- if serving families with children, provide space other than open dormitory style and do not require involuntary family separation for admission;
- provide separate accommodations for male and female consumers;
- protect the privacy and confidentiality of guests and their personal information;
- provide training, policies, procedures and regular maintenance to encourage, improve, and maintain the health and safety of guests, volunteers and staff;
- post fire, disaster, and other emergency procedures in a conspicuous place and review the procedures with each guest;
- maintain a daily and confidential census of shelter clients including precise sleeping locations;
- operate in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local codes, laws and regulations; and
- have written policies and procedures for standards that address the following areas: access to shelter services, residential rights and responsibilities; program, personnel and facility operations; health and safety; food preparation and distribution; case management services; staff training; and HMIS and computer protocols.

Agencies not meeting state and federal regulations will not receive funding.

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

There are a number of programs and services that will continue in 2017 to assist homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing, help reduce the length of time people experience homelessness, as well as help prevent them from becoming homeless again. PATH serves at-risk individuals and families with unmet mental illness or co-occurring disorders to prevent homelessness. The SSVF Program provides outreach and case management to at-risk veterans' families statewide. Pine Tree Legal Assistance assists people in preventing evictions in larger cities. Maine DHHS uses some BRAP (Bridging Rental Assistance Program) funds for homelessness prevention. MaineHousing is an ESG grantee and provides ESG funding and the ESHAP program to 41 shelters.

The "long term stayers" (in shelter over 180 days) initiative prioritizes Shelter Plus Care vouchers to house the chronically homeless and long term stayers with mental illness & co-occurring disorders in shelters. Emergency Shelters will continue to be funded with an emphasis on performance measures that reduce the lengths of stay. Additionally, all Shelters receiving funding will be tracked on meeting specific performance measures and outcomes that will directly impact their funding. In the 2015 Shelter System Incentive Pilot, many shelters received incentive funding for meeting benchmarks. Specifically, 40 percent of shelters met the benchmark for increasing shelter exits to permanent housing in the first half of the year and this increased to 92 percent for the second half of the year. Shelter lengths of stay decreased; with 62 percent of shelters experiencing a shorter average length of stay in 2015. Returns to homelessness remained steady with 90 percent of shelters achieving this benchmark.

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

**Foster Care:** Maine DHHS contracts with nonprofit youth service providers statewide to help youth and families develop healthy transition plans and help youth obtain TH, PH, PSH, or remain in care until they have finished their education. Providers actively monitor teens that are discharged from foster care to the streets or shelters, and advocate with Maine DHHS for improved policies

Annual Action Plan 2017 and resources.

**Health Care:** Hospital Discharge Planning Guidelines have been developed by the Statewide Homeless Council and Maine hospitals regarding the discharge of homeless patients. The Guidelines instruct hospitals to begin the discharge planning process upon admission. Patients are to be discharged with appropriate clothing and with a plan for accessing required medications/supplies. MCoC members also monitor discharges to shelters and follow up with hospitals as needed. Each Maine hospital or community discharge location must designate a management team member to oversee ongoing compliance with the Guidelines.

**Mental Health:** The Guidelines above also include discharge planning for patients with mental health issues, instructing hospitals to begin the discharge planning process upon admission, working with appropriate providers. MCoC members monitor discharges of patients with mental illness to shelters and follow up as necessary. The Statewide Homeless Council is leading an effort to create a Medicaid Waiver for long term homeless individuals that will improve care options. Placement options include family, residential treatment facilities, market rate apartments, boarding homes, and other federal-, state- or locally-funded housing options (such as Section 515 rental units, LIHTC-funded projects, HOPWA-funded housing, local- or state-funded residential recovery or transitional housing, group homes, and/or halfway houses). Individuals needing higher levels of medical care may be placed in private non-medical institutions.

**Corrections:** The Statewide Homeless Council and MCoC do not support any policy that releases inmates to shelters. Although no specific Department of Corrections (DoC) policy exists to prevent release of offenders to shelters, Maine DoC's goal is to prevent release to shelters. To achieve this goal, DoC's policy is to begin pre-release planning 45 days prior to release (County jails begin pre-release planning at 90 days). MCoC providers work collaboratively with prison staff to help find community housing and supportive services (when needed) for inmates following release. STEP vouchers are also available with very limited parameters.

#### Discussion

The HTF will be used to help extremely low income individuals by producing, preserving, rehabilitating and operating rental housing. Given the income of the population to be served, it is

likely that homeless individuals, individuals and families at risk of homelessness, and people receiving assistance from public or private agencies will be assisted by the HTF.

## AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.320(i)

### Introduction

In 2015 MaineHousing updated the Maine Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). The process included discussions focused in part on potential impediments to affordable housing in Maine with business partners including the Department of Community Economic Development, the Maine Human Rights Commission, developers, realtors, providers of services to older adults, and lenders.

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

Research conducted for the State of Maine's Analysis of Impediments identified the following impediments to fair housing.

- 1. Lack of Affordable Housing
- 2. Racial, Ethnic and Cultural Barriers
- 3. Community Planning and Zoning Decisions that Impede Affordable Housing
- 4. Lack of Availability and Access to housing for disabled individuals
- 5. Limited access to neighborhood opportunities and community assets
- 6. Lack of Understanding of Fair Housing and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
- The AI identifies actions and measureable outcomes to address the impediments. Some of the

action types include:

- Data Collection and Analysis
- Program Design
- Education and Outreach
- Evaluation

### Discussion

Results of actions taken to address the identified impediments to fair housing are reported in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) which is submitted annually to HUD.

The goal of creating 15 to 20 units with the HTF will help to address multiple impediments to fair housing choice including:

- Lack of afforable housing and
- Lack of housing for disabled individuals

### AP-85 Other Actions – 91.320(j)

### Introduction

This section describes a variety of other efforts the state will continue during the program year to help address housing and community development needs.

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

MaineHousing and the Department of Economic and Community Development will continue to encourage qualified applicants to apply for CDBG, HOME, HTF and ESG funds.

### Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The activities to foster and maintain affordable housing include the production of new units, financing home purchase and home rehabilitation.

The State utilizes other programs to help foster and maintain affordable housing including:

- Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
- the Housing Choice Voucher program; and
- the Low Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

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

MaineHousing's Lead Hazard Control Program, funded through the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant administered by HUD, provides 0% deferred forgivable loans to make lowerincome homes lead safe. Achieving lead safe homes may involve paint removal or stabilization, as well as door and window replacements. This program also has a Healthy Homes intervention component which addresses such housing conditions as indoor allergen reduction, injury prevention, mold and radon. The entire amount of the loan is forgiven after 5 years, provided that the property hasn't been refinanced or sold during that time, and in the case of rental property, the units remain affordable.

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

The State of Maine has not formally adopted a statewide anti-poverty strategy. However, the strategy and goals of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan directly address the issues of individuals who are living in poverty.

In Maine, there is a statewide network of Community Action Agencies (CAAs) with a common purpose of providing services to low income people across Maine. The goals of these agencies are to empower low income people to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

### Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The State of Maine has an efficient institutional structure through which housing and community development programs are delivered. DECD is the administrator of CDBG funds and MaineHousing is the administrator of HOME and ESG funding. Both MaineHousing and DECD participate in a number of standing meetings with representatives from state and local government, nonprofit, and private providers of housing, homelessness and economic development services.

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

A number of private sector, public and social service agencies have been involved in the Consolidated Planning process. Continued coordination with these groups will be a key to the success of the plan. MaineHousing plans to maintain communications with pertinent individuals and groups, both via traditional methods and through new technologies (e.g. on-line meetings, internet-based survey's, etc.)

Both MaineHousing and DECD are members of many different trade organizations and advisory boards. This involvement provides an opportunity to enhance coordination. Additionally both agencies participate in a number of standing meetings with representatives from state and local government, nonprofit and private providers of housing, economic development, the Continuum of Care and homelessness services.

### Discussion

Please see above

## **Program Specific Requirements**

## AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.320(k)(1,2,3)

### Introduction

HOME, HTF, ESG and CDBG funding is open to all eligible applicants. The Rental Loan Program Guide, the CDBG Program Statement, the Homeless Program Rule, the ESHAP Program Guide, the STEP Program Guide, the HTF Allocation Plan and the Consolidated Plan outline the respective programs.

## Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(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.

1. 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	0	
2. 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.	0	
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0	
4. 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	0	
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0	
Total Program Income:		

### 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.

85.00%

## HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(2)

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

Maine utilizes only the forms of investment included in Section 92.205.

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:

MaineHousing does not intend to use HOME funds for homebuyer activities.

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:

MaineHousing does not intend to use HOME funds for homebuyer activities.

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:

The MaineHousing Rental Loan Program guide is the document which governs lending activities, including those projects financed with HOME funds. The RLP Guide specifically

refers to compliance with 24 CFR Part 92 for any project which uses HOME funds.

The refinancing requirements include the following conditions:

- Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.
- Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.
- State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
- Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is a minimum 15 years or longer.
- Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be state-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a community identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.315(g) or a federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
- State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including the CDBG program.

### Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(3)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

An initial evaluation to determine the eligibility of each individual or family's eligibility for ESG assistance and the amount and types of assistance the individual or family needs to regain stability in permanent housing is conducted. To be eligible for assistance, household income must be below 30 percent of AMI. Ongoing support services are provided to all program participants as needed until clients have achieved housing stability.

ESG funds are used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services necessary to assist a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Rapid re-housing assistance is provided to program participants who meet the criteria under paragraph (1) or paragraph (4) of the "homeless" definition in the HEARTH Act and have an annual income below 30 percent of median family income as determined by HUD.

An initial intake interview is conducted with clients to verify program eligibility and assess the level of client need. A strategy to achieve client stability within the timeframe established by program regulations is created. Short-term (up to 3 months) housing search and placement,

housing stability case management, mediation, legal services and credit repair services and any needed support services are provided to assist program participants achieve housing stability. Program eligibility is recertified at least every three months.

Short-term financial assistance may be provided for up to 3 months, with clients expected to pay 30% of their income for rent. Rental units must meet rent reasonableness and habitability standards as outlined in the HEARTH Act before any rental payments are approved. In addition, Lead Based Paint Poisoning Act requirements must be met when applicable (based upon participant household composition.) One time security deposit assistance may be provided, not to exceed the monthly rental amount.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

MaineHousing received a HUD funded planning grant to research and make recommendations on best practices for a statewide coordinated assessment in Maine. In 2015, CES Written Standards were developed and approved by the Joint CoC Board of Directors.

Maine's Coordinated Entry System (CES) written standards establishes that persons experiencing homelessness will have access to assistance no matter where/how they present and assistance will be allocated as effectively as possible. The Maine CES is designed to be easy on the client, provide quick & seamless entry into the homelessness services, refer clients to the most appropriate resources, prevent duplication of services, and reduce the overall length of homelessness. An evaluation tool gathers client data and prioritizes them for housing and services based upon HUD and local priorities, including vulnerability and length of time homeless. The tool is web-based & will be available to 2-1-1, VA, existing street outreach programs, and private/ public agencies for referrals. Clients will be connected to a comprehensive network of service providers to help them find successful housing placement and appropriate services. In the spring of 2016, a Pilot for the Coordinated Entry System was launched in Penobscot County. The purpose of the pilot is to use a small portion of the state to test the policies and procedures by operationalizing it to learn what works and what needs to be improved upon. Also, HUD approved another planning grant which will be implemented in 2017 with the goal of finalizing the steps needed to make the system operational statewide by 2018.

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).

MaineHousing allocates a certain amount of funds to be distributed, subject to availability, to Emergency Shelters and Emergency Housing Providers (the "Funding Formula Allocation") pursuant to the following funding methodology:

**Shelter Operations** An amount equal to 40% of the funding formula allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each Emergency Shelter will receive a percentage equal to the Emergency Shelter's bed capacity divided by a number equal to the total bed capacity available statewide for the calendar year. Agencies will receive scheduled payments on a quarterly basis.

**Rapid Re-housing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization Share** An amount equal to 40% of the funding formula allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each agency providing staffing for Rapid Re-housing, Housing First and Housing Stabilization services operated by the agency will be eligible to receive a percentage equal to the agency's number of clients assessed and stabilized, divided by the total number of clients assessed and Stabilized statewide in the previous quarter. Agencies are reimbursed for costs on a quarterly basis.

**Incentives and Performance Share** An amount equal to 20% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be made available to eligible agencies that provide successful housing outcomes based on performance indicator data in HMIS (or elsewhere for providers of services to victims of domestic violence). Providers will receive a percentage of funding for each outcome performance measure that they meet. The amount of funding available for each performance measure will be the same. The percentage of funding a provider receives for each performance measure met will be equal to the number of clients served by the provider divided by the total number of clients served by all of the providers that meet the respective performance measure benchmark in the previous quarter, or in the previous calendar year for the recidivism benchmark. Agencies will receive a performance based payment on a semi-annual basis.

- Payments are based on performance of successful housing exits including housing retention, income and supports, and recidivism.
- Allocation. MaineHousing may allocate other funds for Programs to assist Homeless Persons in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- Programs. MaineHousing shall design and offer Programs based upon available funds, restrictions attached to such funds, best practices, and needs.
- Program Guides. MaineHousing shall publish on MaineHousing's website a Program Guide with

respect to each Program and shall distribute the Program Guide to parties who may be eligible for the Program and who have expressed an interest to MaineHousing in connection with the type of activities eligible under the Program, to parties MaineHousing selects for marketing the particular Program, and upon request.

- 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.
- 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.

Although Maine State Housing Authority is a State agency and is not required to "reach out," we do include the requirement that sub-recipients meet the condition of having homeless or former homeless representation on their board or in some type of policy making role. Typically, if the requirement is unable to be met via board representation, regular meetings of shelter guests are held to discuss the policies of the shelter program. The meetings are used as a tool to solicit input on current policies and institute changes in policy as necessary.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Incentives and Performance Share An amount equal to 20% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be made available to eligible agencies that provide successful housing outcomes based on performance indicator data in HMIS (or elsewhere for providers of services to victims of domestic violence). Providers will receive a percentage of funding for each outcome performance measure that they meet. The amount of funding available for each performance measure will be the same. The percentage of funding a provider receives for each performance measure met will be equal to the number of clients served by the provider divided by the total number of clients served by all of the providers that meet the respective performance measure benchmark in the previous quarter, or in the previous calendar year for the recidivism benchmark. Agencies will receive a performance based payment on a semi-annual basis. • Payments are based on performance of successful housing exits including housing retention, income and supports, and recidivism. Examples of Performance Measures: % of agency household departures to permanent housing (housing is retained for at least six months); % of agency household departures whose income increased between entry and departure through benefits, employment, education or training. % of decrease in average length of stay. Grantees that receive allocations from federal funds, including Emergency Solutions Grant or HOME Investment Partnership Act funds, may be required to provide match from local or private funds.

Attachments

Annual Action Plan

# Citizen Participation Comments

# Annual Action Plan Public Comments/Responses

Comments were received from: Cullen Ryan, Executive Director-Community Housing of Maine; Bob Fowler, Executive Director-Milestone; Norman Maze, Housing Director-Shalom House; Chelsea Hoskins, Social Service/Homeless Assistance provider; Jan Bindas-Tenney, Advocacy Director-Preble Street; Meredith Holmes, Social Worker; and Chris Hastedt, Public Policy Director-Maine Equal Justice Partners

The following topics were presented:

## Rapid re-housing and term of STEP voucher

All of the commenters expressed concern regarding the rapid re-housing approach and the term length limitation of STEP vouchers. They called on MaineHousing to reduce or eliminate use of funds on rapid re-housing and allow for a term greater than 12 months. Many advocated for a 24 month subsidy term.

# MaineHousing response

MaineHousing does not agree that it should reduce or eliminate the use of funds on rapid re-housing. The resource available for these rental assistance vouchers is being utilized, when necessary, to its fullest extent.

Per the STEP Administrative Plan, vouchers have an initial term of up to 12 months, however, with proper supporting documentation can be extended up to 24 months, upon request. In compliance with federal regulations, 24 months is the maximum term allowed for rental assistance.

MaineHousing believes the initial term of up to 12 months, with extensions granted for cause up to the federal funding term limitation, is an effective tool for many persons. In fact, the average length of use for a STEP voucher has been 10 months, with 84% of clients achieving housing stability upon exiting the program. The average length of stay in shelters prior to receiving a STEP coupon for many client's ranges from 90-165 days, indicating it has been an effective tool for many long term stayers.

No one resource or policy will meet all client's needs, however, MaineHousing believes as currently structured, the policy regarding STEP vouchers is an effective approach.

# Shared living situations for youth

Ms. Bindas-Tenney (Preble St.) expressed concerns about youth in shared living situations not being able to utilize individual STEP vouchers for their portion of the rent. Currently, youth in shared

living situations must use a single STEP voucher with each tenant listed under the voucher as household members

# MaineHousing response

Implementing the approach recommended would pose a risk to the others in the housing unit should a household member lose their subsidy. Allowing a single STEP voucher to provide rental assistance for the entire household protects all household members.

# Housing support follow-up

Ms. Bindas-Tenney expressed concerns about the inefficient use of staff resources complying with follow-up requirements, particularly with clients not willing to engage the navigator after being placed in housing.

# MaineHousing response

The Housing Stability Plans, check-ins and follow-up requirements are core components and strategies of the ESG funding, the STEP and HCV programs. Navigators need to show evidence of their attempt to re-connect and follow up with clients at least once every 30 days. Clients are not required to engage and can refuse to continue to work on their Housing Stability Plans, but Navigators are encouraged to make every reasonable attempt to continue engaging with clients in order to maintain their housing stability. Clients that refuse to participate with their Housing Stability Plans are considered exited from the program.

# Administrative burden

Ms. Bindas-Tenney expressed concern about the program documentation and paperwork requirements too burdensome. No specific detail was provided.

# MaineHousing response

MaineHousing is mindful of the administrative requirements that come with federal funding and works to minimize its impact wherever possible. MaineHousing will follow-up with the commenter to learn more about her concerns.

# Rulemaking

Ms. Hastedt suggested that MaineHousing promulgate rules that clearly establish who is eligible for the STEP program, how individuals apply for and access the program, and exactly what benefits are available to people who enroll.

**MaineHousing response**The Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program Guide and the STEP Administrative Plan establish and define eligibility, in conjunction with the Emergency Solutions Grant and FedHOME regulations, income guidelines, benefits, rent assistance guidelines, Housing Stability Plans and Navigator requirements.

# Grantee Unique Appendices

#### 99-346 MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

#### Chapter 19: HOMELESS SOLUTIONS RULE

**Summary**: The Maine State Housing Authority uses funds from certain federal and state resources to give grants to agencies for a variety of activities to assist people who are experiencing homelessness or the risk of becoming homeless. This rule governs MaineHousing's allocation of resources for such programs, program design, the publication and distribution of program guides, basic criteria for determining eligible recipients, and potential selection criteria. Some resources are distributed according to a funding formula set forth in the rule. Other resources are distributed according to programs designed by MaineHousing.

#### 1. Definitions

- A. "Act" means the Maine Housing Authorities Act, 30-A M.R.S.A. §4701, et seq. as amended.
- B. "Applicant" means the municipality or non-profit corporation applying for funds governed by this rule.
- C. "Bed Capacity" means the maximum number of beds in an Emergency Shelter or of an Emergency Housing Provider as indicated on an annual Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC).
- D. "Business Associate Agreement" is a document used primarily to regulate how information is treated and governs the relationship between service providers who are exchanging information regarding clients and the services they receive.
- E. "Clients Assessed and Stabilized" means clients assessed with housing prioritization tools and receiving housing stabilization services.
- F. "Continuum of Care" or "CoC" is a collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of Homeless Persons. HUD also refers to the group of service providers involved in the decision making processes as the "Continuum of Care."
- G. "Coordinated Entry Process" means a process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals within a geographic area. A Coordinated Entry Process covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.
- H. "Emergency Shelter" means any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for Homeless Persons or for specific populations of Homeless Persons and which meets the criteria set forth in section 3 of this rule.

- I. "Emergency Housing Provider" means a provider of emergency housing in other than a fixed facility the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary place for Homeless Persons to sleep and which meets the criteria set forth in section 3 of this rule.
- J. "Emergency Solutions Grant" means a grant available under the federal Emergency Solutions Grants Program of the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by the HEARTH Act.
- K. "Funding Formula Allocation" means an annual allocation of funds by MaineHousing for Emergency Shelters and Emergency Housing Providers as further described in section 4 of this rule.
- L. "HEARTH Act" means the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-22), and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- M. "HMIS" means the Homeless Management Information System as further defined in the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by the HEARTH Act.
- N. "HMIS Data Standards" provides communities with baseline data collection requirements developed by each of the federal partners which require participation in HMIS as a condition of their funding.
- O. "Homeless Persons" means persons sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation, in an Emergency Shelter, or in other emergency housing and persons who otherwise are homeless pursuant to the HEARTH Act (42 USC §11302).
- P. "Homeless Prevention" means activities or programs designed to prevent persons from becoming Homeless Persons including without limitation subsidies for rent, utilities, security deposits, and mortgage payments.
- Q. "Housing First" is an approach based on the concept that a Homeless Person's first and primary need is to obtain stable housing, and that other issues that may affect the Homeless Person can and should be addressed once housing is obtained.
- R. "Housing Inventory Count" (HIC) is a point-in-time inventory of beds and units for Homeless Persons within a Continuum of Care categorized by five program types: Emergency Shelter; transitional housing; Rapid Re-housing; safe haven; and permanent supportive housing.
- S. "Housing Stabilization" means assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to facilitate housing stability for a program participant who resides in permanent housing or to assist a program participant in overcoming immediate barriers to obtaining housing.
- T. "HUD" means the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- U. "Long-term Stayer" means a currently Homeless Person who has either been continuously homeless or has at least 180 cumulative emergency shelter housing stays in a twelve (12) month period of time, as defined by the Statewide Homeless Council.

- V. "MaineHousing" means Maine State Housing Authority.
- W. "Maine Consolidated Plan" is a plan prepared by MaineHousing and the Maine Department of Community and Economic Development ("DECD") and approved by HUD in accordance with 24 CFR part 91. The Consolidated Plan serves as the framework for a statewide dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities that align and focus funding from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program administered by DECD and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program and Emergency Solutions Grant and (ESG) Program, which are administered by MaineHousing.
- X. "Mainstream Resources" means a variety of Federal and state benefit government assistance programs Homeless Persons may be eligible to receive. These include but are not limited to: Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF), Food Supplement Program, veterans' benefits, MaineCare, General Assistance, Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and Housing Choice Vouchers Program.
- Y. "Maine's Job Bank" is an on-line job posting and job search system provided by Maine CareerCenter.
- Z. "McKinney-Vento Act" means the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11301 et seq., and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- AA. "Program" means an offering of grants subject to recapture available to prospective eligible Applicants on certain terms and for certain purposes determined by MaineHousing pursuant to this rule.
- BB. "Program Guide" means the written procedural and administrative guide for a particular Program governed by the terms and conditions of this rule.
- CC. "Rapid Re-housing" means housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help Homeless Persons move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.
- DD. "Regional Homeless Council" means one of the following three advisory committees concerning homelessness: Region I comprising York and Cumberland Counties; Region II comprising Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Oxford, and Waldo Counties; and Region III comprising Penobscot, Piscataquis, Aroostook, Washington, and Hancock Counties.
- EE. "Shelter Operations" are the costs of maintenance (including minor or routine repairs), rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of an Emergency Shelter.
- FF. "Statewide Homeless Council" means the advisory committee created pursuant to §5046 of the Act.

GG. "Violence Against Women Act "or "VAWA" is a United States federal law (Title IV, sec. 40001-40703 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, H.R. 3355).

#### 2. Eligible Applicants

To be eligible to receive funds, an Applicant must:

- A. be a non-profit corporation in good standing in the State of Maine qualified for tax exemption under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or a municipal corporation;
- B. be eligible in accordance with the HEARTH Act;
- C. be a provider of homeless services with at least one (1) year of experience providing emergency housing, street outreach, Homeless Prevention or Rapid Re-housing activities;
- D. be a regular and active participant in the Maine Continuum of Care or the Portland Continuum of Care, in accordance with their respective governance charters and performance criteria;
- E. have board and or advisory board representation from Homeless Persons or formerly Homeless Persons who are involved in policy or planning of the organization;
- F. participate in Coordinated Entry Process by entering into Business Associate Agreements for sharing data and administering housing prioritization and assessment tools;
- G. have the administrative and financial management capacity necessary to administer and to account for the use of the applicable grant in accordance with the funding requirements;
- H. meet the objectives and strategic goals to end homelessness as outlined in the Maine Consolidated Plan;
- meet the objectives of the Program under which they are applying as set forth in the applicable Program Guide;
- J. participate in and meet the performance and reporting requirements of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or a comparable database if the Applicant serves victims of domestic violence;
- K. not engage in any explicitly religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization, as part of the activities and services funded with any grant for activities or services covered by this rule; and if religious activities are offered, they must be offered at a separate time or location from the activities and services covered by this rule; and participation in those religious activities must be voluntary for persons receiving assistance with funds covered by this rule;
- L. operate its programs free from discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender in accordance with applicable federal and state fair housing laws;

- M. comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits disability discrimination in programs that receive HUD funds; and
- N. comply with MaineHousing requirements.

#### 3. Emergency Shelter or Emergency Housing Provider Requirements

Applicants that are Emergency Shelters or Emergency Housing Providers must do the following:

- Provide access 365 days per year to assist Homeless Persons meet basic emergency shelter needs;
- B. provide adequate sleeping space or beds, and clean and functioning shower and toilet facilities;
- C. provide safe and nutritious food, including breakfast or access to breakfast and, if open 24 hours, also provide lunch and dinner or access to lunch and dinner;
- D. treat all guests with dignity and respect, regardless of religious or political beliefs, cultural background, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation;
- E. provide shelter and housing services based upon a Rapid Re-housing or Housing First approach;
- F. operate at Bed Capacity unless the homeless response system is experiencing demand insufficient to fill capacity;
- G. provide linkages and access to community resources such as health care, job readiness and employment services, Mainstream Resources, and educational services to assist guests in achieving housing stability;
- H. assess guests for housing prioritization and services to enable mobility to permanent housing with adequate supports;
- inform guests of their rights and responsibilities, including specific shelter policies and house rules;
- J. accept eligible persons regardless of their ability to pay or their eligibility for reimbursement or actual reimbursements from any third party source, including local, municipal, state, or federal funding sources;
- K. have no lease requirements for guests;
- L. if serving families with children, provide space other than open dormitory style and do not require involuntary family separation for admission;

- M. provide separate accommodations for male and female consumers;
- N. protect the privacy and confidentiality of guests and their personal information;
- provide training, policies, procedures and regular maintenance to encourage, improve, and maintain the health and safety of guests, volunteers and staff;
- P. post fire, disaster, and other emergency procedures in a conspicuous place and review the procedures with each guest;
- Q. maintain a daily and confidential census of shelter clients including precise sleeping locations;
- R. operate in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local codes, laws and regulations; and
- S. have written policies and procedures for standards that address the following areas: access to shelter services, residential rights and responsibilities; program, personnel and facility operations; health and safety; food preparation and distribution; case management services; staff training; and HMIS and computer protocols.

#### 4. Funding Formula Allocation

From time to time MaineHousing will allocate a certain amount of funds to be distributed, subject to availability, to Emergency Shelters and Emergency Housing Providers (the "Funding Formula Allocation") pursuant to the following funding methodology:

- A. Shelter Operations. An amount equal to 40% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each Emergency Shelter will receive a percentage equal to the Emergency Shelter's Bed Capacity divided by a number equal to the total Bed Capacity available statewide for the calendar year. Agencies will receive scheduled payments on a quarterly basis.
- B. Rapid Re-housing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization Share. An amount equal to 40% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be disbursed among eligible agencies, such that each agency providing staffing for Rapid Re-housing, Housing First and Housing Stabilization services operated by the agency will be eligible to receive a percentage equal to the agency's number of Clients Assessed and Stabilized, divided by the total number of Clients Assessed and Stabilized, are reimbursed for costs on a quarterly basis.

In order for an agency to achieve the full amount of the Rapid Re-housing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization Share for which it is eligible, it will need to meet certain performance measures to be published at the time of allocation. The measures will be based on successful housing outcomes including housing prioritization assessment and housing stability plans.

Examples of Potential Performance:

✓ % of agency households screened for prioritization of housing options.

- ✓ % of agency households with a documented housing stability plan.
- C. Incentives and Performance Share. An amount equal to 20% of the Funding Formula Allocation will be made available to eligible agencies that provide successful housing outcomes based on performance indicator data in HMIS (or elsewhere for providers of services to victims of domestic violence). Providers will receive a percentage of funding for each outcome performance measure that they meet. The amount of funding available for each performance measure will be the same. The percentage of funding a provider receives for each performance measure met will be equal to the number of clients served by the provider divided by the total number of clients served by all of the providers that meet the respective performance measure benchmark in the previous quarter, or in the previous calendar year for the recidivism benchmark. Agencies will receive a performance based payment on a semi-annual basis.
- Payments are based on performance of successful housing exits including housing retention, income and supports, and recidivism.

Examples of Performance Measures:

- ✓ % of agency household departures to permanent housing that retains housing for at least six months.
- ✓ % of agency household departures whose income increased between entry and departure through benefits, employment, education or training.
- ✓ % of decrease in average length of stay.

#### D. One Time Adjustment

- Except as set forth in paragraph D.4., the 2017 second quarter Rapid Re-housing, Long-term Stayer and Stabilization payment will be calculated and paid in accordance with the definition of "Clients Assessed and Stabilized" in effect for the first six months of 2017, along with the first 2017 semi-annual Incentives and Performance Share payment and the 2017 second quarter Shelter Operations payment.
- MaineHousing will calculate the payments for the first and second quarters of 2017 that each agency would have received if the definition of "Clients Assessed and Stabilized" had been as it is set forth in this rule.
- 3. Those agencies that receive less for the first two quarters of 2017 than they would have received if the new definition of "Clients Assessed and Stabilized" had been in effect since January 1, 2017, will receive an immediate one-time payment in an amount equal to the difference between the payments they received for the first and second quarters of 2017, and the payments they would have received if the new definition were effective January 1, 2017.

4. Those agencies that received more for the first quarter of 2017 than the amount they would have received if the new definition of "Clients Assessed and Stabilized" were effective January 1, 2017, have the following options:

(a) receive the payment described in paragraph D.1 and have a set-off against future payments under the Funding Formula Allocation in an amount equal to the difference between the payments they receive for the first two quarters of 2017, and the payments they would have received if the new definition were effective January 1, 2017; or

(b) receive an amount for the 2017 second quarter Rapid Re-housing, Longterm Stayer and Stabilization payment, the first 2017 semi-annual Incentives and Performance Share, and the 2017 second quarter Shelter Operations share equal to the amount they would have received if the new definition were effective January 1, 2017, less a set-off equal to the difference between the amount for first quarter 2017 that the agency received and the amount the agency would have received if the definition were effective January 1, 2017.

Grantees that receive allocations from federal funds, including Emergency Solutions Grant or HOME Investment Partnership Act funds, may be required to provide match from local or private funds.

## 5. Program Design

- A. Allocation. In addition to the Funding Formula Allocation, MaineHousing may allocate other funds for Programs to assist Homeless Persons in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- B. Programs. MaineHousing shall design and offer Programs based upon available funds, restrictions attached to such funds, best practices, and needs. The funds may be used for shelter services and outreach activities; for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing activities such as rental assistance, housing search, mediation, outreach to property owners, legal services, security on utility deposits, and moving costs; and to support entities that offer an integrated array of services to meet the health, housing, employment, and other basic needs of Homeless Persons.
- C. Program Guides. MaineHousing shall publish on MaineHousing's website a Program Guide with respect to each Program and shall distribute the Program Guide to parties who may be eligible for the Program and who have expressed an interest to MaineHousing in connection with the type of activities eligible under the Program, to parties MaineHousing selects for marketing the particular Program, and upon request.

## 6. Funding

- A. Processing of Applications. MaineHousing may process applications on a first come first served basis or may set an application due date described in the Program Guide for submission for review by a scoring committee.
- B. Selection for Funding. MaineHousing shall retain final discretion as to whether or not to offer funds to a particular Applicant for a particular purpose.
- C. Availability of Funds. Grants are always subject to the availability of funds.
- D. Selection Criteria. MaineHousing will set forth requirements and selection and approval criteria germane to a particular Program in the applicable Program Guide. Selection criteria may include but are not limited to the following:

#### 1. Mainstream Resources

- how well the Applicant assists clients in the completion and submission of applications for Mainstream Resources; and
- how well the Applicant captures the results of the actual benefits received.

## 2. Housing

- how well the Applicant assists clients in the completion and submission of applications for client appropriate housing;
- b. how well the Applicant assists clients with housing searches;
- c. how well the Applicant assists clients with landlord relationships; and
- d. how well the Applicant has developed and maintained effective working relationships with local General Assistance offices in assisting clients with access and applications.

#### Health Care

- Applicant's relationships and links with one or more local health care providers who provide treatment for clients; and
- Applicant's ability to provide or refer clients for mental health or substance abuse assessments and treatment.

## 4. Employment

 how well the Applicant assists clients with employment searches, including registering with Maine's Job Bank;

- how well the Applicant has developed and maintained effective working relationships with local CareerCenters in assisting clients; and
- how well the Applicant has developed and maintained effective working relationships with local employers or employment agencies in assisting clients.

#### 5. Prevention

- Applicant's knowledge of and ability to refer clients to Pine Tree Legal Assistance for eviction prevention and other legal assistance; and
- Applicant's knowledge of and ability to actively refer clients to other local and regional resources, as appropriate.

#### 7. Data Collection Requirements

In order to receive funding, eligible Applicants must do the following, unless prohibited by VAWA:

- A. Enter into a Business Associate Agreement to share certain Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data with the other Homeless Shelters, Emergency Housing Providers, and homeless providers;
- B. Enter client data as prescribed by MaineHousing and HUD in accordance with requirements set forth in the HMIS Data Standards as revised, and the HEARTH Act, and ensure data completeness and quality in regard to program performance measures on a monthly basis and submit reports as prescribed by MaineHousing or HUD;
- C. Enter client data on outcomes and housing stability as prescribed by MaineHousing or HUD, which will be used for performance measurement, research, or evaluation;
- D. Have the capacity to enter client level data into Bowman Systems, LLC ServicePoint system, or its successors, the designated vendor for HMIS data entry; and
- E. Submit de-duplicated aggregate reports as required by MaineHousing.

Providers of shelter to victims of domestic violence are required to have the capacity of a comparable database that collects client level data and exports aggregate, de-duplicated data to MaineHousing in electronic form.

#### 8. Reporting Requirements

- A. General Reporting Requirements. A grantee must provide client data prescribed by MaineHousing in a form or forms prescribed by MaineHousing to centralized data collection systems prescribed by MaineHousing as often as required by MaineHousing.
- B. Missing Reports or Data. A grantee must provide all reports and all required client data in accordance with the reporting requirements at the time of funds disbursement in order to receive funding.
- C. Complete Report. A report will not be considered submitted unless MaineHousing determines that the report is sufficiently complete and all client data is valid.
- D. Final Reports. A grantee must submit a final report showing its use of a grant within 30 days of the end of the term of the grant.

## 9. Monitoring and Assessment.

- A. MaineHousing will review for program compliance at least once a year at reasonable times.
- B. MaineHousing may copy and examine all of a grantee's records other than medical or other confidential client information protected by privacy laws.
- C. Grantees will maintain records sufficient to meet monitoring and auditing requirements of MaineHousing and HUD including without limitation daily rosters and client files.

In the case of a physical shelter program facility, MaineHousing will inspect to a minimum for compliance with HUD's Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

## 10. Rule Limitations

- A. Other Laws. If this rule conflicts with any provision of federal or state law, the federal or state law shall control.
- B. Waivers. Upon determination of good cause, the Director of MaineHousing or the Director's designee may, subject to statutory limitations, waive any provision of this rule. Each waiver shall be in writing and shall be supported by documentation of the pertinent facts and grounds.

BASIS STATEMENT: This rule replaces in its entirety the current *Homeless Solutions Rule*. MaineHousing uses funds from certain federal and state resources to give grants to agencies for a variety of activities to assist people who are experiencing homelessness or the risk of becoming homeless. The rule governs MaineHousing's allocation of resources for such programs, program design, the publication and distribution of program guides, basic criteria for determining eligible recipients, and potential selection criteria. This replacement *Homeless Solutions Rule* amends the definition of Clients Assessed and Stabilized in order to ensure the fairest allocation of payments consistent with the overall intent of the rule.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

#### Process:

Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal (MAPA-3) was submitted to the Secretary of State for publication in the Wednesday, May 31, 2017 edition of the appropriate newspapers. Additionally, MaineHousing sent the proposed rule to Interested Parties on Tuesday, May 30, 2017, and published the proposed rule on its website on Wednesday, May 31, 2017.

MaineHousing held a public hearing on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 to receive testimony on its proposal to repeal and replace the Rule. The comment period was held open until 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 30, 2017. MaineHousing received comments from Josh D'Alesso of Hope House PCHC and Rob Parritt from the City of Portland at the public hearing.

Summary of Comments and Responses to Comments

#### Rob Parritt - Director of Oxford Street Shelter, Portland

Comments

Mr. Parritt testified in favor of the new Rule. He also shared his appreciation for MaineHousing staff that worked diligently and quickly.

#### MaineHousing response

MaineHousing appreciates the support.

#### Joshua D'Alesso – Manager of Homeless Initiatives for the Hope House, Bangor Comments

Mr. D'Alesso agreed with the testimony of Mr. Parritt and supports the rule as revised.

#### MaineHousing respone

MaineHousing thanks Mr. D'Alesso for his support.

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 30-A M.R.S.A. §4741.1, §4741.18, §4852, et seq.

## EFFECTIVE DATE:



# 2017 Program Statement

Office of Community Development 111 Sewall Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor 59 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0059 Phone: (207) 624-7484 Fax: (207) 287-8070 TTY: 1-800-437-1220 www.meocd.org

## 19-498 CMR DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CHAPTER 45 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM 2017 PROGRAM STATEMENT

## SUMMARY

This Program Statement describes the method by which 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds will be distributed. The CDBG program is administered pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A 13073. The 2017 CDBG program was developed by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) following a review of past programs, a forum with program constituents, 3 state-wide public forums and a comprehensive assessment of statewide community and economic development needs. In accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act, DECD held a public hearing regarding the development of this Program Statement on November 4, 2016, Burton Cross Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 111 Sewall Street, Augusta Maine.

## SECTION 1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## A. CDBG OBJECTIVES

All CDBG funded activities must meet one of three National Objectives of the program. These objectives are:

- Benefit to low and moderate income persons;
- · Prevention and/or elimination of slum and blight conditions; and
- Meeting community development needs having a particular urgency.

The Maine CDBG Program serves as a catalyst for local governments to implement programs which meet one of the three National Objectives, and:

- Are part of a long-range community strategy;
- Improve deteriorated residential and business districts and local economic conditions;
- Provide the conditions and incentives for further public and private investments;
- Foster partnerships between groups of municipalities, state and federal entities, multi-jurisdictional organizations, and the private sector to address common community and economic development problems; and
- Minimize development sprawl consistent with the State of Maine Growth Management Act and support the revitalization of downtown areas.

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## B. METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION:

DECD, through the Office of Community Development (OCD), offers programs to assist municipalities to achieve their community and economic development objectives. The 2017 Program Statement provides a description of the selection criteria that OCD will use to allocate CDBG funds among communities. Programs are grouped under the three categories listed below.

## 1. Community Development

- a. Home Repair Network
- b. Housing Assistance Grants
- c. Public Facilities Grants
- d. Public Infrastructure Grants
- e. Downtown Revitalization Grants
- f. Workforce Development Grants
- g. Small Business Development Centers
- h. Urgent Need Grants
- i. Special Projects

## 2. Economic Development

- a. Grants to Municipalities for Direct Business Support
- b. Micro-Enterprise Grants

## 3. Technical Assistance

## C. STATE ADMINISTRATION:

**1. General Administration Allocation:** Pursuant to Section 106(d) (3) (A) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (the Act), the DECD will utilize \$100,000 plus 2% of its allocation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer Maine's CDBG Program in accordance with Federal and State requirements.

**2. Technical Assistance Administration Allocation:** Pursuant to Section 106(d) (5) of the Act, DECD will utilize up to 1% of its allotment from HUD to provide technical assistance in accordance with Federal and State requirements.

**3. Exclusion of Entitlement Communities and Counties:** The entitlement communities of Auburn, Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, Portland and all of Cumberland County with the exception of Brunswick and Frye Island, are not eligible to receive State CDBG program funds.

## 4. Grant Administration Requirement:

Grantees must employ, or contract with, a certified CDBG Grant Administrator and in the case of Housing Rehabilitation a qualified Rehabilitation Technician (as employees or consultants). The Office of Community Development must approve waivers of this requirement in writing. All planning activities are exempt from this requirement.

## D. PROGRAM TIMEFRAME

Application deadlines – All applications and Letters of Intent must be received at the physical location of the Office of Community Development on or before 4:00PM EST on the dates listed below. *Faxed copies will not be accepted.* 

Program	Letter of Intent Due Date	Application Due Date By Invitation Only
Downtown Revitalization	January 27, 2017	March 31, 2017
Economic Development	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of January, February, March and April**	May 26, 2017
*	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of May, June and July**	August 25, 2017
Housing Assistance	March 10, 2017	May 5, 2017
Micro-Enterprise Assistance	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of January, February and March **	April 28, 2017
*	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of April, May and June**	July 28, 2017
Public Facilities	January 13, 2017	TBD*
Public Infrastructure***	1	
Special Projects *	N/A	TBD*
Urgent Need	N/A	TBD*
Workforce Development	May 5, 2017**	June 16, 2017
*	July 7, 2017**	August 18, 2017

\*Subject to availability of funds.

\*\* If the first Friday of the month falls on a holiday the Economic Development and Micro-Enterprise Assistance Programs Letter(s) of Intent will be due by 4:00pm on the next business day.

\*\*\*Public Infrastructure – No Letters of Intent or Applications will be accepted for the 2017 Program Year. The projects of Machias, Lincolnville, Ashland and East Millinocket, who submitted applications in 2016, are being funded in 2017.

## E. 2017 PROGRAM BUDGET

FY 2017 CDBG Budget Administration Technical Assistance Administration Regional Council Planning Assistance <u>Community Development</u>	\$ <b>10,606,496</b> 312,130 106,064 114,347	
Downtown Revitalization Grants 300,000 Home Repair Network Program Housing Assistance Grants Public Facilities Grants* Public Infrastructure Grants Workforce Development Grants Small Business Development Centers Urgent Need Grants* Special Projects	1,700,000 1,000,000 0 3,500,000 173,836 50,000 0 0	
Economic Development		
Economic Development Grants Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grants	2,700,000 650,119	
TOTAL 2017 CDBG Funds \$ <b>10,606,496</b> Funding for individual categories may change based on actual HUD award.		

\*Funding for these programs may be available based upon redistribution, reallocation and/or additional allocation from HUD.

## F. CERTIFICATIONS

All communities applying for CDBG funds must certify that they will:

- Minimize displacement and adhere to a locally adopted displacement policy in compliance with section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act, 24 CFR part 42;
- Take action to affirmatively further fair housing and comply with the provisions of Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968;
- Not attempt to recover certain capital costs of improvements funded in whole or in part with CDBG funds;
- Establish a community development plan;
- Meet all required State and Federal public participation requirements;
- Comply with the Federal requirements of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, codified at 31 U.S.C. Section 1352, regarding government-wide restriction on lobbying;
- With the exception of administrative or personnel costs, verify that no person who is an employee, agent, consultant, officer, elected officer, or appointed official of State or local government or of any designated public agencies, or sub-recipients which are receiving CDBG funding may obtain a financial interest or benefit, have an interest in or benefit from the activity, or have an interest in any contract, subcontract, or agreement with respect to CDBG activities;
- Any person or firm associated with the administration of the CDBG program award is not on the U.S. Department of Labor's Debarred and Suspended Contractor's List; and
- Review the project proposed in the application to ensure it complies with the community's comprehensive plan and/or applicable state and local land use requirements.

## G. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Eligible Applicants: All units of general local government in Maine, including plantations, except for the entitlement communities of Auburn, Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, Portland and all of Cumberland County with the exception of Brunswick and Frye Island are eligible to apply for and receive State CDBG program funds. County governments may apply on behalf of the Unorganized Territory. Groups of local governments may apply for multi-jurisdictional or joint projects. Multi-jurisdictional applications require designation of one local government as the lead applicant and consent for that designation by each participating local government. Counties may apply for the Workforce Development program on behalf of a collaboration of communities. Eligible applicants, including counties as defined above may apply for CDBG assistance on behalf of the five Maine Indian Tribes. Maine Indian Tribes are not themselves eligible applicants. Eligible applicants applying on behalf

of a Maine Indian Tribe are permitted to apply in the same 2017 CDBG funding category as long as the eligible applicant will not directly benefit from the tribal CDBG project.

**2. Eligible Activities:** Applications will be reviewed to determine that the activities proposed are eligible under Section 105(a) of the Act. Ineligible activities will not be considered.

**3. Project Benefit:** Letters of Intent and/or required documentation for all programs will be reviewed to verify that the proposed activities meet at least one of the CDBG Program national objectives pursuant to section 104(b) 3 of the Act. If the activity does not meet a national objective the application will not be considered for funding.

**4. "Growth Related" Preference:** In accordance with M.R.S.A Title 30-A section 4349-A (3-A), OCD is required to give preference in the award of grants to capital investments defined as "growth related" in section 4301(5-B) to communities with certified growth management programs or that have adopted a comprehensive plan and implementation strategy consistent with the goals and guidelines of the subchapter. A municipality that does not obtain a certificate or finding of consistency within 4 years after receipt of the first installment of a financial assistance grant or rejection of an offer of financial assistance will receive a low priority.

**5. Repayment of Grant Funds:** Recipients must repay on demand to the State of Maine all funds expended if CDBG program benefits are not achieved as specified in their contract with the DECD.

**6. Application Threshold:** Incomplete and/or non-conforming applications which do not meet the specifications set forth in the 2017 Program Statement and 2017 CDBG Application Packages will be removed from the scoring process during the threshold review.

**7. Financial Commitments:** Applications for projects not demonstrating a firm financial commitment as required in the application materials will be removed from the scoring process during the threshold review.

**8. Restriction of Grant Awards:** OCD may deny or restrict the award of grants to communities with outstanding audit(s), monitoring findings, or a record of administrative misconduct.

**9. Past Performance:** In order to be eligible to apply for a 2017 Community Development Block Grant program, communities that received CDBG grants in or prior to 2013 must have finally closed out their grants prior to application due date. Communities that received CDBG grants in 2014 must have conditionally closed their grants prior to application due date. Communities that received CDBG grants in 2015 must have expended 50% of their benefit activity funds prior to application due date. Communities that received 2016 CDBG grants must be under contract with DECD. All Past Performance Criteria will be strictly enforced; however these criteria may be waived for just cause by the Director of OCD.

**10. Grant Termination:** OCD will terminate a community's grant if progress on the project is not apparent within 6 months, or 3 months in the case of Economic Development Programs (Economic Development and Micro-Enterprise Assistance), and

Workforce Development Grants, from the date of contract signing. The Office of Community Development may grant waivers for just cause.

## H. EXCLUSIONS:

**1. Multiple Grants:** Except for the Economic Development Programs (Economic Development and Micro-Enterprise Assistance)s, eligible applicants may not apply for, or benefit from, more than one grant per program category in any grant year. Communities participating in multi-jurisdictional applications may submit their own applications for the same program as long as they demonstrate that there will not be a duplication of program activity/benefit. DECD reserves the right to not invite a community to submit an application and/or remove an application(s) from the scoring process in instances where a community has submitted multiple applications in multiple programs, within the same program year.

**2. Subsequent Year Award:** Except for the Economic Development Program-Economic Development Grants, Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grants, and project specific Housing Grants, units of general local government and Unorganized Territory that benefited from a 2016 award may not apply again <u>in that specific program</u> until the 2018 program. This exclusion may be waived by the Director of OCD with cause.

**3. Downtown Revitalization (DR) Grantees:** Communities may not submit a DR application if they have received or benefited from two (2) DR awards within the five (5) year period prior to the CDBG program year for which applications are being accepted. Applications for multi-jurisdictional Downtown Revitalization projects will only be eligible if the downtowns are contiguous and each meets the definition of a downtown as defined in PL 1999 Ch. 776 (codified at 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4301(5-A)).

**4.** Housing Assistance Grant Program (HA) Past Performance Requirement: Communities are not eligible to apply for a HA grant unless all prior HA grants are 100% expended and conditionally closed out. 100% expended also requires that no HA funds exist in the housing escrow account.

**5.** Housing Assistance (HA) Grantees: Communities may not submit a HA application for single family rehabilitation if they have received or benefited from two (2) HA awards within the five (5) year period prior to the CDBG program year for which applications are being accepted.

## I. AWARD PROCESS:

## 1. Scoring:

With the exception of the Economic Development Grants, Applicants will be placed in rank order from highest to lowest according to the final scores determined by the OCD Review Team. All program applications with the exception of the Urgent Need Grants and the Home Repair Network will be scored on a 100-point maximum scoring basis with allowance for bonus points where applicable. Final scores will be determined by averaging the scores assigned by members of the Review Team and adding any applicable bonus point. Notification of CDBG awards will typically be made in 30-45 days from receipt of a complete application. Notification of award may be delayed if additional information is requested by OCD. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow. In the event of a tie in any CDBG program scoring process, consideration will be given to the community that is listed as a Service Center. An invitation into the Project Development Phase is not a guarantee of funding or permission to obligate funds. Successful communities will receive an amount determined by the OCD for their project.

## 2. Project Development Phase:

**a. Project Planning:** Details of the project including pre-engineering, bid requirements, budget, and/or grant administration.

**b.** Acceptance of Funds: Public Hearing and Legislative Body Approval for the acceptance of funds. (Excluding the Economic Development Program)

c. Local Certifications: Local adoption of State and Federal regulations..

**d. Project Benefit:** Verification that proposed activities meet or will meet one of the CDBG Program National Objectives.

**e. Environmental Review:** Review of project for compliance with State and Federal Environmental Regulations.

## 3. Project Development Timeframe and Assistance:

The goal of the Project Development Phase is a grant contract for CDBG funds. An OCD Development Program Manager will be assigned to work closely with each community to finalize their project. OCD will rescind the CDBG program award offer if the community is not under contract within six months of the date of the award offer and invitation into the project development phase process. For the Economic Development, Microenterprise Assistance and Workforce Development Programs OCD will rescind the CDBG program award offer if the community is not under contract within three months of the date of the award offer and invitation into the project development programs OCD will rescind the CDBG program award offer if the community is not under contract within three months of the date of the award offer and invitation into the project development phase process. The Office of Community Development may grant waivers for just cause.

## SECTION 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

## A. HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

The Housing Assistance Grant (HA) Program provides funding to address housing problems of low-and moderate-income persons. Housing Assistance Program (HA) funds will be distributed through an annual grant application selection process.

**1. Eligibility Requirements for Housing Assistance Applications:** Communities may not submit a HA single family rehabilitation application if they have received or benefited from two HA awards within the five (5) year period prior to the CDBG program year for which applications are being accepted. Multi-jurisdictional applications with more than 3 communities will not be accepted.

2. Eligible Activities: Eligible HA activities are rehabilitation of occupied or vacant single-family or multi-family housing units, same site replacement housing, relocation assistance, acquisition, alternative housing, energy conservation, correction of code violations, conversion of non-residential structures, demolition, down payment assistance, first time homebuyer's programs, lead based paint removal, new housing construction as allowed by HUD regulations, provision of potable water or sewer, removal of architectural barriers and eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase.

3. Exclusions: See Section 1H (6) (7).

**4. Matching Funds:** Applicants for housing activities must provide a match (cash or inkind) of at least <u>10 % of the total HA grant award</u>; except for eligible new housing construction activities which must provide a cash match of at least <u>20% of the total HA</u> <u>grant award</u>.

## 5. Maximum HA Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

6. Maximum Administrative Costs: The HA Program allows expenditures for general and/or rehabilitation administration. The total general and rehabilitation administration expenditures may not exceed 15% of the grant amount. Please refer to OCD Policy Statement #2 for more information regarding CDBG administrative costs.

**7. Section 8 Housing Quality Standards:** All units assisted or created with HA funds must, if possible, meet HUD Section 8 Minimum Housing Quality Standards. This does not apply to projects undertaken to correct specific emergency health and safety issues only, i.e. wells, septic, heating units, removal of hazardous materials, energy conservation etc.

**8.** Administrative Capabilities for Housing Rehabilitation Applicants: Applicants for HA assistance must demonstrate at the time of submitting the Letter of Intent that they have the capacity to administer the program either through municipal staff that is a qualified CDBG Rehabilitation Technician; or have completed a procurement process under the guidelines of the CDBG program (24 CFR Part 85) to hire a qualified CDBG Rehabilitation Technician subject to award of a HA contract.

9. Selection Process: The selection process for all HA applications will consist of two stages:

(a)Stage 1:

<u>Letter of Intent</u>: All communities wishing to submit a HA application must submit a Letter of Intent. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments may be invited to make a full application. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

(b)Stage 2:

<u>Application</u>: The maximum length of an application is **four pages (not counting required attachments)**. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates. Members of the Review Team will assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area. A maximum of 100 points is obtainable.

Impact (40 points):

- A description of the specific housing problems to be addressed with HA funds – 15 points
- How the problems were identified 10 points
- How these issues affect LMI persons in the community or region 15 points

Development Strategy (40 points):

- A description of the plan proposed to implement the housing project 20 points
- Summary of the activities and use of HA funds –20 points

Citizen Participation (20 points):

- How overall citizen participation process directly relates to identification of solution strategies and application development - 4 points
- Effective use of any media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.) to further public awareness and participation – 4 points
- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing activities/comments (not counting required public hearing) on application and project development – 4 points
- Involvement of potential LMI project beneficiaries in development of the application and project and how the required public hearing relates to the application development and citizen participation process – 4 points
- How other local resources (cash and in-kind) are directly related to the project and the establishment of a cash value equivalent for all in-kind commitments – 4 points

**11. Final Application Score** – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow.

## **B. HOME REPAIR NETWORK PROGRAM**

The Home Repair Network Program (HRN) provides funding statewide to address housing problems of low- and moderate-income persons. This program will provide housing rehabilitation services administered on a regional basis throughout Maine, as stated below.

**1. Special Threshold Criteria and Certifications:** HRN Program funds will be distributed through a set aside of CDBG funds provided to the City of Rockland as the lead community. The lead community will establish a legally binding contract with each of the participating Maine Community Action Agencies (or other approved entity)to provide Housing Rehabilitation Services in the region. Participation in the HRN delivery system is subject to the approval of the Director of the OCD.

**2. Eligible Activities:** Eligible activities under the HRN Program are rehabilitation of occupied or vacant single-family or multi-family housing units, demolition, same site replacement housing, provision of potable water and sewer, energy conservation, removal/mitigation of lead-based paint, asbestos, radon, or other hazardous material, removal of architectural barriers and the Critical Access Ramp Program (via Alpha One).

**3.** Housing units ineligible for Home Repair Network assistance: Housing units located in communities that have current CDBG Housing Rehabilitation programs or the entitlement communities of Auburn, Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, Portland and all of Cumberland County with the exception of Brunswick and Frye Island are not eligible for financial assistance under the HRN program.

**4. Maximum HRN Grant Amount:** \$1,700,000. Allocations to each of the established regions will be determined by the Office of Community Development.

**5. Maximum Administrative Costs:** The HRN Program allows expenditures for general and rehabilitation administration. The total general and rehabilitation administration expenditures may not exceed 20% of the grant amount. The City of Rockland is allowed a maximum of \$5,000 in administrative funding.

6. Section 8 Housing Quality Standards: All units assisted or created with HRN funds will strive to meet HUD Section 8 Minimum Housing Quality Standards if possible. This does not apply to projects undertaken to correct specific emergency health and safety issues only, i.e. wells, septic, heating units, removal of hazardous materials, energy conservation etc. In addition, all units must comply with other applicable standards included in the HRN contract.

## C. PUBLIC FACILITIES GRANT PROGRAM

The Public Facilities Grant (PF) Program provides gap funding for local public facility activities, which alleviate a threat to the health and safety of the general public.

**1. Eligible Activities:** Eligible activities in the PF program are construction, acquisition, reconstruction, rehabilitation, site clearance, historic preservation, and relocation assistance <u>associated with</u> public facilities projects and eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase.

2. Exclusions: See Section 1H (1) (2).

**3. Match:** All communities applying for PF funds must certify that they will provide a cash match of at least <u>25 percent of the total grant award</u>. This match may consist of all non-CDBG loans, grants, endowments, etc. contributed to the project.

## 4. Maximum PF Grant Amount: \$300,000

**5. Demonstration of Need:** Applicants must have demonstrated that the proposed activity will alleviate a threat to the health and safety of the general public. This demonstration must have been made part of the Letter of Intent and Verification submitted to the Office of Community Development.

6. Demonstration of National Objective: Applicants must demonstrate that the project meets the National Objective of a) benefiting 51% or greater low/moderate income persons or b) preventing or eliminating slum or blighting conditions. Census information, a certified target area survey, or an officially adopted declaration of slum/blight conditions conforming to the requirements of Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 5202 and HUD must be submitted to OCD. For spot blight activities documentation must be submitted to OCD substantiating the condition of the structure as "blighted." These demonstrations must be made as part of the Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective submitted to OCD.

**7. Priority for Public Facilities Projects:** Regional Service Centers and Contiguous Census Designated Places and Compact Urban Areas Designated as Regional Service Centers and activities supporting the revitalization of downtown areas will be given priority during the evaluation and selection process for awarding PF program funds. Lists of all service center communities are available from the OCD.

8. Selection Process: The selection process will consist of two stages.

(a) Stage 1:

Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective: All communities wishing to submit a PF application must submit a Letter of Intent. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments may be invited to make a full application. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

(b) Stage 2:

**<u>Application</u>**: The application deadline for the PF program will be announced by the OCD, pending the availability of funds. Members of the Review Team will 13

assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area. A maximum of 100 points is obtainable

## Impact (40 points):

- A description of the why the project is necessary 8 points
- Conditions warranting new construction or renovations, including health and safety concerns– 10 points
- How these conditions affect LMI persons in the community or region 10 points
- Size and make up of user base of facility 6 points
- Why PF funds are necessary for project 6 points

## Development Strategy (40 points):

- A description of the new or renovated facility, including size, design factors, alleviation of health and safety factors, utilities and location – 10 points
- Specific use of PF funds 10 points
- Positive effect on LMI persons 10 points
- Project timeline, details of engineering or architectural work completed to date, proposed date for start of construction, tasks remaining prior to project implementation, final commitment of other funds and how PF funds will be expended within a 12 month period – 10 points

## Citizen Participation (20 points):

- How overall citizen participation process directly relates to identification of solution strategies and application development - 4 points
- Effective use of any media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.) to further public awareness and participation – 4 points
- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing activities/comments (not counting required public hearing) on application and project development – 4 points
- Involvement of potential LMI project beneficiaries in development of the application and project and how the required public hearing relates to the application development and citizen participation process – 4 points
- How other local resources (cash and in-kind) are directly related to the project and the establishment of a cash value equivalent for all in-kind commitments – 4 points

**9. Final Application Score** – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development phase as funds allow.

## D. PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

No Letters of Intent or Applications will be accepted for the 2017 Program Year. The projects of Machias, Lincolnville, Ashland and East Millinocket, who submitted applications in 2016, are being funded in 2017.

The Public Infrastructure Grant (PI) Program provides gap funding for local infrastructure activities, which are part of a community development strategy leading to future public and private investments.

**1. Eligible Activities:** Eligible activities in the PI Program are construction, acquisition, reconstruction, installation, relocation assistance <u>associated with</u> public infrastructure, and public infrastructure limited to supporting construction of fully-funded affordable LMI housing; eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase.

2. Exclusions: See Section 1H (1) (2).

**3. Match:** All communities applying for PI funds must certify that they will provide a cash match of at least <u>25 percent of the total grant award</u>. This match may consist of all non-CDBG loans, grants etc. contributed to the project.

**4. Program Activities:** Applicants may apply for one or more activities within a specific activity group. Applicants cannot mix activities from different activity groups in an application.

## Activity Group Numbers:

- Water system installation/improvements, sewer system installation/improvements, water/sewer system hookups, storm drainage, utility infrastructure, dams with the main purpose of providing the primary water storage facility for an active water district or municipal system. Maximum Amount: \$1,000,000
- 2) Infrastructure in support of new LMI affordable fully financed housing. Maximum Amount: \$1,000,000

**5. Funding Restrictions:** PI funds may not be used to assist infrastructure for the purpose of job creation/retention. Job creation/ retention infrastructure activities are eligible in the Economic Development Program. With the exception of proposals for infrastructure in support of new housing construction and sewer/water system hookups, no housing activities may be assisted with PI funds.

**6. Demonstration of National Objective:** Applicants must demonstrate that the project meets the National Objective of benefiting 51% or greater low/moderate income persons via Census information, or a certified target area survey.

7. Selection Process: The selection process for all PI applications will consist of two stages:

(a) Stage 1:

Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective: All communities wishing to submit a PI application must submit a Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective to OCD. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments may be invited to make a full application. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

#### (b) Stage 2:

**Application:** Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

. Each application will be rated in relation to all others in a two-stage process. Members of the Review Team will assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area.

#### Impact (40 points):

- A description of why the project is necessary, previous efforts to address needs, and how the project was prioritized locally –6 points
- What engineering firms and/or regulatory agencies have verified the infrastructure problems, and what studies and testing have been done that corroborate the need– 6 points
- How the verified health, safety and welfare conditions affect users and others in the community and region –8 points
- Size and demographic makeup of user base and target area of projected infrastructure project –10 points
- Why PI funds are necessary to fill a funding gap, what other state and/or federal agency funding is involved, capacity of the utility or town to borrow, and how match funds will work with PI funds to implement the project –10 points

## Development Strategy (40 points):

- A description of the proposed infrastructure improvements, including size, capacity, design, utilities and fit with existing systems – 10 points
- Positive impacts on health, safety and welfare of users directly attributable to proposed PI expenditures –5 points
- Extent of financial benefits to users; list current user rates, what rates will be if PI funding is approved, and list what user rates will be if the project is built without PI funding –15 points
- Project timeline: list tasks necessary to begin implementation. Identify work already completed, such as engineering, design and final commitment of other funds. Identify when remaining tasks will be completed. Estimate a project completion date and describe why project timeline is feasible –10 points

## Citizen Participation (20 points):

 How overall citizen participation process directly relates to identification of solution strategies and application development - 4 points

- Effective use of any media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.) to further public awareness and participation – 4 points
- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing activities/comments (not counting required public hearing) on application and project development – 4 points
- Involvement of potential LMI project beneficiaries in to the application development and citizen participation process – 4 points
- How other local resources (cash and in-kind) are directly related to the project and the establishment of a cash value equivalent for all in-kind commitments – 4 points
- development of the application and project and how the required public hearing relates

8. Final Score – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow.

## E. DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Downtown Revitalization Grant (DR) Program provides funds to communities to implement comprehensive, integrated, and innovative solutions to the problems facing their downtown districts. These community revitalization projects must be part of a strategy that targets downtown service and business districts and will lead to future public and private investment. Qualified applicant communities must have a downtown district meeting the definition in 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 4301(5-A).

**1. Eligible activities** - include all those eligible under the Public Facilities, Public Infrastructure, Housing Assistance or Micro Enterprise Assistance programs as relevant to the revitalization of a downtown district; and eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase.

## 2. Exclusions: See Section 1H (4) (5).

**3. Match** – All communities applying for DR Program funds must certify that they will provide <u>a minimum cash match equivalent to 25 percent</u> of the total grant award. This minimum 25% match must consist of private sector investments directly related to the project. Any additional project funding over the minimum 25% may come from any source public and/or private. All match must be fully committed at time of application.

**4. Planning Requirements:** Applicants must have completed a comprehensive downtown revitalization planning process within the past five years. Communities with plans older than five years must demonstrate that their plans are under active implementation, the action plan remains valid, or have been updated within the past 5 years. The proposed DR activities must be in the plan as recommended actions necessary for downtown revitalization.

## 5. Maximum DR Award: \$300,000

**6.** Bonus Points for Applicants with Maine Downtown Center Designation: Applicants will receive three bonus points if they have been designated as a Main Street Maine Community by the Maine Downtown Center, or one bonus point if they have been designated as a Maine Downtown Network Community.

**7. Demonstration of National Objective:** Applicants must demonstrate that the project meets the National Objective of 1) benefiting 51% or greater low/moderate income persons or 2) preventing or eliminating slum or blighting conditions. Census information, a certified town-wide income survey, or an officially adopted declaration of slum/blight conditions conforming to the requirements of Title 30-A M.R.S.A § 5202 and HUD must be submitted to OCD. *These demonstrations must be made as part of the* Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective submitted to OCD.

8. Selection Process – The selection process will consist of two stages

(a) Stage 1:

## Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective:

All communities wishing to submit a DR application must submit a Letter of Intent. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments may be

invited to make a full application. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

#### (b) Stage 2:

<u>Application</u>: The maximum length of an application is six pages, not counting required attachments.

Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

Each application will be rated in relation to all others. Members of the Review Team will assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area.

#### Impact (40 points):

- Describe the scope and magnitude of the problems you seek to address, and how they are obstacles for revitalizing the downtown. – 8 points
- Explain how these problems negatively impact the viability of existing downtown businesses, or new development and expansion. –12 points
- Demonstrate how the problems affect LMI persons, or how they contribute to slum/blight conditions. –8 points
- Explain why DR funds are necessary for the project, and describe what efforts have been made and where you have searched to secure other grant or loan funds, -12 points

#### **Development of Strategy (40 points):**

- Clearly link the proposed DR activities to action steps outlined in your community's Downtown Plan, and explain how the project will stimulate economic activity in the downtown. –12 points
- List the specific activities to be addressed in this downtown revitalization effort, and identify the tasks to be undertaken with DR funds and the activities to be undertaken with each other source of funds. –12 points
- Define how the proposed DR activities provide a solution to the problems and assist in improving the area's viability, and how the activities will have a positive impact on LMI persons, or on alleviation of the slum/blight conditions. –8 points
- Describe the capacity and experience of the administrator who will be implementing the project, describe the engineering and design work completed to date, provide a project timeline, and explain how DR funds will be expended in a timely manner. – -8 points

#### Citizen Participation (20 points):

 Effective use of media (newspapers, radio, TV, web etc.) to further public awareness and participation. – 4 points

- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing comments (not counting required public hearing) and the overall citizen participation process in application and project development. – 4 points
- Involvement of downtown and local businesses, Chambers of Commerce, development groups or other business related organizations in identification of problems and development of the application and project. – 4 points
- Involvement of potential LMI project beneficiaries in development of the application and project, and how the required public hearing relates to the application development and citizen participation process. – 4 points
- How other local resources (cash and in-kind) are directly related to the project, and the establishment of a cash value equivalent for all in-kind commitments. – 4 points

<u>Maine Downtown Center Designation Bonus</u> – 3 bonus points will be assigned to each applicant community designated as a Main Street Maine Community by the Maine Downtown Center, and a 1 bonus point will be awarded to those communities designated as a member of the Maine Downtown Network.

**Business Friendly Community Designation Bonus** – **3 bonus points** will be assigned to each applicant community certified as a Business-Friendly Community at time of application.

**9. Final Application Score** – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team added to any applicable Maine Downtown Center Bonus and Business Friendly Community Bonus. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow.

## F. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Workforce Development Grant (WDG) Program addresses community and business resource needs by providing funding for operating expenses, equipment, and program materials for workforce training programs which will benefit low/moderate income (LMI) persons.

**1. Eligible Activities:** Eligible activities include operating and program material expenses for the purpose of providing workforce training and skills development to address the shortage of an available trained workforce. Other eligible public service activities associated with the project are allowed. Planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase are eligible activities. Structural changes such as construction, renovation, or rehabilitation and out-of state travel costs, including airfare, lodging and meals are <u>not</u> eligible for WDG funding. Program development and marketing materials are also <u>not</u> eligible expenses under this grant.

**2. Project Benefit:** Eligible WDG projects must provide benefits to one of the groups of persons listed below and be in support of an identified business or non-profit entity:

(a) Participants in a program where 51% or greater of the persons receiving benefit from WDG activities are determined to be LMI.

(b) Persons who are members of the following groups that are currently presumed by HUD to meet benefit requirements. The presumption may be challenged if there is substantial evidence the group served by the project is most likely not comprised of principally LMI persons;

- Abused Children (Does not include "at-risk" youth)
- Battered Spouses (Does not include all victims of domestic violence)
- Elderly Persons (62 years +, or 55 years + for housing)
- Severely Disabled Adults
- Homeless Persons
- Illiterate Adults
- Migrant Farm Workers
- Persons Living with AIDS

3. All communities applying for WDG funds must certify that: The activity represents a new service to the community; or a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service;

#### 4. Maximum WDG Amount: \$50,000

5. Selection Process: The selection process will consist of two stages

(a) Stage 1:

**Letter of Intent:** All communities wishing to submit a WDG application must submit a Letter of Intent. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments will be invited to make a full application.

#### (b) Stage 2:

<u>Application:</u> The maximum length of an application is **four pages, not counting required attachments**. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

Members of the Review Team will assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area. A maximum of 100 points is obtainable.

#### Impact (40 points):

- Conditions requiring a new or expanded service 15 points
- Issues faced by service providers including capacity, finances and staffing – 15 points
- Why WDG funds are critical for the project 10 points

#### Development Strategy (40 points):

- A description of the new or expanded service, specific use of WDG funds, including how this service will resolve identified problems, and why this service will be more effective than existing services for the targeted beneficiaries – 10 points
- How WD funds will be utilized to assist LMI persons or a HUD approved Limited Clientele group – 10 points
- Project timeline, including a start date, tasks completed to date, how WDG funds will be expended in a timely manner, and method of tracking success – 10 points
- Capacity and qualifications of the service provider implementing the project, including familiarity with the needs of project beneficiaries – 10 points

### Citizen Participation (20 points):

- How overall citizen participation process directly relates to identification of solution strategies and application development - 5 points
- Effective use of any media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.) to further public awareness and participation – 5 points
- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing activities/comments (not counting required public hearing) on application and project development – 5 points
- Involvement of potential LMI project beneficiaries in development of the application and project and how the required public hearing relates to the application development and citizen participation process – 5 points

**6. Final Application Score** – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow.

## G. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

The Small Business Development Center Technical Assistance (SBDCTA) provides funding for the provision of technical assistance to Maine micro-enterprise businesses through a partnership with Maine's Small Business Development Centers.

**1. Special Threshold Criteria and Certifications:** SBDCTA will be distributed through a set aside of CDBG funds provided to the County of Aroostook as the lead community. The lead community will establish a legally binding contract with the SBDC as approved by OCD.

#### (a) Eligible Activities:

(i) Eligible activities under the SBDCTA are technical assistance to verified Maine micro-enterprise businesses and potential start-up companies which can be reasonably expected to become a micro-enterprise business.

#### (b) Communities ineligible for SBDCTA Assistance:

(i) Micro-enterprise businesses and potential start-up companies located in the communities of Auburn, Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, Portland and all of Cumberland County with the exception of Baldwin, Brunswick, Casco, Frye Island and Westbrook are not eligible for financial assistance under the SBDCTA.

## I. URGENT NEED GRANT PROGRAM

The Urgent need Grant (UN) Program provides funding to communities to address serious and immediate threats to health and welfare which are declared state or federal disasters.

**1. Project Eligibility:** Pursuant to Section 104 (b) 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (see 24 CFR Section 570.483(d)), the applicant must address a community development need which meets all four criteria listed below:

(a) poses a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community;

(b) originated or became a direct threat to public health and safety no more than 18 months prior to submission of the application;

(c) is a project the applicant cannot finance on its own. "Cannot finance on its own" means, that the town's tax burden, regulatory structure, utility user fees, bonding capacity, or previous or existing budgetary commitments, precludes it from assuming the additional financial obligation needed for this project; and

(d) cannot be addressed with other sources of funding.

#### 2. Program Requirements:

(a) Necessary Documentation: The emergency situation must require immediate action to alleviate the serious and imminent threat of injury or loss of life resulting from a natural or man-made cause.

(b) State or Federal Declaration of Disaster: The applicant must submit documentation that the project to be assisted with UN funds will take place in an area that has received a state or federal declaration of disaster. In addition, the activities to be assisted must be a direct result of the event leading to the declaration. This requirement may be waived by the Director of OCD with just cause.

(c) Application Submittal: Applicants must submit a complete UN application that includes all required information and documentation.

**3. Selection Process:** The selection process will consist of two stages: an application phase and a project development phase.

(a) Stage 1:

Application: An UN application must include the following:

 documentation that the emergency situation was prompted by natural or manmade causes that pose an imminent threat of injury or loss of life;

- certification that the proposal is designed to address an urgent need and an immediate response is required to halt the threat of injury or loss of life;
- information regarding when the urgent need condition occurred or developed into a threat to health and safety;
- evidence confirming the applicant is unable to finance implementation on its own; and,
- documentation that other financial resources are not available to implement the proposal.
- a copy of a state or federal declaration of disaster.

#### (b) Stage 2:

**Project Development:** Prior to consideration of a grant award, all UN proposals must meet the four eligibility criteria listed above and the Program requirements. Project Development Phase applications must comply with the following:

**Project Planning:** Details of the project including engineering, cost analysis, feasibility, and structural analysis as necessary.

**Management Plan:** Details of the structure and methods established by the community for program management.

**Regulations:** Project Development Phase applications will be reviewed for compliance with State and Federal regulations.

**4.** Approval Process: Applications will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Following receipt of an application, OCD shall review the application and verify that it contains all the required information. Eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase may be included in the UN grant total. Notification to the applicant of the Office of Community Development's decision will initiate the Project Development Phase process necessary for contract award.

# J. SPECIAL PROJECTS PROGRAM

The Special Projects Program provides funds to projects that are not funded through the normal CDBG application process. SP funds will be used for alternative OCD grant activities and partnerships that meet the community or economic development needs of municipalities and CDBG National Objectives in the State of Maine. Approval for the use of SPMF funds is through the Director, Office of Community Development.

## SECTION 3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

## A. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development program (EDP) provides communities with <u>gap</u> funding to assist identified businesses in the creation/retention of jobs for low-and moderate-income persons.

#### 1. Eligible Activities by Group Number:

## Group Numbers

#### Maximum Award

\$500.000\*

a) Grants to Municipalities: for acquisition, relocation, demolition, clearance, construction, reconstruction, installation and rehabilitation <u>associated with</u> public infrastructure projects such as water and sewer improvements, flood and drainage improvements, broadband/wireless access, publicly-owned commercial and industrial buildings, parking, streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, etc. All public infrastructure must be owned by the municipality or public or private utility and be in support of an identified business.

**b)** Grants to Municipalities for Direct Business Support: \$500,000\* for capital and non-capital equipment, land and site improvements,

rehabilitation or construction of commercial or industrial buildings, job training, working capital and capital equipment and be in support of an identified business. Acquisition is <u>not</u> an allowable activity under this group.

#### 2. Exclusions:

- Applicants may apply in only one specific activity group
- EDP funds cannot be used to refinance existing debt.
- All EDP activities must be in support of an identified business; speculative activities are excluded.
- Communities receiving an EDP award may not receive any other EDP award for the same project or business during the same program year or for the same project or business from a prior program year that has not met final closeout status.
- Communities received an EDP award, for the same business in a prior year, must document, at submission of Letter of Intent, employment baseline information to show the company is at or above the employment number achieved as a result of previous CDBG assistance.
- \*Start-up businesses are limited to a maximum grant award of \$250,000
- Waivers to increase the maximum grant award amount, in instances where the impact of the project is substantial and can be documented, both through project investment and job creation, may be requested to the Director of the Office of Community Development.

**3. Project Benefit:** All projects must document that at a minimum, 51% of all jobs created or retained as a result of the funded activity must be taken/held by persons of low and moderate income as defined by HUD. Jobs created/retained must be in the

community applying for the EDP award, new jobs to that community and not associated with any other branches of the assisted business located in another community. Transfer positions cannot be counted toward the job creation/retention requirements. In the event that job creation requirements are not met, the applicant community will be responsible for immediate repayment to DECD of all CDBG funds expended on the project.

**4. Program Dollars per Job:** The maximum CDBG participation per job created or retained with EDP funds is \$30,000.

**5. Full Time permanent Jobs:** In determining CDBG National Objective compliance with jobs created or retained only **Permanent** jobs may be counted; temporary jobs may not. Full time jobs require a worker to work at least 1750 hours per year. Part time jobs require a worker to work at least 875 hours but less than 1750 hours per year. Part-time jobs **must** be converted to Full Time Equivalents (FTE). An FTE is defined as two part time jobs. **Seasonal** jobs <u>may</u> count only if the seasonal job lasts long enough and provides sufficient income to be considered the employee's principal occupation. (Contact OCD prior to counting seasonal jobs towards LMI benefit.) **All** permanent jobs created by the project must be counted, regardless of funding source(s). Jobs indirectly created by the project (i.e., remote location, "trickle down" jobs) do not count.

6. Maximum Project Size for Utilizing EDP Funds: \$3,000,000 Phasing of projects to make the total cost appear to be below the maximum project size is expressly forbidden.

## 7. Program Requirements:

#### (a) EDP Letter of Intent Due Dates:

All communities wishing to submit an EDP application must submit a Letter of Intent. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments will be invited to make a full application.

(b) EDP Application Due Dates: By invitation only as a result of accepted Letter of Intent. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

(c) Necessary and Appropriate: EDP assistance to a business must be for projects that are necessary and appropriate. The application must describe the need for program assistance, reasonableness of the amount requested, and assurance that the assistance provided is commensurate with the community benefits that will accrue from the project. Documentation must be provided that the project cannot proceed without program participation and that program funds provide gap financing.

(d) Compliance with Benefit Certification Requirements: The business and the applicant community, under the direction of the Program Manager assigned to the project, must comply with documentation requirements for jobs created/jobs retained on a project including but not limited to benefit surveys, income verification and periodic reporting that the Office of Community Development may require.

(e) EDP Matching Funds Requirements: Communities applying for Economic Development Program funds must certify that a 100% cash match of the total EDP award will be provided. Matching funds must be directly related to the activities undertaken with EDP funding.

(f) EDP Projects in Support of Retail Businesses: OCD may accept an EDP application in support of a <u>retail</u> business activity only under the following limited conditions:

- The retail business represents the provisions of new products and services previously unavailable in the community or is a tourism-related business; and
- The development or expansion of the retail business represents a net economic gain for the community and the region. Applications supporting a retail business or businesses are required to certify that the development represents a new overall gain for the region's economy and not a shift from existing established businesses to a new or expanded one; and
- The retail business is located in either a downtown district meeting the definition in 30-A M.R.S. Section 4301 (5-A); or a designated local growth area contained in an adopted and consistent comprehensive plan; and
- At least 50% of the jobs created by the retail business must be full time jobs.

**9. Selection Process:** The selection process will consist of two stages. Members of the Review Team will assign a Review Point Total for each application reviewed. Review Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and any applicable bonus points. The following criteria will be used:

(a) Stage 1:

**Letter of Intent:** All communities wishing to submit an EDP application must first submit a Letter of Intent. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments may be invited to make a full application. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

(b) Stage 2:

<u>Application</u>: Members of the Review Team will assess the applications based on the following criteria:

## Problem Statement

Scope

- · Detail the problems or needs facing the community/business to be assisted.
- Tell how these problems relate to job creation or job retention activities.
- Describe how the overall financial viability of the community/business is affected by the problems or needs.

**Impact** Identify how employment opportunities for persons of low/moderate income are negatively affected by the identified problems.

Emphasize the importance of the affected business in relation to the stability
of the community/region and its current financial well being including property
tax analysis before and after the proposed activities.

**Need** Identify reasons why the community/business is unable to finance the proposed project on its own, or with assistance from other sources.

• Include a narrative that highlights any recent efforts by the community/business to assist job creation/retention activities.

#### Solution

**Project Description** Detail the activities that the community/business will undertake using EDP funds to resolve the problems/needs presented in the Problem Statement.

- Identify, in detail, the <u>specific</u> acquisition, equipment, real property improvements and/or fixtures that will be installed, modified, and upgraded, etc., with EDP funds.
- Explain how the solution directly solves the identified problems/needs.
- Include a firm figure of the number of jobs to be created or retained as a
  result of the project, and how these jobs relate to persons of low/moderate
  income.
- Clearly state the amount of EDP funds sought and how they will fit into the overall financing for the project.
- Include a graphic description (aerial photo, map, and sketch) of the sites involved. Provide a generalized location of the site relative to the community and a copy of a floodplain map showing the project location. Include existing and proposed site and/or building improvements.

#### Effect on Assisted Business

- Describe the effect the EDP award and completion of the project, as a whole, will have on the ability of the community/business to remain competitive, and create/retain quality jobs.
- Describe the market including identification of competitors, price structure, resource availability, operating/manufacturing costs, transportation costs, demand, and other factors influencing the marketability of the product or service proposed. Also identify all project risks and the extent of the risks.

#### **Project Timeline and Feasibility**

- Describe how the project is assured of successful completion within 12 months.
- Identify what work, such as pre-engineering, construction and improvements, or fixture purchases that have been completed, or are in process, and exactly how these relate to the proposed EDP project.
- Provide background information (including resumes) for the owners and/or managers of the business and specific information about the skills and experiences of the owners and/or managers as related to the successful management of the business and proposed project.

Include a concise timetable for project implementation.

## Citizen Participation

**Public Hearing Process** 

- Describe how citizen participation contributed to the actual development of this application, including how the required public hearing contributed to the process. (Submit a public hearing record consisting of the published public hearing notice, hearing minutes, and attendance list with the original and all three copies of the application.)
- Business/Local Involvement Outline other input from businesses, chambers of commerce, development organizations, local groups and individuals have had in increasing the citizen participation process for the proposed project.
  - Highlight how the use of any media (TV, radio, newspapers, etc.) increased public awareness and participation in the EDP project.

**10.** Business Friendly Community Designation Bonus – 3 bonus points will be assigned to each applicant community certified as a Business-Friendly Community at time of application.

**11. Final Score**. EDP applications will be awarded funding based on the consensus of the review team together with the analysis completed by OCD's financial underwriter.

**12. Project Development Phase:** The project development phase must be completed within 3 months from the date of award. The goal of this phase is a grant contract for CDBG funds. During this phase an OCD Development Program Manager will be assigned to work with the community to finalize their project. OCD reserves the right to rescind the CDBG program award of the community is not under contract within this time. The Office of Community Development may grant waivers for just cause.

## B. MICRO-ENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

The Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grant (MEA) Program provides grant funds to assist in innovative solutions to problems faced by micro-enterprise businesses. Assistance to businesses may be in the form of grants or loans at the discretion of the community.

1. Eligible Activities: Eligible activities under the <u>Micro-Enterprise Assistance</u> category are grants or loans to for-profit businesses that can be used for working capital and interior renovations, façade grants or loans for exterior improvements, including signage, painting, siding, awnings, lighting, display windows and other approved improvements; and eligible planning activities necessary to complete the Project Development Phase. Sewer, water, storm drainage, parking, roads or streets and other infrastructure improvements and buildings solely for residential use are not eligible.

2. Exclusions: See Section 1H (3)

**3.** Micro-Enterprise Assistance Loan Repayments – Communities that establish Micro-Enterprise Assistance as loans, and anticipate receiving \$35,000 or more in loan repayments, must utilize the services of a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) or a Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) as defined in Section 105(a)(15) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, to manage repayments and subsequent relending. Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grants will be structured as forgivable loans.

4. Maximum MEA Grant Amount: \$150,000 per Community per year.

**5. Maximum Amount of Micro-Enterprise Assistance to an individual Business:** \$50,000

#### 6. Project Benefit:

- (a) Micro-Enterprise Grant/Loan: Existing or developing businesses that have five or fewer employees, one of whom owns the enterprise, and whose family income is LMI will meet the project benefit. Applicants will need to submit a copy of their 2015 Income Tax filing. For those businesses whose owners are Low-to moderate-income existing employees' incomes are not considered in meeting project benefit.
- (b) Businesses with owners who do not qualify as low-to moderate-income must create up to two (2) full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs (depending on funds requested), which must be taken by low-to moderate-income individuals. Proof of employee income will be required. Businesses applying for MEA funds must have a business plan not older than 18 months and must have met with a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) business counselor in the three months prior to submitting an application for assistance.
- (c) Business Facade Grants: Project benefit will be met when exterior improvements and signage on an existing business take place in a designated slum/blight area, or documentation exists that a business qualifies under a spot blight basis.

**7. Demonstration of National Objective:** Applicants must demonstrate that the project meets the National Objective of 1) assisting existing or developing businesses that have five or fewer employees, one of whom owns the enterprise, and whose family income is LMI, or 2) creating up to two FTE jobs which must be taken by low- to moderate income individuals, or 3) preventing or eliminating slum or blighting conditions conforming to the requirements of Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 5202 and HUD,. *These demonstrations must be made as part of the* Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective submitted to OCD

8. Selection Process: The selection process will consist of two stages:

(a) Stage 1:

**Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective:** All communities wishing to submit a MEA application must submit a Letter of Intent and Verification of CDBG National Objective to OCD. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates. After review for completeness and eligibility, units of general local governments will be invited to make a full application.

#### (b) Stage 2:

<u>Application</u>: The maximum length of an application is **four pages**, **not counting required attachments**. Please refer to Page 5 of this document for Program deadlines and due dates.

Members of the Review Team will assign a Point Total for each application reviewed. Point Totals will consist of the sum of the three scoring areas below and be determined by the total of each sub-scoring area. A maximum of 100 points is obtainable.

#### Impact (40 points):

- State the problem and explain how it negatively impacts the local economy. – 30 points
- Explain why MEA funds are necessary for the project; describe efforts to secure other grant or loan funds, and tell why they are not are available locally to assist – 10 points

#### Development Strategy (40 points):

- Provide Identification and description of potential business grant/loan applicants and their needs – 15 points
- Explain how the MEA project will stimulate business and assist in improving the area's long-term viability. – 15 points
- Provide a project timeline; list activities or actions completed to date. 10 points

## Citizen Participation (20 points):

- Effective use of any media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.). 5 points
- Relevance of listed meeting/hearing activities/comments (not counting required public hearing) in application and project development. – 5 points
- Involvement of downtown and local businesses, Chambers of Commerce, development groups or other business related organizations in development of the application and project. – 5 points
- How other local resources (cash and in-kind) are directly related to the project. – 5 points

**9. Business Friendly Community Designation Bonus – 3 bonus points** will be assigned to each applicant community certified as a Business-Friendly Community at time of application.

**10. Final Score** – Each application will receive a Final Application Score consisting of the average of the scores assigned by members of the Review Team, added to any applicable Business Friendly Community Bonus. Starting at the top of the scoring list, applicants will be invited to proceed to the Project Development Phase as funds allow.

## SECTION 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Office of Community Development will use Technical Assistance funds to: conduct workshops, produce program materials, implement the CDBG Administrator's Certification Training Program, and provide technical assistance and outreach to communities.

Regional Providers will provide planning assistance to units of general local government in identifying community & economic development needs, developing, and administering CDBG projects. For purposes of this paragraph the term "*planning assistance*" means the facilitating of skills and knowledge in planning, developing, and administering CDBG activities for entities in non-entitlement areas that may need but do not possess such skills and knowledge.

## SECTION 5. REDISTRIBUTION OF GRANT FUNDS

This section describes the methods by which undistributed funds, disencumbered funds, additional funds received from HUD, and program income will be redistributed.

**1. Local Government Grants from the State:** Applicants receiving grants under the 2017 CDBG program but failing to have their projects substantially underway (environmental review complete, program costs obligated, construction or services begun) within six months of grant award, may have their grant rescinded by DECD. Rescinded grant funds may be added to any open CDBG contract and can be used to make additional awards under any eligible CDBG program activity.

Unexpended funds remaining in the grantee's CDBG account at grant closeout, funds remaining in a grantee's award but not requested upon grant closeout, and funds returned to DECD because of disallowed costs may be added to any open CDBG contract and can be used to make additional awards under any eligible CDBG program activity.

**2. Unallocated State Grants to Local Governments:** Unallocated grant funds resulting from lack of adequate program competition or demand in any of the available 2017 CDBG programs and any additional funds allocated by HUD may be added to any open CDBG contract and can be used to make additional awards under any eligible CDBG program activity.

**3. Basis for Redistribution:** The decision to redistribute funds will be made after staff evaluation of the following: the total funds available, new requests for funding, requests for additional funding from current CDBG grantees and applicants for competitions that did not receive funding. The OCD may redistribute available funds to any project deemed to be in the best interest of, and that offer CDBG definable benefits to the State of Maine.

#### SECTION 6. PROGRAM INCOME

As used in this Proposed Statement, "Program Income" means the gross income received by a grantee from any grant-supported activity in excess of \$35,000. Applicants will refer to the CDBG Regulations and the Maine Office of Community Development policies on program income.

## SECTION 7. APPEALS

Appeals of award decisions are restricted to errors of fact or procedure. Appeals in the areas of judgment qualitative scoring will not be entertained. In the case of a successful appeal, funds will be reserved for the project from available or subsequent CDBG funds.

An applicant wishing to appeal DECD's decision regarding their 2017 application restricted to errors of fact or procedure, may do so by submitting an appeal letter to the Director of the Office of Community Development within fifteen (15) days of the award announcement for that specific program.

## SECTION 8. AMENDMENTS TO THE PROGRAM STATEMENT

The State may amend the 2017 Program Statement from time to time in accordance with the same procedures required for the preparation and submission of the program statement. The State of Maine's Administrative Procedures Act and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's citizen participation process will guide the amendment process.



# BY CONTACTING:

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 111 SEWALL STREET, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR 59 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0059 TELEPHONE (207) 624-7484 TTY: 1-800-437-1220

ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEB SITE:

www.meocd.org

The Maine CDBG Program is Funded by:





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

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9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:  A: St.31.4. Rovertment  Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type  Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant 4: Select Applicant	
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* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Projact:	
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Application for Federal Assist	ance SF-424
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
ria, Appisant [1]	*b. Program/Project
Attach an additional list of Program/Proj	oot Congressional Districts if nearled.
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* a. Stan Date: 01/01/2027	* b. End Data: [//1/(00/7
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
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* 19. Is Application Subject to Revie	w Ry State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?
🔲 a. This application was made av	aliable to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on I
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14. Areas Affected by Project (Cittes Countles, States, etc.):	
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Artach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.	

Application for Federal Assistance	SF-424
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicent	, p 1,uočisun <sub>b</sub> ;olect [177]
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17. Proposed Project:	
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Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	80 80 40
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#### STATE CERTIFICATIONS

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

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing - The State will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

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

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on hehalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement:

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriatesi funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attenroting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or couployee of Congress, or an eroployee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcentracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of State -- The submission of the consolidated plan is authorized under State law and the State possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs under the consolidated plan for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the State's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

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Director Office of Community Development Title

#### Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The State certifies that:

**Citizen Participation** -- It is following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR §91.115 and each unit of general local government that receives assistance from the State is following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR §570.486.

#### Consultation with Local Governments --

1. It has consulted with affected units of local government in the nonentitlement area of the State in determining the method of distribution of funding;

2. It engages in or will engage in planning for community development activities;

It provides or will provide technical assistance to units of local government in connection with community development programs; and

4. It will not refuse to distribute funds to any unit of general local government on the basis of the particular eligible activity selected by the anit of general local government to meet its community development needs, except that a State is not prevented from establishing priorities in distributing funding on the basis of the activities selected.

**Local Needs Identification** – It will require each unit of general local government to be funded to identify its community development and housing needs, including the needs of low-income and moderate-income families, and the activities to be undertaken to meet these needs.

**Community Development Plan** -- its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing reeds and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable orban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

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

 <u>Maximum Feasible Priority</u>. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG (ands, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit iow and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available.

2. <u>Overall Benetit</u>. In the aggregate, not less than 70 percent of the CDBO finds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, received by the State during the following fiscal year(s) <u>sanuary 1, 2017-December31, 2017</u>[a period designated by the State of one, two, or three specific consecutive tiscal year(s)] will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG Funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

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

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds. to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It will require units of general local government that receive CDBG funds to certify that they have adopted and are enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and

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

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws - The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Compliance with Laws h will comply with applicable laws.

iture of Authorized Official

06/21/2017 Date

**Director Office of Community Development** Title

#### Specific HOME Certifications

The State certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to use HOME funds for tenant-based rental assistance, tonant-based rental assistance is an essential element of the State's consolidated plan.

**Eligible Activities and Costs** -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CPR §92.205 through §92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prchibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy Layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, the State or its recipionts will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing.

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#### **Emergency Solutions Grant Certifications**

Each State that seeks funding under the Emergency Solutions Grams Program must provide the following certifications:

Matching Funds -- The State will obtain any matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201 in a manner so that its subrecipients that are least capable of providing matching amounts receive the benefit of the exception under 24 CFR 576.201(a)(2).

Discharge Policy -- The State will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, toster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

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

The State will ensure that its subrecipients comply with the following criteria:

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

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

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

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

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

Consolidated Plan - All activities the subrecipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with the State's current HUD-approved consolidated plan.

sature of Authonized Official

629.17 Date

**Annual Action Plan** 

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