

2022/2023 Annual Action Plan

The current FY 2023/24 Substantial Amendment to the 2022/23 Action Plan was required by HUD in order to adjust unspent balances of completed CDBG Public Services Activities in the amount of \$8,305.00 to create a new project called Meals on Wheels PLUS – Food Bank Expansion Pre-Development.

This Substantial Amendment was release for the required 30-day public comment period between December 29, 2023 and January 29, 2024, and the Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on January 23, 2024 to provide an opportunity for the public to comment prior to its adoption.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Manatee County, FL has completed the planning process for the 2017/2018-2022/2023 Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan) as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to identify goals, objectives and strategies for addressing housing and community development needs, including those of the homeless and other special needs populations. The Manatee County Consolidated Plan guides the use of County resources to address these needs over a six-year period. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Manatee County Board of Commissioners has approved a one-year extension to the current Consolidated Plan to include a sixth year, Program Year 2022/2023. This Annual Action Plan will serve as the final year of the current Consolidated Plan.

The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan.

For the Program Year 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, the County anticipates an annual allocation which includes \$1,787,068 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$675,391 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and \$160,076 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The county expects \$95,579 in HOME program income. In total, Manatee County received approximately

\$2,718,114 in federal funding for the Annual Action Plan program year that will begin on October 1, 2022 and will expire on September 30, 2023.

The Annual Action Plan is developed in a manner specified by HUD, and the County has followed the prescribed format in completing the plan. The Annual Action Plan was developed using HUD and U.S. Census data for demographics and housing, input from public meetings, Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meetings, and past program performance. During the planning process, the County conducted public meetings with citizens and stakeholders, meetings and consultation with non-profit groups, and a public hearing with the BOCC. The purpose of this process was to receive citizen input on current year funding allocations and community development needs of the County to ensure that this Annual Action Plan is a citizen-driven plan.

There are five major areas of focus in the Consolidated Plan: Housing, Public/Social Services, Community Development/Public Improvements, Economic Development, and Emergency/Disaster Response. The Consolidated Plan process requires Manatee County to identify priority needs for each area and prepare an Annual Action Plan to address the priority needs. For every priority need, there are goals, objectives and strategies established to measure progress. Citizen input was critical in developing the goals, objectives, and strategies of this Consolidated Plan.

This Consolidated Plan not only presents goals to address the priority needs of the County, but also to address the following statutory goals established by Federal law:

Statutory Goals

Decent Housing:

- Assist homeless persons to obtain affordable housing
- Assist persons at risk of becoming homeless
- Retain affordable housing stock
- Increase the availability of affordable housing in standard condition to low- and moderate-income families, particularly to economically disadvantaged persons (and without discrimination on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, age, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation)
- Increase the supply of supportive housing which includes structural features and services to enable persons with special needs (including persons with HIV/AIDS) to live in dignity and independence
- Provide affordable housing that is accessible to job opportunities

A Suitable Living Environment:

- Improve the safety and livability of neighborhoods
- Increase access to quality public and private facilities and services

Expanded Economic Opportunities:

- Job creation and retention for low-income persons
- Availability of mortgage financing for low-income persons at reasonable rates using nondiscriminatory lending practices
- Empowerment and self-sufficiency for low-income persons to reduce generational poverty in federally assisted housing.

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.

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan identifies five goals, along with corresponding objectives to address Manatee County housing and community development needs. These goals are summarized as follows:

Goal: Housing: Improve availability, accessibility, and condition of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income and special needs households throughout Manatee County.

- Increase the supply of and/or reduce barriers to affordable housing units for low- and moderate-income and special needs households.
- Preserve, maintain and improve existing affordable housing stock for low- and moderate-income and special needs households.
- Provide rental assistance program for homeless persons.
- Assist low- and moderate-income and special needs households to obtain and maintain homeownership (homebuyer education, foreclosure prevention).
- Expand Fair Housing outreach and improve Fair Housing enforcement within Manatee County.

Goal: Social/Public Services: Expand the accessibility and coordination of social services to Manatee County low- and moderate-income, homeless, and special needs populations.

- Reduce and prevent homelessness in Manatee County.
- Support programs that provide services to special needs populations.

- Support public services for low- and moderate-income persons with priority given to protected classes.
- Partner with community resources and local non-profit agencies to provide services that reduce poverty concentration (childcare, financial literacy, English as a second language, etc.).

Goal: Community Development/Public Improvements: Enhance the living environment of low- and moderate-income, homeless, and special needs populations through public improvement projects and activities.

- Improve public infrastructure within HUD designated low- and moderate-income areas (i.e. street lighting, sidewalks, drainage improvements, road improvements etc.)
- Improve existing or develop new public facilities that service HUD designated low- and moderate- income areas or benefit low- and moderate- income persons or special needs populations (i.e. Libraries, Community Centers, Youth Recreational Facilities, Senior Centers etc.).
- Reduce blight within HUD-designated low- and moderate-income areas and Racially and Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP) to spur reinvestment and redevelopment.

Goal: Economic Development: Support programs that create economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons or within the designated low- and moderate-income areas.

- Support institutions, agencies, and programs that provide education and employment training opportunities to low- and moderate-income persons.
- Support businesses and commercial buildings through an exterior rehab/façade program within low- and moderate-income areas with priority given to R/ECAP areas.

Goal: Emergency/Disaster Response: To plan, prevent, prepare, and respond to a community emergency and/or disaster event.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

In previous program years the County has made significant progress in efforts to implement HUD entitlement programs. The County is in compliance with HUD regulations and continues to deliver housing and community development services in an efficient manner. With the Coronavirus pandemic there was a delay in all construction projects during 2020 and a slow restart of construction activities in 2021. While construction resumed in 2021 the delay in construction projects has impact Manatee County's timeline for expenditures for these activities.

The Community and Veterans Services Department is a Manatee County Department which works to improve the quality of life for County residents through improved economic opportunities and to revitalize areas by providing decent and safe affordable housing. The Community and Veterans Services Department is in charge of implementing the HUD programs.

The Community and Veterans Services Department also offers an array of housing programs and services providing the foundation needed to aid in promoting homeownership and/or sustainable neighborhoods:

- Housing Rehabilitation Program
- Housing Replacement
- Down payment Assistance
- Park Improvements
- Blight Removal
- Infrastructure Improvements

Additionally, the County has previously funded projects and activities through the CDBG program, as follows:

- Community Coalition on Homeless – One Stop Center
- Kelly Brown Resource Center
- 57th Street West Sidewalks
- Street Re-Paving
- Lincoln Park Splash Pad and Park Improvements
- Pride Park Improvements
- Washington Park Improvements
- Replacement Housing Projects
- United Community Center
- Hope Landing Infrastructure and Playground
- Homeowner Rehab Program
- Meals on Wheels
- Microbusiness Development
- Code Enforcement
- Rental Housing Assistance
- Jim Russo Prison Ministries -Transitional Housing for Ex-Offenders
- Sidewalk Projects
- In Home Care to Elderly
- Homeless Prevention

Additionally, the County prepared a substantial amendment to the 2017/2022 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan to incorporate CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding that was allocated in the CARES

Act. The County has been actively administering CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus. Planned activities include homeless outreach, emergency tenant based rental assistance, food assistance, legal assistance, worker retraining, hygiene stations, and financial coaching.

The County has been successful in implementing these programs in the past and anticipates the continuation of such programs in the future. The County will use CDBG, HOME, ESG, and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds to make these programs successful and to meet the goals and objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Manatee County, Florida, is the lead agency responsible for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. The Community and Veterans Services Department is the internal department that is responsible for the day-to-day administration of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding. However, the Community and Veterans Services Department does work with the County Commission, County Departments, in addition to residents, sub-recipients, and community organizations to develop a meaningful document.

The development of the Annual Action Plan was based on the Consolidated Plan and numerous other studies, plans and reports that have been prepared in recent years. Some of the primary documents included the County's Local Housing Incentives Strategy and Local Housing Assistance Plan, and the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Report and Annual Homeless Assessment Reports, and the 2017 Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), among others.

To maximize citizen participation, staff conducted outreach through a series of public notices, meetings, and hearings. As part of these efforts, low- and moderate-income residents, as well as service providers, were encouraged to provide input on the Annual Action Plan. Details of these efforts can be found in **Table 4**.

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.

Based on input and data received through an extensive citizen participation process, the following summarizes the public comments:

Comments Regarding Community Needs

Although there are many issues that the public felt were important, there are a few items that were stressed throughout the public meetings as being of the highest priority as identified in the priority needs section in the Strategic Plan and addressed in this report:

- Increase Supply of Affordable Housing
- Quality of Housing
- Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services
- Elimination of Slum and Blight
- Fair Housing
- Legal Services
- Street Lighting
- Public Facilities Improvements
- Youth Centers and Programs
- Senior/Elderly Facilities and Services (Meals, Adult Daycare, Nutrition Training, Companion Services, Funding)
- Road Resurfacing/Construction
- Sidewalk Improvements
- Drainage Improvements
- Homeless Prevention, Services, and Shelters
- Rapid Rehousing
- Transportation Services
- Affordable and Accessible Child Care Services
- Employment Training (Mentoring and training)
- Exterior Rehabilitation of Commercial Structures

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

All comments received by Manatee County were considered and are, generally or specifically, addressed by the Strategic Plan and/or Annual Action Plan. Documentation of all comments received is included as an appendix (PDF format) to the Plan submittal.

7. Summary

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		Community and Veterans Services Department
HOME Administrator		Community and Veterans Services Department
ESG Administrator		Community and Veterans Services Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Manatee County, Florida, is the lead agency responsible for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The Community and Veterans Services Department is the internal department that is responsible for the day-to-day administration of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding. However, the Community and Veterans Services Department does work with both the County Commission and County Departments in addition to residents, sub-recipients, and community organizations to develop a meaningful document.

To maximize citizen participation, staff conducted outreach through a series of public notices, meetings, and hearings. As part of these efforts, low- and moderate-income residents, as well as service providers, were encouraged to provide input on the Annual Action Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Inquiries, comments, or complaints concerning the Plan, any amendments, or performance reports, can be conveyed by contacting County staff at:

Manatee County Community and Veterans Services Department

1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 300

Bradenton, FL 34205

Telephone: (941) 748-4501, ext. 6858

Jennifer.yost@mymanatee.org

Business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Written complaints may also be made to the Jacksonville Field Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at the following address:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Planning and Development Division

400 West Bay St., Ste. 1015

Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: (904) 232-2627

Fax: (904) 232-3759

Business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

Manatee County uses a collaborative process to shape various programs into effective and coordinated strategies. The process also facilitates the opportunity for planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context, attempting to reduce duplication of efforts at the local level.

The County will implement this Annual Action Plan in coordination with public, private and nonprofit agencies. Nonprofit agencies may include, but are not limited to, service providers and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). Private sector partners may include, but are not limited to, local financial institutions, developers and local businesses. Public entities may include Manatee County Departments. The County works closely with its partners to design programs that address identified needs.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

Institutional coordination of the Consolidated Plan establishes a unified vision for community development. The County uses a collaborative process to shape various programs into effective, coordinated strategies. This process also facilitates the opportunity for planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context, attempting to reduce duplication of effort at the local level.

The County will implement this Annual Action Plan in coordination with public, private, and non-profit agencies. Non-profit agencies may include, but are not limited to, service providers and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). Private sector partners may include, but are not limited to, local financial institutions, developers, and local businesses. The County works closely with its partners to design programs that address identified needs.

Table 2 outlines the types of agencies and organizations consulted throughout the program year and during the development of the Manatee County Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan. Organizations consulted included various service providers, CHDOs, Manatee County Housing Authority (MCHA), Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, County Departments, and the County Commission, among others.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The County coordinates with the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness through its PIT and Homeless Assessment reports and with residents through community meetings. This consultation was pivotal in preparing the Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan components of the Consolidated Plan. In addition, through consultation and review of the most recent Public Housing Authority Plan and other HUD reports, the MCHA also provided pivotal input in preparing the Consolidated Plan through input collected in the recent AFH process.

Through the public participation process the County conducted several meetings to gain input from the public. Invitations were sent to the CoC in addition to several agencies that provide services to the homeless population.

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

Manatee County receives and administers an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness is the regional Continuum of Care (CoC), which is comprised of 16 board members and six staff persons that work together to identify concerns and make policies and recommendations on homeless issues. The mission of the Suncoast Partnership is to prevent and end homelessness in Manatee and Sarasota Counties. The Suncoast Partnership envisions a community where everyone has the opportunity to have a home.

The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, as the lead agency for the area's CoC, utilizes the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data, Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Report, and other documents including the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness to inform the allocation of funds, develop policies and procedures, and evaluate outcomes annually. Consultation with the CoC for the Consolidated Plan included research of the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness annual reports and plans, as well as input from community meetings, public hearings, and notices.

Annually, Manatee County enters into a funding agreement with Turning Points, who coordinates with the CoC to appropriately allocate and administer ESG funds. The County aims to leverage these ESG dollars with the CoC which already receives grant dollars from the State of Florida. By leveraging funds, the County can ensure that the ESG funds make the most positive impact possible.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	FL-500 Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings, Research of Annual Reports and Plans, Identification of Need, Referrals
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
3	Agency/Group/Organization	CareerSource Suncoast
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals

4	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Resources, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
5	Agency/Group/Organization	HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL OF SW FLORIDA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
6	Agency/Group/Organization	HOPE FAMILY SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Jewish Family & Children's Service of the Suncoast
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Centerstone of Florida, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee Religious Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
10	Agency/Group/Organization	People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Pine Village Resident Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Samoset Neighborhood Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Neighborhood Group
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community meeting held to identify need and issues through the AFH and CPD processes
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Selah Freedom
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals

14	Agency/Group/Organization	Stillpoint
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Tidewell Hospice
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	AFH Goals and CPD Strategic Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings for AFH, Identification of Need, Referrals
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee County Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings, Research of Annual Reports and Plans, Identification of Need, Referrals
17	Agency/Group/Organization	MANATEE COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	County Departments)/ Grantee Departments
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Administration/ Community and Veterans Services Department/Public Works/Property Management/Neigh. Services/Planning & Zoning/Public Safety/Parks & Natural Resources, Identification of Need
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Advisory Board
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis 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?	Noticed for Focus Group Meetings, AHAC Meetings, for AFH and Consolidated Plan
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee County Board of County Commissioners
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Elected Officials

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis 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?	Noticed for Community Outreach Meetings, Work Sessions, Public Hearings, Confirmation of Strategy
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Housing Development Organizations
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee county Habitat for Humanity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
22	Agency/Group/Organization	AM & FM Enterprise, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Goodwill Manasota, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis 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 Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Educational Consultants Consortium, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis 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 Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need

25	Agency/Group/Organization	United Cerebral Palsy of SW Florida
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Genesis Health Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Society of St. Vincent De Paul
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need

28	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
29	Agency/Group/Organization	MEALS ON WHEELS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
30	Agency/Group/Organization	The Salvation Army A Georgia Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Solutions 360, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
32	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Manatee County, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
33	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
34	Agency/Group/Organization	Manasota SCORE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis 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 Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
35	Agency/Group/Organization	MANATEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis 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 Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee County Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis 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 Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need

37	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee Community Action Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
38	Agency/Group/Organization	Bridges International / Bridges of America
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Persons leaving prison/re-entry services
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
39	Agency/Group/Organization	Florida Department of Corrections
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Persons leaving prison/re-entry services
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
40	Agency/Group/Organization	Turning Points
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
41	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee County Federal Credit Union
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Banking/Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Attended Focus Group Meetings, Identification of Need
46	Agency/Group/Organization	Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	2022 Annual Action Plan

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Attended Focus Group Meetings</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Manatee County consulted with the lead agency for the CoC, local and county PHAs, affordable housing providers, various social service providers, County departments, and civic leaders. Additionally, the public, including but not limited to low- and moderate-income residents, residents within the County’s Racially and Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAP), and other entities impacted by housing and community development activities, were noticed of community meetings by email, website, and posters, and public hearings by newspaper advertisements.

Metropolitan or regional planning agencies were not consulted during Plan development. Through extensive outreach efforts, representatives from these agencies did not participate. Other agencies and organizations not directly consulted were consulted indirectly by research of published plans and reports.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	Continuum of Care/Services-Homeless - Aligned Strategic Plans
State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Local	Manatee County/ State of Florida	Housing

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Many of the programs and activities that will be carried out by the County during the program year will involve coordination with several agencies and organizations. The County actively administers the LHAP through state allocation for the creation and preservation of affordable housing to support the County's goals for Housing, Social/Public Services, Community Development/Public Improvements, Economic Development and Emergency/Disaster Response. At a minimum, implicit in these goals is the County's commitment to providing coordinated community, housing, and supportive services to its lower income residents. These services are provided through partnerships with government and quasi-government agencies, as well as respective planning efforts shown in **Table 3**. Manatee County will continue to encourage building partnerships between governments, lenders, builders, developers, real estate professionals, and advocates for low-income persons. Manatee County will continue to work with the building industry, banking industry, real estate industry, social service providers and other community groups to promote the development of affordable housing and related housing services.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

Housing Strategy

Housing strategies located within the Consolidated Plan were determined by using housing data provided by HUD and the U.S. Census Bureau. Customized HUD data is available to help communities evaluate housing and homeless needs. Complete summaries of this data are available in the Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the Consolidated Plan.

In addition, the County has a long and successful history of administering numerous housing programs and meeting housing needs. Several housing programs, particularly housing rehabilitation activities, have been underway for many years and provide good value to the community. In general, housing programs receive emphasis in Manatee County due to the large, ongoing need for housing services and affordable housing needs.

Social/Public Service Strategy

Social/Public Service strategies located within the Consolidated Plan were developed in several ways. First, the County consulted the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness annual PIT and homeless assessment reports to obtain the latest counts of the homeless population. The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness is the lead agency for homeless services and represents agencies that implement homeless services. The County also utilized data from HUD that details homelessness and homeless service providers, including the Sarasota, Bradenton/Manatee, Sarasota Counties CoC housing inventories. Finally, input from other service providers, stakeholders, and citizens through community meetings, community surveys, meetings with Community and Veterans Services Department staff proved most helpful in crafting the Social/Public Service strategy.

Community Development/Public Improvements Strategy

Community Development/Public Improvements strategies located within the Consolidated Plan were determined through community meetings, community surveys, meetings with County staff, and review of current planning activities. The County is working to leverage other planning efforts with funding opportunities where possible.

In addition, a focus group meeting was held with internal Department Heads and staff to discuss priority needs of various County Departments. To the extent possible, the Community and Veterans Services Department will plan to leverage County resources and efforts.

Economic Development Strategy

Economic Development Needs located within the Consolidated Plan were determined through community meetings, community surveys, and consultation with service providers. As with the social/public service and housing topics, HUD and the U.S. Census provide data on various economic development items. In addition, information collected from citizens, stakeholders, and service providers that are knowledgeable about economic development and could provide valuable information through the participation process.

Emergency/Disaster Response

Emergency/Disaster Need located within the Consolidated Plan was determined in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The development of the Annual Action Plan requires extensive citizen participation. For the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, Manatee County underwent an in-depth citizen participation process. HUD requires local jurisdictions to provide for citizen participation which encourages the development of the Annual Action Plan in cooperation with residents from every walk of life. In particular, HUD believes it is important to obtain the views of residents who live in low- and moderate- income areas, as well as service providers who deliver services to low-income and special needs residents.

The following section describes the public participation process that was completed for Manatee County in preparation of the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan. A summary of the public participation process is shown in **Table 4**.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	January 21, 2022	Receive citizen input on housing and community development needs. Summaries and/or minutes are provided in the Appendix of this document.	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
2	Public Meeting	Targeted: Lender Community	January 21, 2022; 26 Attendees	Several Lenders attended virtual meetings to discuss housing needs and gaps.	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	February 2, 2022	Several service providers attended virtual meeting to discuss family service and housing needs and gaps	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
4	Public Notice Advertisement	Non-targeted/broad community	February 15, 2022	Public Notification of Availability of Funds	No Comments	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	February/March 2022	Public Notification of Availability of Funds	No Comments	
6	Grant Application Workshop	Related Organizations	March 31, 2022; 37 Attendees	Agencies were provided guidance and answers related to grant applications	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
7	BOCC Regular Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	June 7, 2022	No Comments Received	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
8	30-Day Comment Period	Non-targeted/broad community	June 25, 2022 - July 26, 2022	No Comments Received	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
9	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	July 26, 2022	Final Adoption - Virtual and In-person. Comments included in the appendix of this report.	All comments are addressed within the AFH and CPD goals.	
<u>10</u>	<u>Substantial Amendment 30-Day Public Comment Period</u>	<u>Non-targeted/broad community</u>	<u>December 29, 2023 – January 29, 2024</u>		<u>N/A</u>	<u>www.mymanatee.org</u>

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)
<u>11</u>	<u>Substantial Amendment Public Hearing</u>	<u>Non-targeted/broad community</u>	<u>January 23, 2024</u>		<u>Resolution will be provided in Appendix</u>	<u>www.mymanatee.org</u>

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must identify the federal, state, local and private resources expected to be available to the County to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Strategic Plan. These resources are summarized in **Table 5**.

For the Program Year 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, the County anticipates an annual allocation which includes \$1,787,068 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$675,391 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and \$160,076 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The county expects \$95,579 in HOME program income. In total, Manatee County received approximately \$2,718,114 in federal funding for the Annual Action Plan program year that will begin on October 1, 2022 and will expire on September 30, 2023.

These funds will be used for CDBG eligible activities consistent with the current goals and objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan. CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds will be used for housing and community development activities including, but not limited to, increasing homeownership, providing existing homeownership assistance (e.g. housing rehabilitation), public services, infrastructure improvements, blight removal, homeless services/prevention and administration of the County's programs.

Other resources, such as private and non-Federal public sources may become available to the County during the program year. For CDBG leveraging, these include funding from State and Federal grant sources, County Departments (e.g. Public Works, Parks and Natural Resources, Building and Development Services, and Property Management), public or social service providers, or other sources. The County will also look to leverage funds and efforts through the Children's Services Dedicated Millage which funds an array of prevention, intervention and treatment programs for children birth through seventeen years of age, as authorized by County Ordinance #91-42 and associated amendments.

In addition, the half-cent Infrastructure Sales Tax (IST) is a possible source to fund infrastructure projects within designated low- and moderate-

income areas.

The Annual Action Plan must summarize the County’s priorities and the specific goals it intends to initiate and/or complete within the fifth year of the Strategic Plan. These goals must be described in quantitative terms. Manatee County has selected goal outcome indicators and quantities based on the anticipated performance measures of the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan. See **Table 8** and **Table 9**. It should be noted that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Manatee County has extended the 2017-2022 Consolidated Plan to include a sixth year, Program Year 2022/2023.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,787,068	0	0	1,787,068	0	Additional resources for leveraging may include other State and Federal grant sources, County Departments (Public Works, Property Management, Parks and Natural Resources, Building and Development), public service providers or other sources of funding.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	675,391	95,579	0	770,970	0	Additional resources for leveraging may include other State and Federal grant sources (SHIP, CDBG)

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	160,076	0	0	160,076	0	Funding to assist with homeless prevention and homeless services. May leverage resources from non-profit services providers, & non-federal resources.
Other	public - federal	Other	0	0	0	0	0	

Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The County will look to leverage funds, if available, from State and Federal grants sources, County Departments (e.g. Public Works, Property Management, Parks and Natural Resources, Community Services, and Building and Development Services), public or social service providers, or other sources.

The County will also look to leverage funds, if available, from other agencies and programs against CDBG, HOME, and ESG dollars. The County will use funding from the State Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP) and/or other federal grants for the matching requirements under the HOME program, with 25% match on all expenditures except planning and administration, CHDO operating, CHDO capacity building, and CHDO project specific expenses when repayment is waived under § 92.301. Manatee County's match amount for ESG will come from the Community Coalition on Homelessness d/b/a Turning Points who receives grant funds through other non-federal sources. Consistent with ESG program requirements, a 100% match on all expenditures will be provided after the date that HUD signs the grant agreement. For ESG, cash, non-cash, and program income must meet requirements of § 576.201.

During the 2016 General Election, Manatee County voters approved a half-cent sales tax to pay for local roads, parks and public safety needs. Where possible, Manatee County will look to leverage these dollars with federal funds.

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

Manatee County Departments will work closely to dispose of surplus properties that are owned by Manatee County. Currently, the County administers a surplus property program that gives potential individuals the opportunity to obtain surplus property owned by Manatee County. These properties are potential surplus and must be approved by the county departments, administrators, and the Board of County Commissioners prior to approval. The County actively markets County owned property through the Property Management Department.

Also, through the property conveyance process developed by Manatee County, the Property Management Department works with the Community and Veterans Services Department to identify surplus property that would be available for the development of permanent affordable housing. The County then seeks a partner to convey the property to in order to develop affordable housing.

Finally, through the Property Management Department, the County actively seeks property to acquire. Property Acquisition is responsible for identifying and obtaining real property needed by the County to deliver services to the citizens of Manatee County. The acquisition process includes negotiations with property owners to secure contracts for sale and purchase and conveyance of property following approval by the Board of County Commissioners

Discussion

Manatee County's anticipated funding allocation will address many of the County's goals, including housing, social/public services, community development/public improvements, economic development, and emergency/disaster response. The County is fortunate to have a network of public or social service providers to help address these goals through financial leveraging, as well as other Federal funding sources, State funding sources, County Departments, and other agency and program funding.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Housing	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Fair Housing	Manatee County	AFH/CPD: Availability of Affordable Units AFH/CPD: Location/type of affordable housing Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services	HOME: \$699,010	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Other: 1 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Social/Public Services	2017	2021	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Fair Housing	Manatee County Samoset West R/ECAP Target Area South County R/ECAP Target Area	Basic Needs Assistance, Transportation Services Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services Homeless Prevention, Services, and Shelters Park Improvements Public Facilities Improvements	CDBG: \$268,060 ESG: \$148,071	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 311 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 10 Persons Assisted
3	Community Development/ Public Improvements	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development Fair Housing	Manatee County	Public Facilities Improvements	CDBG: \$1,161,595	Other: 1 Other
5	Program Administration	2017	2021	Program Administration	Manatee County		CDBG: \$357,413 HOME: \$67,539 ESG: \$12,005	Other: 0 Other

Table 62 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Housing
	Goal Description	Improve availability, accessibility, and condition of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income and special needs households throughout Manatee County.
2	Goal Name	Social/Public Services
	Goal Description	Expand the accessibility and coordination of social services to Manatee County low- and moderate-income, homeless, and special needs populations.
3	Goal Name	Community Development/ Public Improvements
	Goal Description	Enhance the living environment of low- and moderate-income, homeless, and special needs populations through public improvement projects and activities.
5	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	Administraton of CDBG, HOME, and ESG Grants

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan includes proposed activities that meet the priority housing and community development needs as described in the 2017/2022 Consolidated Plan. Manatee County has developed a comprehensive strategy for using limited resources available to address the housing and community development needs of its low- and moderate-income citizens, the homeless, and its housing stock.

For the Program Year 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, the County anticipates an annual allocation which includes \$1,787,068 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$675,391 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and \$160,076 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. Additionally, the county expects \$95,579 in HOME program income. In total, Manatee County received approximately \$2,718,114 in federal funding for the Annual Action Plan program year that will begin on October 1, 2022 and will expire on September 30, 2023.

Manatee County takes great pride in the range of programs and services that are available to residents. Manatee County understands the need to ensure that basic services are provided. The County has utilized the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs to constructively meet the changing needs of the community.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	2022 Project Smile
2	2022 Unfunded Senior Meals
3	2022 Allean's Loving Care
4	2022 Housing Legal Services
5	2022 Homeless Prevention
6	Washington Park
7	General Administration/Planning - CDBG
8	Homeowner Rehabilitation Program
9	CHDO Set Aside
10	General Administration/Planning - HOME
11	2022 ESG
<u>12</u>	<u>Meals on Wheels PLUS – Food Bank Expansion Pre-Development</u>

Table 73 - Project Information

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

needs

One obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of resources. Given that entitlement programs have been reduced over the last several fiscal years, Manatee County plans to continue to review alternative sources of funds to help address the needs of County residents. In program year 2020 the County focused efforts on responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and to address basic needs rather than looking to expand program opportunities; this year, the County will continue to build upon expanding program opportunities that were set aside to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19.

The County has also identified the housing requirements of the poverty-level renter and homeowner as a major underserved need. Although the County supports the construction of low-income rental projects, these projects, which are primarily funded through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, only reach up to 60% of median family income. Therefore, there is still a group of low-income residents who are unable to be housed through these initiatives. These projects include HOME, SHIP and other state funds, but are generally projects funded through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program.

Neighborhood resistance to group homes is also an obstacle; however, the State now requires that communities allow small group homes (6 people and under) in all residential zoning districts. This has alleviated some of the need.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	2022 Project Smile
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Basic Needs Assistance, Transportation Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Provides dentures, prosthetics, and materials for making such devices for homeless and income-eligible residents of unincorporated Manatee County. (Community Coalition on Homelessness/Turning Points)
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 166 low- and moderate-income and homeless residents countywide.
	Location Description	Countywide.
	Planned Activities	05M Health Services
2	Project Name	2022 Unfunded Senior Meals
	Target Area	Samoset West R/ECAP Target Area South County R/ECAP Target Area
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Basic Needs Assistance, Transportation Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,190.15 48,400
	Description	Provides hot meals to elderly clients who reside in a R/ECAP. All participants are required to complete an eligibility assessment. The program is run by staff instead of volunteers as a direct result of COVID-19. (Meals on Wheels Plus)
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 elderly persons
	Location Description	Residents within a R/ECAP area.
	Planned Activities	05A Senior Services

3	Project Name	2022 Allean's Loving Care
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services Basic Needs Assistance, Transportation Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$65,000
	Description	Provides in-home care and companion services to the elderly. (AM&FM Enterprise, Inc)
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Elderly persons countywide
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	05A Senior Services
4	Project Name	2022 Housing Legal Services
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Legal Services Homeless Prevention, Services, and Shelters
	Funding	CDBG: \$61, 600 504
	Description	Provide legal services to income-qualified residents of unincorporated Manatee County on violations of fair housing, landlord/tenant, mortgage foreclosure, and related housing laws. (Gulfcoast Legal Services)
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	58 low- and moderate-income residents countywide
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	05C Legal Services
	Project Name	2022 Homeless Prevention

5	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention, Services, and Shelters
	Funding	CDBG: \$53,060
	Description	Provide emergency rental assistance for the purposes of preventing homelessness. (The Salvation Army)
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 low- and moderate-income residents at risk of homelessness countywide.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	05Z Other Public Services
6	Project Name	Washington Park
	Target Area	Washington Park Target Area
	Goals Supported	Community Development/ Public Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,161,595
	Description	Construction of a County Park on a 19-acre parcel including a multi-use field, restroom building, parking lot and trails.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	All residents, including low- and moderate-income residents countywide
	Location Description	Washington Park
	Planned Activities	03F Parks, Recreational Facilities
7	Project Name	General Administration/Planning - CDBG
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$357,413

	Description	Oversight, management, monitoring, and coordination of CDBG activities.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low- and moderate-persons countywide
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	21A General Program Administration
8	Project Name	Homeowner Rehabilitation Program
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services
	Funding	HOME: \$603,431
	Description	Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing income-eligible homeowner-occupied residential units
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 Low- and moderate-income homeowner households.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	14A Rehabilitation
9	Project Name	CHDO Set Aside
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Housing
	Needs Addressed	Expand Access to Housing Programs and Services
	Funding	HOME: \$100,000
	Description	Set-aside for approved CHDO agencies for eligible households.
	Target Date	9/30/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 low- and moderate-income household
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	12 Construction of Housing
10	Project Name	General Administration/Planning - HOME
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: \$67,539
	Description	Oversight, management, monitoring, and coordination of HOME activities
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low- and moderate-income households countywide
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	21A General Program Administration
11	Project Name	2022 ESG
	Target Area	Manatee County
	Goals Supported	Social/Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention, Services, and Shelters
	Funding	ESG: \$160,076
	Description	Homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, and case management: provide homeless prevention and rapid rehousing services. General administration and planning: oversight, management, monitoring, and coordination of ESG activities.
	Target Date	9/30/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 homeless persons and those at risk of homelessness countywide
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	05Q Subsistence Payments & 21A General Program Administration
<u>12</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Meals on Wheels PLUS – Food Bank Expansion Pre-Development</u>
	<u>Target Area</u>	<u>Manatee County</u>
	<u>Goals Supported</u>	<u>Community Development/ Public Improvements</u>
	<u>Needs Addressed</u>	<u>Public Facilities Improvements</u>
	<u>Funding</u>	<u>CDBG: \$8,305.00</u>
	<u>Description</u>	<u>Pre-Development studies to plan for the potential expansion of Manatee County’s sole Food Bank.</u>
	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>9/30/2024</u>
	<u>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</u>	<u>Low- and moderate-income persons countywide. With this funding the county will fund the renovation of a community facility; as an area benefit project, this improvement will benefit all residents, especially those low- and moderate-income residents.</u>
	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Countywide</u>
	<u>Planned Activities</u>	<u>03E Neighborhood Facilities (1 Facility)</u>

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

Manatee has designated low- and moderate- income census block groups with the highest percentages of low- and moderate- income households as “Target Areas”. The Community Block Grant Development (CDBG) program requires that each CDBG-funded activity must meet one of the HUD defined National Objectives which are:

- Benefiting low- and moderate-income persons,
- Preventing or eliminating blight, or
- Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

With respect to activities that benefit all the residents of a given area, at least 51% of the area’s residents must be low- and moderate- income or the area must obtain a slum/blight area designation.

Some CDBG assisted activities, such as parks, neighborhood facilities, community centers and streets, serve an identified geographic area. These activities generally meet the low- and moderate-income principal benefit requirement if 51 percent of the residents in the activity's service area are low- and moderate- income.

The Low- and Moderate- Income Areas Map located in the Appendix of this document shows all census block groups in which the majority of the population have incomes below the 80% AMI threshold. Each of these areas meets the eligibility requirements for low- and moderate-income area benefit.

In addition, Manatee County has identified areas known as Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs) as target areas. This includes both the Samoset West and South County Target Areas. HUD has developed a census tract-based definition of R/ECAPs. The definition involves a racial/ethnic concentration threshold and a poverty test. The racial/ethnic concentration threshold is straightforward: R/ECAPs must have a non-white population of 50 percent or more. Regarding the poverty threshold, HUD defines neighborhoods of extreme poverty as census tracts with 40 percent or more of individuals living at or below the poverty line. Because overall poverty levels are substantially lower in many parts of the country, HUD supplements this with an alternate criterion. Thus, a neighborhood can be a R/ECAP if it has a poverty rate that exceeds 40% or is three or more times the average tract poverty rate for the metropolitan/micropolitan area, whichever threshold is lower.

Census tracts with this extreme poverty that satisfy the racial/ethnic concentration threshold are deemed R/ECAPs. Based on the County’s R/ECAP and low- and moderate-income designations, a number of neighborhoods that have higher percentages of lower income residents, Samoset, Samoset

West R/ECAP, South County R/ECAP, and Washington Park, have been identified as Target Areas.

For the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, Manatee County will provide direct assistance to these low- and moderate-income areas of the County including, but not limited to, the identified R/ECAP and Low- and Moderate- Income Target Areas. These Target Areas are identified in **Table 10**. Percentages were determined by dividing the total funds for a specified target area and dividing each of these amounts by the total funds available to the county (less the amount of funding allocated to administration activities). Assistance will also be made available Countywide to persons meeting the CDBG eligibility requirements for low- and moderate-income benefit.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Manatee County	55
Samosest West R/ECAP Target Area	1
Samosest Target Area	0
South County R/ECAP Target Area	1
Washington Park Target Area	43

Table 84 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Manatee County’s rationale for allocating investments geographically is dependent upon the location of low- and moderate-income populations and Racially and Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs) as defined above.

The R/ECAPs are prioritized due to the Assessment of Fair Housing that was approved in February of 2017. Several activities will directly benefit the R/ECAPs: Home Rehabilitation Program and Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Inc. - Unfunded Senior Meals. These programs are directed toward physical and social enhancements of the R/ECAPs.

Additionally, in prior years the County allocated \$1,258,000 in CDBG to Manatee County Habitat for Humanity/Poling Gardens Infrastructure Project and \$661,000 in HOME to Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, Inc. (CHAF) Affordable Rental Housing Development for the development of new affordable housing opportunities. These projects are still under development and will provide affordable homeownership and rental housing opportunities.

All other activities, or the remainder of expected non-administrative funding, will benefit any person meeting the CDBG eligibility requirements for low- and moderate-income benefit, including persons living in the R/ECAPs and Target Areas. These other activities include homebuyer assistance, home rehabilitation program, public facility projects, affordable housing development, and the homeless or persons likely to become homeless, as well as the County’s administration of CDBG, HOME, and ESG

funds.

Discussion

Manatee County has identified nine (9) projects to implement the five goals of the Strategic Plan during the final year of the 2017/2022 Consolidated Plan. These projects benefit low- and moderate-income persons Countywide and within the County's Target Areas. Projects with Countywide benefit include Project Smile, Allean's Loving Care, Housing Legal Services, Homeless Prevention, the CHDO set aside funding, as well as the County's ESG allocation used for homeless prevention, services, and shelters. The administration of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds also have an indirect countywide benefit. Furthermore, several projects are specific to the R/ECAPs.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The County places a high priority on providing affordable homeownership and rental opportunity in Manatee County. This goal shall be addressed, in part, by local non-profit organizations and developers that construct affordable housing for lower-income homebuyers and renters. In addition, the County will continue to deliver its housing rehabilitation and rental assistance programs, and to support homebuyer education and Fair Housing activities.

Manatee County approved Resolution R-17-069 on August 22, 2017, to enact the Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing. This program provides for homeownership and rental incentives to foster the construction of new affordable units and is an improvement and expansion on the previous Affordable Housing Impact Fee Program. Through this program, Manatee County will pay 100% of impact fees for new qualified affordable units and will expedite the corresponding review and permitting process. The resulting development is subject to a Land Use Restriction Agreement to maintain affordability for a designated amount of time.

Additionally, Manatee County amended its Future Land Use Categories and increased densities in the Comprehensive Plan to further support affordable housing. The companion Land Development Code changes were adopted and implemented in April 2019.

Finally, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic the County has implemented the Emergency Rental Assistance Program with federal funding for temporary rental assistance through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to help sustain housing for those impacted by COVID-19.

The Annual Action Plan must specify goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households to be supported within the program year. These numbers are shown in **Table 11** and are inclusive of the affordable housing activities shown in **Table 6**, in addition to other planned housing activities identified in **Table 8**. **Table 12** indicates the number of households to be supported through specific activities, including rental assistance, production of new units, rehabilitation of existing units, or acquisition of existing units. For the purposes of this section, the term “affordable housing” is defined in the HOME regulations at 24 CFR 92.252 for rental housing and 24 CFR 92.254 for homeownership. [This

section replaces the former HUD Table 3B.]

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	47
Special-Needs	0
Total	47

Table 96 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	40
The Production of New Units	1
Rehab of Existing Units	6
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	47

Table 107 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The County will continue to deliver its long-standing housing programs, including housing rehabilitation, housing replacement, rental assistance, and down payment assistance through both federal and state programs, coordinate with non-profit organizations and for-profit developers that construct affordable housing, and support homebuyer education and Fair Housing activities. These housing activities will support at least 46 households through a combination of production of new units, short-term to medium-term rental assistance, and rehabilitation of existing units.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

This section of the Annual Action Plan describes what actions Manatee County will take in the 2022/2023 program year to carry out the public housing portion of the Strategic Plan. Below, the County has identified the manner in which the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan will address the needs of public housing during the program year.

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

Currently, Manatee County has two Public Housing Authorities working within its borders. These include the Bradenton Public Housing Authority (BPHA), which also manages the Hope VI housing project, and the Manatee County Housing Authority. According to the Manatee County Housing Authority (MCHA), as of August 2020, the MCHA manages 80 public housing units and 1,276 Section 8 vouchers.

These units/vouchers are in constant demand. The MCHA public housing waiting list has 100 applicants, while the Section 8 voucher program is more than 500 applicants. Typical wait time varies from 6 months to 2 years before receiving assistance. Currently, both public housing authorities have closed their waiting lists in an effort to manage the current demand.

According to the Manatee County Housing Authority, their PHA Plan has taken the following steps to ensure consistency between this Plan and the Consolidated Plan for the jurisdiction:

- The PHA has based its statement of needs of families on its waiting lists on the needs expressed in the Consolidated Plan.
- The PHA has participated in many consultation processes, organized and offered by Manatee County, in the development of the Consolidated Plan.
- The PHA has consulted with the Consolidated Plan agency during development of their Plan.
- Activities to be undertaken by the PHA in the coming year are consistent with the initiatives contained in the Consolidated Plan.

This Plan also explains that there are no public housing units or Section 8 Vouchers expected to be lost from their inventory over the next five years. In addition, the PHA does not utilize a HOPE VI grant.

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

All programs in the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan are available to public housing residents and address the common needs experienced by low-income persons, including public housing residents. In addition,

public housing residents are encouraged to participate in the Annual Action Plan development process.

Furthermore, in 2017 Manatee County collaborated with the MCHA to develop a joint AFH. The AFH was a citizen-driven plan that was developed through a series of public outreach efforts that included the surveys with PHA residents, meetings with MCHA staff, and attending PHA resident advisory board meetings.

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

The Manatee County Housing Authority has a PHAS score of 100 and has a “small PHA deregulation” and is not listed as troubled by HUD. The Bradenton Housing Authority has a PHAS score of 88 and is considered a standard performer and is not listed as troubled by HUD.

Discussion

Affordable housing needs are met by multiple service providers in Manatee County. The MCHA currently administers public housing units and tenant-based vouchers (HCVs). The County will continue to coordinate referrals with the MCHA in order to connect low-income residents with housing options.

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

Introduction

This section of the Annual Action Plan describes Manatee County’s one-year goal, and the specific actions steps it will undertake in the program year to carry out the homeless strategy identified in the Strategic Plan. Additionally, this section addresses any activities related to the supportive housing needs of non-homeless populations.

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

Consistent with Manatee County’s Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan, the County will continue to pursue the goal of reduced homeless. To this end, the County has programmed activities that meet the objectives of the Strategic Plan. Activities include:

- Project Smile - Funding to pay for dentures, prosthetics, and supplies for making such devices for homeless clients.
- Homeless Prevention (CDBG) - Funding will provide for housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-term rental assistance.

Homeless Prevention/Rapid Rehousing (ESG) - Funding will provide for housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-term and medium-term rental assistance.

Strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan and the specific actions taken by Manatee County non-profit partners will continue to support the efforts of the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, Inc., through this Action Plan Program Year.

Additionally, the County is using CDBG and ESG funding from prior year allocations as well as the CARES Act to reach out to unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness to connect them with traditional and COVID-19 related resources.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

One of the County’s strategies for preventing and reducing homelessness is to assist non-profit service providers in obtaining additional funding sources for emergency shelters. The primary activities to address homelessness during the 2022/2023 program year is Project Smile and Homeless Prevention through short-term and medium-term rental assistance.

In addition to the impact of COVID-19 and the ending of the CDC Eviction Moratorium, the dramatic

increase in housing costs could lead to homelessness for individuals and families. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the County has implemented the Manatee County Emergency Rental Assistance Program with federal funding for temporary rental assistance through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to help sustain housing for those impacted by COVID-19. With HUD funding, Manatee County continues to support programming that is designed to prevent homelessness by assisting renters that find themselves behind in rental payments. This type of temporary assistance can help families that truly find themselves in a unique situation that can be remedied by one-time support. Through the CDBG funded Homeless Prevention activity, the County will provide for housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-term rental assistance. Through the ESG funding, the County will provide for housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-term and medium-term rental assistance to prevent homelessness and to rapidly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

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

Another of the County's strategies for preventing and reducing homelessness is to promote and encourage the development of programs that facilitate the transition from homelessness into permanent housing. With ESG funds, the County supports homeless prevention and rapid rehousing services for those experiencing homelessness.

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.

Homeless prevention is a major concern and goal of Manatee County. Strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan will continue to support the efforts of the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, Inc., through this Action Plan Program Year.

During the 2022/2023 program year, Manatee County will coordinate with Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, the County's designated Continuum of Care agency and other homeless service providers to implement a cohesive, community-wide discharge coordination policy that can be successfully implemented to ensure that persons being discharged from publicly funded agencies and institutions do not become homeless upon release. Programs currently meeting such need include Turning Points, Our

Daily Bread, The Salvation Army, and Catholic Charities.

The County will coordinate with Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness and its member agencies that offer self-sufficiency training, medical/healthcare, mental health counseling, case management, and other activities to prevent homelessness in populations that may be discharged from systems of care but require housing assistance and continued access to related social services.

In addition, the County previously allocated CDBG funding from the CARES Act to Homeless Outreach and Legal Assistance programs that will continue through the 2022/2023 program year to help low-income families impacted by COVID-19 avoid homelessness

Discussion

With the exception of a small amount of funds to be allocated to ESG program administration, the County plans to allocate the entire ESG allocation of \$162,591 toward homeless services for the 2022/2023 program year. These activities will provide much needed services for the homeless population.

Additionally, toward both reducing homelessness and addressing special needs, the County will support health services and other related activities including rental assistance and services for at-risk families.

Special needs in Manatee County include meal and home rehabilitation assistance, supportive housing for persons with disabilities, substance abuse and mental health counseling, HIV/AIDS services, and support in response to domestic violence and at-risk youth. The following 2022/2023 program year activities will support persons with special needs. These activities include:

- Manatee County Homeowner Rehabilitation Program
- Unfunded Senior Meals
- AMFM Enterprise, Inc. - Allean's Loving Care
- Housing Legal Services

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

Introduction:

Manatee County is dedicated to providing affordable housing to homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households. During the 2022/2023 program year, the County will utilize the Housing Rapid Response Team and Land Development Code incentives for the Urban Corridors and the Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing that act to reduce barriers to and incentivize affordable housing. Community and Veterans Services Department, County staff will review and identify required revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code to further fair housing and remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing.

Additionally, the County has previously provided funding to support two (2) affordable housing development projects: Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, Inc. (CHAF) Affordable Rental Housing Development (HOME) and Manatee County Habitat for Humanity/Poling Gardens Infrastructure Project (CDBG) that are under development. The County will continue to move these efforts forward through the 2022/2023 program year.

With regard to fair housing, Manatee County has made available funds from 2022/2023 and continued CDBG-CV funding for use during the program year 2022/2023 to the Housing Legal Services for low- and moderate-income- residents of unincorporated Manatee County on violations of fair housing, landlord/tenant, mortgage foreclosure, eviction mediation, and related housing laws.

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

Public policies can have a direct impact on barriers to affordable housing. Manatee County has recognized this fact and has reviewed its own process to expose any barriers or obstacles to developing affordable housing. From this review, a few concerns were noted. These included the review time by the staff and the cost to the developer, the limited code allowances for affordable or workforce housing, and impact fees. To alleviate these concerns, a variety of policies and or regulations were put into practice. An in-depth description of these policies and regulations are provided within the Consolidated Plan. An overview is outlined here:

Housing Rapid Response Team – assists housing developers who wish to participate in the County’s affordable/workforce housing programs expedite the development and permitting processes.

Manatee County Land Development Code – outlines incentives which may be available to developers of

affordable/workforce housing developments. Developers for income-eligible households may seek expedited review and permit processing, review and permit fee refunds, and other incentives, as applicable.

Urban Corridors - Starting in 2016, the County made amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code to improve opportunities for infill, redevelopment and development, along major corridors in strategic areas of the County. The amendments generally provide greater flexibility in the regulations, allow for moderate increases in density and intensity of development, and allow residential and mixed-use development patterns to occur along the corridors. They also ensure that development review is consistent, meaningful, and predictable for staff, the developer, and citizens. In 2017, the Urban Corridors received statewide recognition for allowance of greater densities and building heights while promoting mixed-use and walkability.

Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing - Manatee County approved Resolution R-17-069 on August 22, 2017, to enact the Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing. This program provides for homeownership and rental incentives to foster the construction of new affordable units and is an improvement and expansion on the previous Affordable Housing Impact Fee Program. Through this program, Manatee County will pay 100% of impact fees for new qualified affordable units and will expedite the corresponding review and permitting process. The resulting development is subject to a Land Use Restriction Agreement to maintain affordability for a designated amount of time.

Fair Housing Proclamation - Manatee County has made a commitment to affirmatively further fair housing within the community. Along with the recent adoption of the Assessment of Fair Housing, the County has declared the month of April as "Fair Housing Month". With this proclamation the Board of County Commissioners calls upon all residents and citizens to recognize that compliance with the U.S. Fair Housing Laws is the equitable way in which to guarantee fair housing practices for all citizens.

National Community Development Week Proclamation – April 22-26, 2019 was designated National Community Development Week to recognize and celebrate the CDBG Program and the HOME Program. On April 23, 2019 Manatee County BOCC adopted a Proclamation to recognize the outstanding work being done locally with CDBG and HOME funds by urging Congress to provide increased funding for both programs in Fiscal Year 2020. The 2022 program year allocation is a decrease when compared to 2019, 2020, and 2021 program year CDBG allocations at \$1,787,068

Discussion:

During the 2022/2023 program year, the County will utilize the Housing Rapid Response Team and Land Development Code incentives for the Urban Corridors and the Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing that act to reduce barriers to and incentivize affordable housing. It should also be noted that, through the development of the AFH, the County identified several policies and regulations that need to be reviewed with the goal in determining what impediments to fair housing

and barriers to affordable housing exist within these policies. The Land Development Code and County Comprehensive Plan were identified as documents that will need to be reviewed.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section of the Annual Action Plan describes the Manatee County’s planned actions to carry out the following strategies outlined in the Strategic Plan:

- Foster and maintain affordable housing;
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
- Reduce the number of poverty-level families;
- Develop institutional structure; and
- Enhance coordination.

In addition, the County has identified obstacles to meeting underserved needs and proposed actions to overcome those obstacles.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

One obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of resources (not specific to COVID response). Given that entitlement programs generally do not match the needs of the community, during the 2022/2023 program year the County has seen a slight increase in resources. Manatee County will continue to review alternative sources of funds to help address the needs of County residents. Efforts will be made to submit and support others in making grant applications to Federal, State, and local agencies, as staffing allows. Specific grant applications could include prisoner re-entry into society, mental health services, infrastructure improvements, and neighborhood revitalization.

The County has also identified the housing requirements of the poverty-level renter and homeowner as a major underserved need. Although the County supports the construction of low-income rental projects, these projects, which are primarily funded through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, only reach up to 60% of median family income. Therefore, there is still a group of low-income residents who are unable to be housed through these initiatives. These projects include HOME, SHIP and other state funds, but are generally projects funded through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program. During the 2022/2023 program year, Manatee County will utilize incentive programs, such as the Livable Manatee Incentive Program and other local Land Development Code Incentives, such as Density Bonuses, for Qualified Affordable Housing, to foster additional rental units affordable to low-income residents.

Neighborhood resistance to group homes is also an obstacle; however, the State now requires that communities allow small group homes (6 people and under) in all residential zoning districts. This has alleviated some of the need.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the county has implemented the Manatee County Emergency

Rental Assistance Program with federal funding for temporary rental assistance through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to help sustain housing for those impacted by COVID-19. In an effort to “plan, prevent, prepare and respond to” the COVID-19 pandemic, the County aims to provide assistance through CDBG funding and CARES Act funding to projects that address the provision of needed services. During the 2020/2021 program year, the County committed approximately \$4.8 million in CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funding to services that are aimed at mitigating the effects of COVID-19. Additionally, the County used \$60,532 of 2020 CDBG funding to support an additional COVID response service through Meals on Wheels, temporary meals assistance.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The County will continue to deliver its long-standing housing programs, including housing rehabilitation, housing replacement, rental assistance, and down payment assistance, coordinate with non-profit organizations and developers that construct affordable housing, and support homebuyer education and Fair Housing activities. These housing activities will support at least 46 households through a combination of production of new units, rehabilitation of existing units, and short-term to medium-term rental assistance.

During the 2022/2023 program year, the County will utilize the Housing Rapid Response Team and Land Development Code incentives for the Urban Corridors and the Livable Manatee Incentive Program for Qualified New Affordable Housing that act to reduce barriers to and incentivize affordable housing. These programs foster affordable housing through expedited review and permitting, impact fee waivers, density and height allowances, and other measures to facilitate the production of new units affordable to low and moderate-income residents.

Additionally, the County has previously provided support for two (2) affordable housing developments: Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, Inc. (CHAF) Affordable Rental Housing Development (HOME) and Manatee County Habitat for Humanity/Poling Gardens Infrastructure Project (CDBG). Manatee County increased funding to these activities in 2021/22, due to rising construction costs.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

During the coming year, the Manatee County Health Department will continue to test low-income children for lead poisoning, as well as investigate any cases found. The County will meet the requirements of the new lead-based paint regulations by undertaking the actions shown in the Consolidated Plan as outlined below.

Three members of the housing staff within the Community and Veterans Services Department have successfully completed the HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control’s “Visual Assessment Course” training. Participating contractors who have not attended the training continue to be encouraged to obtain

training certification in lead-based paint safety procedures.

The County will address the lead-based paint hazards that are found in all homes rehabilitated with the County's CDBG and/or HOME funds. Only homes that are pre-1978 are subject to the lead-based paint provisions and, fortunately, many homes in Manatee County were constructed after 1978.

The County will continue to encourage appropriate staff and participating contractors to attend training and obtain certification in "Lead-Based Paint Safe Work Practices" for County construction and rehabilitation projects.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Manatee County has developed a program that will serve poverty level families and those in need. Through various housing initiatives the County will aim to increase the number of affordable units available, along with providing funds to rehabilitation substandard housing for income qualified households.

Also, with regards to senior programs, legal services, and homeless prevention the County will provide a series of public services that address the priority needs identified within the Consolidated Plan.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The County has a strong institutional structure in place to carry out its housing and community development strategies. The County's Community and Veterans Services Department will administer the CDBG, HOME, and ESG, programs.

In conjunction with other County operating departments, the Community and Veterans Services Department will also implement any public works project proposed by the 2017/2022 Consolidated Plan or any of the Annual Action Plans.

Manatee County, unlike many others, has a dedicated tax millage for services for abused, neglected, and at-risk children to supplement similar programs. Accordingly, the Community and Veterans Services Department and the County's non-profit agencies have long-standing ties and an effective delivery system for social services to the youth. The Community and Veterans Services Department will integrate the public service activities proposed in the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan with these ongoing operations.

Manatee County receives SHIP and HOME funding. The Community and Veterans Services Department has an effective public/private affordable housing production system in place. The affordable housing activities proposed in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan will be integrated into these

ongoing operations. For the 2022 program year, Manatee County will receive \$2,260,862 in SHIP funds.

Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, Inc., is the lead agency for Continuum of Care in Manatee County. This is the non-profit entity that will administer the Continuum of Care process and homeless funding for both Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Representatives from Manatee County government, public housing authority, law enforcement, homeless providers, and mental health providers are members of this organization. This entity will be responsible for developing the Continuum of Care plan and prioritizing homeless funding for Manatee County.

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

The Manatee County Community and Veterans Services Department will continue to coordinate with various community groups and service agencies to determine objectives and goals through the public participation process. These groups play a vital role in implementing the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans, CAPERs, and any proposed Substantial Amendments. All stakeholders are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the implementation of this Annual Action Plan.

Discussion:

For the 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, the County will support activities that will address underserved needs through community development and public services; foster and maintain affordable housing through rehabilitation, replacement, and homebuyer assistance; reduce lead-based paint hazards through responsible rehabilitation; reduce the number of poverty-level families through a combination of job training and economic development; and develop institutional structure through a network of community partners, including the County and its departments. Additionally, the County will continue to encourage coordination with the MCHA, non-profit and private for-profit housing developers, and public service providers, Annual Action Plan participation, and regular day-to-day referrals through the Community and Veterans Services Department.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Projects planned with all CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in **Table 8. Table 13** identifies any program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out. As shown, no program income is available.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

as follows:

The County will use funding from the State Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP) and/or other federal grants for the matching requirements under the HOME program. Additionally, dollars from a local CHDO and the Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, INC. (CHAF) Affordable Housing Development will be leveraged to support affordable housing development.

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:

Manatee County uses the recapture method for the entire amount of HOME funds provided as a subsidy, when HOME-assisted homeownership housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the assisted homebuyer for the full affordability period. The recapture provision is subject to the limitation that when the recapture requirement is triggered by a sale, voluntary or involuntary, of the housing unit, and there are no net proceeds, or the net proceeds are insufficient to repay the HOME investment due, the County can only recapture the net proceeds, if any. The net proceeds are the sales price minus the superior loan repayment and closing costs. This language is included in the loan documents. These funds will be used by the County for other eligible HOME activities.

The proceeds from the sale of a CHDO property are retained by the CHDO and used in conformance with 24 CFR 92.300(a)(2).

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:

See the response to number 2, above.

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 County will not use HOME funds to refinance the existing debt for multi-family projects.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services

received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(l)(4)

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

In Program Year 2022/2023, Manatee County will receive its sixth allocation of ESG funding in the amount of \$160,076, made available through the HEARTH Act from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These funds will be utilized in support of homeless prevention and rapid rehousing for the homeless. The Continuum of Care (CoC) and Homeless Providers have prepared written standards which are located within the Appendix of this report.

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

The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, our lead agency for the Manatee and Sarasota Continuum of Care (CoC), has established a coordinated entry and assessment system in full compliance with HUD requirements. This system includes designated access points where the homeless and those at risk can receive an intake and assessment into the system by a trained professional and be prioritized for housing resources. The Manatee and Sarasota CoC coordinated entry system also includes trained outreach specialists who can serve as access points on the streets.

The CoC meets regularly to share best practices, solve problems and introduce new ideas. One very important activity entrusted to the CoC is the annual point-in-time census of homeless individuals and the corresponding survey of available emergency shelter beds, transitional housing units, and permanent housing units. This data helps the members with vital information on the needs and gaps in the system, and helps redirect services, funding and other resources as the needs of the community's homeless populations shift.

The CoC has established a centralized assessment system using HMIS principles. The CoC has a standing committee to consider process improvements. Currently, 2-1-1 conducts the initial assessment upon engaging the client.

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).

Manatee County is collaborating with the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, the lead

Continuum of Care (CoC) agency, to appropriately allocate and administer these funds. The County aims to leverage these ESG dollars with the CoC which already receives and allocates grant dollars from the State of Florida. By leveraging funds, the County can ensure that the ESG funds make the most positive impact possible.

Manatee County's match amount for ESG will come from the Community Coalition on Homelessness d/b/a Turning Points who receives grant funds through other non-federal sources.

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.

Manatee County itself does not have homeless or formerly homeless individuals elected to the commission but actively participates in the CoC Leadership Council for policy discussions and funding decisions. The CoC Leadership Council includes those with lived homeless experience, and the CoC membership includes active participants who are currently homeless or have past lived experience.

Manatee County awards all ESG funds to Turning Points, which does include homeless or formerly homeless individuals.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

During 2022/2023 program year, Manatee County will work with the CoC and homeless providers to create additional performance standards that ensure that ESG funds are used efficiently. This is being done in collaboration with the CoC Leadership Council.

For the Program Year 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan, the County anticipates an annual allocation which includes \$1,787,068 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$675,391 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and \$160,076 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The county expects \$95,579 in HOME program income. In total, Manatee County received approximately \$2,718,114 in federal funding for the Annual Action Plan program year that will begin on October 1, 2022 and will expire on September 30, 2023.

