

## CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

The County of Ocean receives annual HUD funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to support affordable housing, improve living conditions, and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents. Strategies for utilizing these funds appear in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans, with progress reported in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

#### **Notable Progress:**

**Affordable Housing:** Progress includes rehabilitations and improvements that have expanded affordable housing access for low- and moderate-income residents.

**Homelessness Prevention and Support:** Improved emergency shelter services and the Code Blue Plan have strengthened responses to severe weather. Increased funding for rental and utility assistance has stabilized housing for those at risk of homelessness.

**Community Development Projects:** Enhancements to public facilities and infrastructure have improved living conditions and fostered community growth.

**Public Services:** Expanded support services, including job training programs, childcare assistance, and health services, have addressed the needs of low- and moderate-income residents and other vulnerable groups.

**Support for Vulnerable Populations:** Targeted funding has addressed the needs of low- and moderate-income households, seniors, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups, including support for homelessness prevention and services for victims of domestic violence.

**Financial Management and Reporting:** HUD funds receive efficient management, with transparent tracking and reporting shown in the CAPER, demonstrating effective resource use to meet community needs.

Efficient management and transparent reporting of HUD funds, as detailed in the CAPER, demonstrate effective resource use. Achievements from completed activities are reported in the following tables. Note that "Actual" totals may be zero or less than anticipated if a project is not yet complete and beneficiaries are not yet reported in the HUD Integrated Disbursement & Information System (IDIS).

The CAPER underscores Ocean County's commitment to improving the lives of low- and moderate-income residents through strategic investments and partnerships. Detailed achievements and progress in meeting housing and community development goals are provided in the table below.

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

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

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
CDBG-CV Public Services	Coronavirus Response	CDBG-CV: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	49516				
CDBG-CV Public Services	Coronavirus Response	CDBG-CV: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	115				
CDBG-CV Public Services	Coronavirus Response	CDBG-CV: \$	Other	Other	10000	0	0.00%			
First-Time Homebuyers Assistance	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	80	0	0.00%	14	11	78.57%

Housing Development Assistance   CHDO	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	10	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%
Public Facility & Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	100000	12070	12.07%	20000	10179	50.90%
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	20000	32314	161.57%	4000	10111	252.78%
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	251		0	48	
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added	Beds	0	0				
Rehabilitation; Single-Unit Residential   CDBG	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	400	76	19.00%	80	44	55.00%
Rehabilitation; Substantial & Moderate   HOME	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$180000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	35	4	11.43%	8	7	87.50%

Rental Assistance   TBRA	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$550000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	200	1	0.50%	40	23	57.50%
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**Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date**

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

The County of Ocean’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program aligns with the national CDBG initiative by benefiting low- and moderate-income (LMI) individuals, addressing blight, and meeting urgent development needs. The program supports LMI individuals through housing, public infrastructure, and essential services. Projects that benefit areas with at least 51% LMI residents, known as 'area benefit' (LMA), qualify for funding.

**Alignment with Priorities:**

- **Affordable Housing:** The program funds projects aimed at rehabilitating and developing affordable housing units, improving housing availability and quality for LMI individuals.
- **Public Services:** Resources are allocated to enhance the quality of life through activities such as health services, education, and emergency assistance for LMI communities.
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Investments target critical infrastructure projects including water and sewer upgrades, street repairs, and public facility enhancements, aligning with priorities for infrastructure development.

**Specific Objectives:**

- **Addressing Housing Needs:** Focuses on improving and expanding affordable housing options to enhance affordability and accessibility.
- **Improving Infrastructure:** Prioritizes projects that create safer and more functional environments in underserved communities.
- **Enhancing Public Services:** Supports activities like health care, education, and emergency assistance to boost community services.

**Special Attention to Highest Priority Activities:** The CDBG program prioritizes essential activities such as affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, and public services. Funding addresses severe issues and development factors to meet pressing community needs.

**Addressing Non-Housing Community Development Needs:** Needs come from:

- HUD matrix codes for eligible activities.
- Public meetings, hearings, and surveys.

- Public comments and requests from non-profits and municipalities.
- Applications detailing priority needs.

Despite notable progress, some projects require additional steps. Ongoing monitoring and remediation are vital to achieving set goals.

**Response to Global Pandemic:** The COVID-19 pandemic necessitates significant responsive measures, leading to supplementary CARES Act funding. This additional support enhances the CDBG program’s capacity to address pandemic-related challenges.

**Summary:** The CDBG program plays a crucial role in Ocean County's community development efforts, strategically supporting LMI communities and addressing critical needs through effective resource allocation and impactful projects.

## CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME
White	19,174	132
Black or African American	1,149	93
Asian	173	0
American Indian or American Native	28	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,527</b>	<b>225</b>
Hispanic	3,028	14
Not Hispanic	17,499	211

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

### Narrative

In this CAPER, the Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by sources of funds shows that the County's CDBG and HOME funds supported residents throughout the County, with many benefiting from community development initiatives not reflected in the table.

The table outlines the demographics of the families served. CDBG and HOME programs focused on low- and moderate-income clients and areas with high concentrations of racial or ethnic minorities and low-income families. Data from HUD's IDIS system includes both subrecipient and Census information. The County of Ocean and its partners addressed priority needs and provided programs to all eligible individuals, regardless of race or ethnicity.

## CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

### Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,413,703	1,388,419
HOME	public - federal	1,527,538	910,019
Other	public - federal	0	

**Table 3 - Resources Made Available**

### Narrative

The Resources Made Available table lists allocations for the program year, funds from previous years, and expected program income. It outlines community development services and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals:

**CDBG** - Funds supported housing and non-housing programs, including housing rehabilitation, youth assistance, senior services, transportation, and public facility improvements.

**HOME** - Funds strengthened neighborhoods by supporting homeownership, reconstructing substandard homes, providing housing counseling, and constructing affordable rental housing for low- and moderate-income households.

**CDBG-CV** - Funds helped combat coronavirus by supporting non-profits with PPE, emergency food distribution, and rental assistance.

**HOME MBE/WBE** - HOME funds were allocated to Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, CHDO, Housing Rehabilitation, and First-Time Homebuyers Programs. MBE/WBE businesses are listed on both the State of New Jersey and County of Ocean portals. Contracts in Ocean County are awarded through subrecipients, who are encouraged to promote opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses in HUD-assisted projects. Subrecipient Agreements include provisions to support outreach to these businesses.

### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description

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

### Narrative

#### Geographic Distribution and Location of Investments



Funding applications from municipalities and non-profits align with local needs and comply with federal regulations. Our investments prioritize low- and moderate-income persons, including those with special needs, and focus on areas with significant racial or ethnic minority populations.

## Leveraging

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

Federal funds effectively attract additional resources from private, state, and local sources, significantly boosting project funding. It is important to clarify that leveraging does not entail matching funds for a project, as HUD does not require a match for federal CDBG funding. Rather, leveraging acts as a multi-faceted strategy that amplifies the impact of our funding and maximizes its benefits for the community. Here is how a subrecipient may leverage its activities.

### **Additional Resources:**

**Private Funds:** Federal funds attract private sector investments by demonstrating the viability and potential of projects. For example, public-private partnerships establish co-funding for affordable housing developments and community improvement projects can involve non-profit and private foundations.

**State Funds:** State programs and grants have complemented federal funding, allowing for larger-scale initiatives and broader reach. Coordination with state agencies has resulted in additional financial support and technical assistance for various projects including but not limited to tax credit programs, the lending community, and affordable housing developers.

**Local Funds:** Local governments and community organizations have contributed additional funds to match or exceed federal allocations. These contributions have supported local infrastructure improvements, public facilities, and other community development activities.

### **Matching Requirements:**

**Satisfaction of Matching Requirements:** Detailed records and agreements document how matching funds comply with federal requirements. For instance, the County's Request for Proposal (RFP) specifies financial disclosure procedures, including HOME matching fund contribution requirements. The federal HOME Investment program mandates that applicants identify other funding sources and provide a 25% match of non-federal funds. This match can include cash, donated labor/services, materials, in-kind services, payment in lieu of taxes, soft loans, and/or donated land parcels. Homeowners remaining in their home for ten (10) years, a full-term period, allowing forgiveness of the lien.

**Publicly Owned Land or Property:** The County of Ocean does not own or plan to acquire land or

property for public housing and does not use CDBG funds for public housing authority activities. Additionally, HUD regulations prohibit the use of HOME Investment program funds for activities involving public housing authorities. However, some activities in the Annual Action Plan may involve publicly owned assets to address identified needs. For example:

- **Affordable Housing:** Repurposing surplus municipal land for affordable housing projects helps reduce overall expenses and construction costs. For example, our Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) may implement projects that successfully maximize HOME funds with other sources (both private and public funds) for the development and preservation of affordable housing units.
- **Community Facilities:** Improving community centers, parks, and other facilities to enhance local services and amenities.

This approach demonstrates how publicly owned assets may be strategically used to address community needs and support long-term development goals.

<b>Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match</b>	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	2,027,068
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	137,500
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	2,164,568
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	2,164,568
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0

**Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report**

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
OCBOSS (TBRA)	02/01/2024	137,500	0	0	0	0	0	137,500

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

**HOME MBE/WBE report**

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period	Amount received during reporting period	Total amount expended during reporting period	Amount expended for TBRA	Balance on hand at end of reporting period
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
0	0	0	0	0

Table 7 – Program Income

<b>Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period</b>						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
<b>Contracts</b>						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub-Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
<b>Contracts</b>						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
Number	0	0	0			
<b>Sub-Contracts</b>						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

**Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises**

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

**Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property**

**Relocation and Real Property Acquisition** – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition

Parcels Acquired		0	0			
Businesses Displaced		0	0			
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0	0			
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0	0			
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition**

## CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	30	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	400	0
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	200	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	40	23
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	2	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	38	51
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>74</b>

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

**Note** - The County of Ocean disagrees with the figures shown in the 'One-Year Goal' column for both the Number of Households and Number of Households Supported tables but is unable to make corrections due to the HUD CAPER template's restrictions on edit access.

The Consolidated Plan outlines the strategic goals for local community development, while the Annual Action Plan adjusts activities based on shifting needs and available funding. For example, the

construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing often involves stages of regulatory compliance, financial arrangements, and site development. Regardless of the phase, federal funding supports diverse populations, including homeless, non-homeless, and special needs groups, by:

- Assisting with obtaining and retaining affordable housing.
- Rehabilitating existing housing units.
- Providing permanent, affordable housing for low- and moderate-income individuals.
- Supporting housing with features that enable dignified living for those with special needs.
- Enhancing housing opportunities through the creation and preservation of affordable rental housing and homeownership near transit, employment, and community services.

**Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.**

The County annually evaluates its progress toward meeting goals through the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report assesses program performance and may lead to adjustments in the current five-year goals. Annual performance trends help calibrate future targets, guiding decisions on outcomes and allocations, such as affordable housing opportunities and support for subrecipients in future Annual Action Plans.

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

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	24	26
Low-income	13	8
Moderate-income	5	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>

**Table 13 – Number of Households Served**

**Narrative Information**

**Note** - The County of Ocean disagrees with the tally in the Number of Households Served table but is unable to make corrections due to the HUD CAPER template's restrictions on edit access.

The County of Ocean provided community development and housing services to significantly more households than reported in the Number of Households Served table. The CDBG and HOME programs supported extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income families, households, and individuals through various initiatives, including:

- Community Housing Development Assistance | CHDO.
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).



- TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs.
- Multi-family rental housing.
- Rehabilitation; Substantial & Moderate | HOME.
- First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program.
- New Housing-Unit Production.
- Rehabilitation; Single-Use Residential | CDBG.
- Public Services.
- Public Facility and Improvements.

**CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)**  
**Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:**

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

The County of Ocean collaborates closely with the Ocean County Homeless Prevention & Assistance Coalition (OC HPAC)\* and various non-profit service providers to address the needs of households experiencing homelessness. The County remains committed to aggressively targeting homelessness by deploying necessary funding and implementing processes to both end and prevent homelessness.

One of the key strategies employed is the continued use of a coordinated assessment process, which ensures that all individuals seeking services are assessed and prioritized based on their specific needs and risk levels. This approach allows for a more efficient allocation of resources and ensures that the most vulnerable individuals receive the help they need promptly. As a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds, the County of Ocean aligns with HUD's goal of eliminating chronic homelessness by:

- **Supporting Applications Focused on Ending Chronic Homelessness:** The County endorses initiatives and applications that specifically aim to end chronic homelessness, ensuring that resources are directed towards sustainable solutions.
- **Supporting the Continuum of Care (CoC) Systems:** The County backs Continuum of Care (CoC) systems that provide direct assistance to chronically homeless individuals, including critical street outreach efforts that engage individuals where they are and connect them to services.
- **Supporting the Code Blue Program:** Recognizing the increased risks during severe weather, the County supports the Code Blue program, which offers emergency shelter to homeless individuals during extreme cold, thereby preventing weather-related fatalities.

Through these efforts, Ocean County demonstrates a strong commitment to addressing the root causes of homelessness and providing comprehensive support to those in need.

\*(Source: Ocean Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Coalition, <https://oceanhpac.org/continuum-of-care/>)

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

**Note** - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) does not formula qualify an Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) to the County of Ocean.

The County of Ocean has provided both federal and non-federal funding to support the operation,

maintenance, and implementation of programs at local emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities. Homeless individuals and families have benefited from these services, which are delivered by regional non-profit public service providers experienced in assisting various populations, including chronically homeless individuals, veterans, families with children, single parents, single adults, people living with HIV/AIDS, unaccompanied youth, and victims of domestic abuse.

A key initiative addressing the needs of the homeless is the Code Blue program, which offers emergency shelter and transitional housing when temperatures drop below 35 degrees. This program is mandated by New Jersey legislation (N.J.S.A. A:9-43:18), enacted in 2016 and signed into law in 2017, requiring county emergency management coordinators to establish a Code Blue program to protect homeless individuals during severe weather events.\*

Ocean County's Code Blue Plan embodies a collaborative approach to organizing available services and protocols during extreme cold weather for vulnerable populations. The plan includes issuing Code Blue Alerts, activating necessary services, and ensuring effective communication among partners about the ongoing efforts in the community to support at-risk individuals during extreme weather.

The County Office of Emergency Management disseminates Code Blue Alerts through various channels, including email, social media, and the Ocean County Department of Human Services' website, to keep the community informed about weather-related services provided by non-profit and volunteer organizations. Each Code Blue warming center operates independently, offering accommodations during Code Blue Alerts. For more information on Code Blue partners, resources, and alerts, please visit the Ocean County Department of Human Services' website.\*\*

\*(Source: [https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2016/Bills/S1500/1088\\_I1.PDF](https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2016/Bills/S1500/1088_I1.PDF))

\*\* (Source: Ocean County Department of Human Services, <http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/OC/OCDHS/frmCodeBlue.aspx>)

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

The Ocean County Homeless Prevention & Assistance Coalition (OC HPAC) continues to monitor and update data relative to the emergency shelter and housing needs of homeless persons. The County's coordinated assessment process evaluates all individuals seeking housing assistance using a standardized approach to direct them to the most suitable services. Partner agencies collaborate to address specific client needs, with health providers, law enforcement, and traditional service providers working together to support individuals in achieving self-sufficiency.

Key strategies for the CDBG and HOME programs include:

- **Financial Support:** Direct assistance for stabilizing housing, including security deposits, rental assistance, utility deposits, and utility payments.
- **Case Management and Support Services:** Case management and additional supportive services to help clients manage their housing situations effectively.
- **Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA):** HOME funds are used to provide rent deposits and monthly subsidies to help eligible households secure stable housing.
- **Chronic Homelessness Prevention:** Targeted assistance to eliminate chronic homelessness, aligned with HUD's goals.
- **Continuum of Care (CoC) Support:** Support for permanent supportive housing programs administered by the CoC, offering comprehensive services to homeless individuals and families.

Through these efforts, the County aims to prevent homelessness and facilitate a smooth transition to stable, permanent housing for at-risk individuals and families

**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**

While Ocean County does not receive Emergency Solution Grants (ESG), it remains dedicated to eliminating homelessness and supporting at-risk individuals. As an active partner in the Continuum of Care (CoC), the County collaborates with non-profit and government entities to address the needs of the chronically homeless.

Under the CoC model, we align our Consolidated and Annual Action Plans with goals informed by data sources such as the Point-in-Time Count (PITC), Housing Inventory Count (HIC), and Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR).

The Ocean County Homeless Prevention & Assistance Coalition (OC HPAC) and its partners support the CoC discharge policy, ensuring individuals leaving foster care, healthcare, mental health, or correctional facilities receive the necessary support to avoid homelessness.

Several CDBG-funded agencies, backed by federal and state grants, provide essential services, including:

- **Short-Term Financial Assistance:** Covering rent arrears to prevent eviction.
- **Short-Term Rental Assistance:** Helping families facing eviction or crises that lead to homelessness.

- **Security and Utility Deposits:** Combined with housing stability case management, aiding homeless families in securing and maintaining housing.

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

### **Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

**Note** - The County of Ocean does not own land, property, or anticipate owning land and property for public housing. The County of Ocean does not use any of its CDBG funds for a public housing authority activity. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations do not permit the use of the HOME Investment Partnerships program funds on an activity with a public housing authority.

Three public housing authorities (PHAs) operate within Ocean County: the Berkeley Township Housing Authority, the Brick Township Housing Authority, and the Lakewood Township Housing Authority. These PHAs adhere to accessibility standards and comply with municipal and State building codes to serve persons with disabilities, both current residents and those on waiting lists.

The Ocean County Consortium membership has taken additional actions to address public housing needs, including:

- **Accounting Mechanism:** Implementing a system to manage and document annual funding distribution, applications, forms, and correspondence with housing and service providers.
- **Project Development:** Supporting community-based activities and projects through technical assistance and project management.
- **Community Engagement:** Participating in local and regional boards, committees, and coordination efforts to address public housing needs.
- **Partnership Building:** Establishing strong relationships with local housing and service providers through regular meetings and strategic discussions.
- **Ongoing Coordination:** Maintaining continuous collaboration among local jurisdictions, housing authorities, and service providers.

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

**Note** - The County of Ocean does not own land, property, or anticipate owning land and property for public housing. The County of Ocean does not use any of its CDBG funds for a public housing authority activity. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations do not permit the use of the HOME Investment Partnerships program funds on an activity with a public housing authority.

Ocean County has three public housing authorities: the Berkeley Township Housing Authority, the Brick Township Housing Authority, and the Lakewood Township Housing Authority. Each PHA actively engages residents to empower them and enhance their control over their lives. Throughout the year, the PHAs consult residents on policy and development, host public hearings to gather support and address concerns, and work with resident leaders on self-sufficiency initiatives. These initiatives include:

- Resident management.
- Homesteading and/or ownership of public housing.
- Drug-free environment.
- Enforcing fair housing laws.
- Timely housing investigations.
- Resolving fair housing complaints.

### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The three (3) Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in Ocean County are not classified as troubled, according to HUD data.

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

**Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)**

**Note** - New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:97-2.1(a)) mandates that a municipal Planning Board adopt a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan that aligns with the goals of the Master Plan. Implementing this plan serves the public interest, protects health and safety, and promotes general welfare. Municipal governments must demonstrate compliance with affordable housing requirements under the Fair Housing Act.\*

During its annual planning process, the County of Ocean assesses potential discriminatory practices and examines whether housing costs or availability present barriers to affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households. To achieve this, the County mitigated the negative effects of public policies through various programs and activities.

### **Upholding Fair Housing Rights**

- Ensure equal housing opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, disability, familial status, national origin, or handicap.
- Resolve landlord-tenant disputes through education and resources focused on fair housing procedures.

### **Supporting Housing Development and Assistance**

- Support Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), other non-profit service providers, and housing developers in leveraging HOME funding and other financial sources to construct new rental housing, enhancing their capacity to address affordable housing needs.
- Provide subsidies for First-Time Homebuyers (FTHB) and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).

### **Preserving and Enhancing Housing Stock**

- Preserve and enhance existing housing stock through rehabilitation efforts, including maintenance and upgrades, to restore properties to safe, decent, and sanitary conditions, particularly when property owners are unwilling or unable to make improvements themselves.
- Offer moderate and substantial rehabilitation assistance to owner-occupied homes and low- to moderate-income households, addressing the needs of elderly low-income residents who cannot make necessary repairs or improvements.



## **Addressing Health and Safety Hazards**

- Provide lead-based paint (LBP) hazard abatement for federally funded projects, including inspections, hazard reduction and abatement, and temporary relocation of occupants during the hazard reduction phase if necessary.

## **Acquiring and Rehabilitating Affordable Housing**

- Leverage HOME funds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of low-income affordable housing, including units with three or more bedrooms to accommodate families with three or more children.

\*(Source: New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing,  
<https://www.nj.gov/dca/dlps/hss/thirdroundregs/597.pdf>)

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

The County of Ocean supports its most underserved and vulnerable residents through the following actions:

### **Financial Support and Resource Allocation**

- **Leveraging Financial Resources:** Apply for additional federal and/or State funds.
- **Housing Funds:** Continue to provide funds for owner-occupied housing, homebuyers, and rental units.
- **Down Payment and Mortgage Assistance:** Provide down payment and closing costs assistance, along with affordable mortgage support to facilitate homeownership.
- **Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA):** Support TBRA and other housing initiatives, including emergency programs.
- **Utility Assistance:** Support utility assistance to prevent homelessness.

### **Community and Regional Planning**

- **Regional Planning and Coordination:** Participate in efforts to enhance communication and understanding.
- **Committee Support:** Continue to support the Community Housing Advisory Committee (CHAC), Human Services Advisory Committee (HSAC), and the Continuum of Care (CoC).

### **Homelessness Prevention and Housing Preservation**

- **Programs to Prevent Homelessness:** Support programs for individuals and families with children.

- **Housing Rehabilitation and Preservation:** Support the rehabilitation and preservation of older housing stock.

### Support for Vulnerable Populations

- **Non-Profit Agency Support:** Back non-profit agencies to deliver services, including housing assistance, to the elderly, frail elderly, homeless individuals and families, those at risk of homelessness, and other underserved populations.

### Infrastructure Improvement

- **Addressing Infrastructure Deficiencies:** Focus on improving infrastructure in low- and moderate-income areas.

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

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that lead-based paint (LBP) hazards be controlled before rehabilitating housing units. In Ocean County, all housing-related projects adhered to this regulation, which applies to projects receiving federal financial assistance or those being sold by the government, particularly when young children (ages 6 and under) will occupy the housing unit.

Federally funded housing rehabilitation projects, including those supported by HUD, effectively address lead paint hazards, especially in homes constructed before 1978. The County prioritizes reducing lead-based paint hazards and enforces compliance with HUD's Lead-Safe Housing Rule. During inspections, if LBP hazards are identified, immediate testing and abatement procedures are implemented. If necessary, tenants or homeowners may be temporarily relocated during the hazard reduction process.

The County addresses LBP hazards mostly through the following measures:

- **Education:** Educate applicants on housing rehabilitation responsibilities related to lead-based paint hazards using EPA brochures like The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right and Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home.
- **Health Agency Role:** The Ocean County Department of Health handles lead hazard exposure cases as the lead agency.
- **Child Screening:** Screen at-risk children, especially Medicaid-eligible children under 72 months, for lead poisoning. Report all blood lead levels. Document and track levels of 10 µg/dL or higher through the Ocean County Health Department.
- **Funding and Abatement:** The County provides funds for lead-based paint (LBP) testing and abatement in federally-assisted housing rehabilitation projects. Qualified personnel conduct risk assessments, testing, hazard reduction, and clearance services at no cost to property owners. The County and the property owner receive a risk assessment report that outlines areas with

lead and necessary safety measures.

- **Lead-Safe Rehabilitation:** Incorporate lead reduction and protective measures in rehabilitation specifications. Monitor these procedures to ensure timely completion without disrupting the household.
- **Relocation Support:** Comply with the relocation policy by providing temporary relocation accommodations for property owners when the rehabilitation project disturbs materials containing lead-based paint (LBP) and/or lead.
- **Enforcement:** Enforce risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work, and ensure the assessment firm conducts a clearance test at the dwelling and/or property before occupancy.

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

Ocean County is committed to reducing poverty-level households. The County and its partners work to decrease poverty through self-sufficiency programs, employment-related supportive services, and affordable housing initiatives. These efforts improve living conditions and reduce the number of families in poverty.

Anti-poverty and special needs programs address poverty by taking proactive measures. Several agencies receive federal assistance to combat poverty directly. Actions and services to reduce poverty include:

- **Family Self-Sufficiency Programs:** Offering support to help families achieve financial independence.
- **Prevention and Crisis Services:** Providing emergency support to prevent families from falling into deeper poverty.
- **Transitional Housing:** Assisting families in moving from homelessness to stable housing.
- **Permanent Housing Solutions:** Ensuring long-term affordable housing options are available.
- **Homebuyer Assistance:** Supporting families in purchasing homes through financial aid and counseling.
- **Housing Rehabilitation:** Improving existing housing to ensure safe and decent living conditions.
- **Tenant-Based Rental Assistance:** Providing rental vouchers to help families afford housing in the private market.
- **Employment-Related Supportive Services:** Offering job training, placement assistance, and other employment-related support.
- **Educational Workshops and Training:** Providing skills development to enhance employment opportunities.
- **Youth Services:** Supporting programs aimed at improving outcomes for at-risk youth.
- **Services for Abused/Neglected Children and Their Families:** Addressing the needs of vulnerable children and their families.
- **Long-Term Support:** Offering continued assistance, including utility, medical, and food support,

for individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or disabled.

These comprehensive strategies and programs reflect Ocean County's dedication to addressing poverty and supporting low-income families in achieving stability and self-sufficiency.

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

The County of Ocean builds a robust institutional framework through collaboration with various sectors, including:

#### **Strengthen Partnerships**

Collaborate with private sector organizations, including local financial institutions, housing developers, economic development groups, and realtors, to enhance and improve existing services. Work closely with Ocean County government agencies, such as the Planning Department, Board of Social Services, Veterans Service Bureau, and the Departments of Finance, Health, Human Services, and Senior Services, to achieve Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan goals.

#### **Support Coordinating Bodies**

Create and support regional and local coordinating bodies, including the Continuum of Care (CoC). These bodies oversee housing and homelessness services, manage the HMIS coordinated assessment system, and provide advisory support on policies, funding recommendations, and housing procedures.

#### **Enhance Service Delivery and Coordination**

Provide technical documentation and assistance to local agencies and service providers while managing program administration with clear protocols and procedures. Improve service delivery by sharing pertinent governmental data on demographics, service areas, and income to enhance coordination and tracking of services and outcomes.

#### **Foster Public Engagement**

Involve the community in decision-making through public hearings, advisory boards, and feedback mechanisms to ensure institutional structures reflect residents' needs and priorities.

#### **Allocate Resources Effectively**

Strategically allocate funding and resources to support institutional structures and initiatives that address critical needs and improve service delivery.

#### **Collaborate with Non-Profit Agencies**

Coordinate with non-profit agencies to address community needs such as homelessness, housing assistance, and counseling. These agencies serve diverse populations, including low- and moderate-income persons, families with children, the elderly, chronically homeless individuals, those with mental illness or substance abuse issues, veterans, unaccompanied youth, frail elderly, people living with HIV/AIDS, and victims of domestic violence.

These actions contribute to a robust and responsive institutional structure that effectively supports housing and community development goals in Ocean County.

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

The Ocean County Consortium (OCC) actively collaborates with public, private, and non-profit agencies to align funding with community development goals. The County partners with housing agencies and developers to address affordable housing needs, focusing block grant funds on affordable housing and capital improvements. It supports innovative solutions through interfaith-based service providers for underserved populations. Regular meetings and interactions with affiliates ensure effective communication about community needs, project status, federal funding, and policy changes. This open dialogue helps identify gaps and develop new strategies for serving the homeless, at-risk individuals, and low- to moderate-income households.

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

To overcome the effects of impediments identified in the analysis of impediments to fair housing choice, the County of Ocean implements several key actions:

**Housing:** The County's First-Time Homebuyer (FTHB) program offers mandatory Homebuyer Education workshops led by qualified Housing Counselors. Funded by Program Administration, these workshops cover mortgage products, market conditions, credit scores, and fair housing rights. They provide guidance on mortgage options, budgeting, and closing procedures, helping participants understand their fair housing rights and ensuring equitable access to homeownership for low- and moderate-income households.

**Outreach:** The County engages with citizen groups, advocates, and non-profit organizations to effectively meet community needs. Outreach methods include:

- Offering Spanish translation at public hearings and meetings.
- Publishing legal notices in local newspapers, including Spanish translations.
- Sending email notifications through a network of non-profit service providers.
- Hosting information on our website.
- Distributing brochures and flyers about fair housing and equal opportunity through non-profit

community-based organizations.

**Complaint Procedure:** Title VI mandates that no person in the U.S. shall be excluded from or denied benefits in any program or activity based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability. Consortium staff maintain records of complaints and ensure thorough investigation by the Ocean County Fair Housing Officer (FHO). If needed, complaints are referred to U.S. HUD.

**Program Requirements:** Grant recipients must follow laws ensuring equal opportunity and non-discrimination in HUD programs based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or other protected characteristics. This applies to all involved in CDBG projects under the County of Ocean. The administration of projects does not tolerate discrimination in any form. The County includes specific clauses and continually seeks improvements in CDBG program requirements to ensure compliance with fair housing standards.

**Clauses:**

- **Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity:** No person or group shall, based on race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, genetics, military or veteran status, retaliation, or any other protected characteristic, be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity.
- **Fair Housing Act:** The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, or financing of dwellings and other housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin. It also includes protections for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and addresses adverse actions based on English communication ability.

**Additional Protections:** The County adheres to statutes that uphold fair housing principles, including the **Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended**, which mandates accessibility standards for federally funded facilities. The County also follows the **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**, which protects survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from discrimination in housing programs.

**Ongoing Improvements:** The County regularly updates its Analysis of Impediments (AI) to enhance service provision. This includes analyzing Census data to identify language needs, providing document translation and on-site interpretation for LEP individuals, and adjusting services based on demographic changes.

## **CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230**

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

Effective monitoring and compliance are essential to ensure that program activities meet the objectives and requirements of the CDBG and HOME programs. A robust framework oversees program implementation and ensures adherence to federal and state regulations. This framework includes a systematic approach to performance reviews, compliance checks, and regulatory adherence.

### **CDBG and HOME Monitoring Overview**

**Ongoing Monitoring:** Review performance outcomes and compliance with quarterly progress reports, annual tenant and beneficiary reports, reimbursement requests, financials, and single audits.

**Federal Reporting and Performance:** Conduct monitoring through federal reporting, desk and on-site reviews, and specific performance measures for federally funded projects.

**Housing Rehabilitation:** Require screening and eligibility processes for projects. Obtain affidavits declaring that dwellings are the primary residence and subject to annual monitoring.

**Income and Affordability Laws:** Enforce compliance with laws related to tenant income, housing condition, and long-term affordability requirements.

**Payroll and Labor Standards:** Verify weekly payroll for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act, New Jersey prevailing wage rates, and Section 3 requirements if applicable. Conduct on-site visits to review labor standards and interview employees.

**Reporting Requirements:** Report on contract and subcontract activities related to the Davis-Bacon Act and other relevant standards using the following forms:

- **2516:** Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE).
- **4710:** Semi-Annual Labor Standards Enforcement Report – Local Contracting Agencies.
- **4742:** Federal Labor Standards Agency Remote Monitoring Review Guide.
- **Environmental Review:** Activity/Project Exempt or Categorically Excluded Not Subject to Section 58.5.

**Annual Risk Assessment:** Perform annual risk assessments to determine the monitoring frequency. Adjust on-site visit schedules based on findings. Monitoring reports document visit dates, observations, findings, concerns, and remediation plans.

**Financial Compliance:** Ensure adherence to Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars and local regulations on financial management, procurement, labor standards, record keeping, and reporting.

By implementing these monitoring and compliance procedures, adherence to federal and state regulations supports effective program delivery and equitable outcomes for all stakeholders.

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

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

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires entitlement jurisdictions to involve citizens in the planning, implementation, and assessment of CDBG-funded activities. The County of Ocean's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) is designed to ensure that all citizens, especially those from low- and moderate-income communities, have a voice in these processes.

The CPP primarily involves public hearings, meetings, and comment periods. The Ocean County Planning Department (OCPD) held multiple public hearings and meetings to assess proposed activities and determine if they address community needs. The Ocean County Housing Advisory Committee (CHAC), which includes members from a diverse range of community organizations, also reviewed and discussed these activities.

The County regularly engages with citizen groups, advocates, and non-profit organizations to ensure our programs align with community needs. This includes collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC), the Ocean County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), and CHAC.

To ensure transparency and maintain accountability, legal notices (including Spanish translations), public comments, meeting minutes, and other relevant documentation accompany HUD submissions. Ocean County submits its Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and CAPER to HUD, reinforcing its commitment to accountability.



**CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)**

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

Priority of objectives remained unchanged. The County successfully implemented all program elements.

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

No

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

## **CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)**

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

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

The County of Ocean ensures compliance with housing codes and regulations through regular on-site inspections of HOME-supported rental units, adhering to HOME regulations and HUD's HQS Habitability Standards. The monitoring and inspection process is as follows:

**Routine Inspections:** The County conducts inspections within 12 months of project completion and at least once every three years during the affordability period, based on the number of units:

- 1 to 4 units: every three years.
- 5 to 25 units: every two years.
- 26 or more units: annually.

**Compliance Monitoring:** Inspections assess adherence to HUD's property standards and local ordinances, including:

- Physical site inspections of units and common areas.
- Reviews of tenant files for income and rent eligibility.
- Employee interviews.
- Progress inspections.

**Corrective Actions:** If deficiencies arise, the County issues a letter detailing the citations to the subrecipient and schedules a follow-up inspection within the next 12 months to ensure that corrections occur.

**Reporting and Documentation:** Detailed reports capture compliance status and any issues, ensuring that properties remain safe, sanitary, and compliant with all applicable standards.

The inspection process confirms that HOME-assisted rental units generally meet HUD and local standards. Any deficiencies prompt immediate action to maintain high-quality housing for residents.

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

The County of Ocean prioritizes equity and non-discrimination in housing as required by the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Access to Housing Final Rule. The County's Affirmative Marketing Policy and Implementing Procedures document implements comprehensive affirmative marketing practices for HOME units, promoting fairness and inclusion, and ensuring that all eligible individuals have equal access to HOME-assisted housing:\*

### **Affirmative Marketing Plan**

- **Applicability:** Affirmative marketing procedures apply to HOME-funded projects with 5 or more units. Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) and private developers must submit or follow an Affirmative Marketing Plan.
- **Review Process:** These plans undergo review during the application, contracting, and monitoring phases to ensure effective outreach to underrepresented populations.

### **Marketing Strategies**

- **Informing the Public:** The public, owners, and potential tenants receive information about fair housing laws and the affirmative marketing policy.
- **Broad Marketing:** Owners must market to all segments of the housing market area.
- **Special Outreach:** Special outreach procedures address the need to reach underrepresented populations effectively when necessary.

### **Monitoring and Compliance**

- **Record Keeping:** Diligently maintained records allow for the regular evaluation of marketing efforts to ensure optimal results.
- **Workshops and Branding:** Fair housing workshops occur regularly, and equal housing opportunity logos prominently feature in advertisements and promotional materials.

Commitment to upholding affirmative marketing practices for HOME units ensures that all eligible individuals have an equal opportunity to benefit from HOME-assisted housing. Continuous evaluation and adjustment of marketing strategies actively enhance outreach and maintain compliance with fair housing standards.

\*(Source: County of Ocean Affirmative Marketing Policy and Implementing Procedures)

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

Section CR-15 details the receipt and expenditure of program income.

**Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k)**

**(STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)**

**Note** - The County of Ocean does not own land, property, or anticipate owning land and property for public housing. The County of Ocean does not use any of its CDBG funds for a public housing authority activity. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations do not permit the use of the HOME Investment program funds on an activity with a public housing authority.

The County addresses housing and community development needs through CDBG and HOME funds. To support affordable housing, both for-profit and non-profit providers utilize a range of funding sources, including:

- CDBG and HOME funds.
- Other federal and state resources.
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs).

Additionally, the County implements various strategies to promote and sustain affordable housing.

**Utilization of Funding Sources**

- Addresses housing and community development needs through CDBG and HOME funds.
- Supports affordable housing projects via multiple funding streams, including CDBG, HOME, other federal and state sources, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs).

**Promotion and Support of Affordable Housing Opportunities**

- Promotes affordable housing initiatives through outreach and community resources.
- Supports collaborations and partnerships between non-profit and for-profit developers to enhance the development and retention of safe and decent affordable housing.

**Financial Assistance for Homebuyers and Housing Rehabilitation**

- Provides down payment assistance and closing cost subsidies to eligible first-time homebuyers.
- Funds new construction, minor home repairs, and rehabilitation of affordable housing units to increase availability for extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income persons.

**Coordination with LIHTC Program**

- Leverages Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) to support the development of both single-family and multi-family rental housing.
- Promotes LIHTCs as an additional funding source, offering federal income tax credits to developers who construct, rehabilitate, or acquire qualified low-income rental housing.

### **Engagement with Lending Institutions**

- Collaborates with lending institutions to expand their lending for housing construction, purchasing, or rehabilitation using HOME or other federal and state funds.
- Enforces deed restrictions and monitoring to ensure compliance and effectiveness.

### **Educational and Direct Support Initiatives**

- Educates a property owner on converting their rental units to affordable housing through HUD-subsidized tenants.
- Provides certified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) with CDBG and HOME funds for the development and rehabilitation of multi-family and single-family housing.
- Offers direct homeownership assistance, new construction housing, rehabilitation, lead-based paint abatement, and tenant-based rental assistance (24-months) for low-income households.

### CR-58 – Section 3

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

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

**Table 14 – Total Labor Hours**

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

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

**Narrative**

**Note** - The County of Ocean does not own land, property, or anticipate owning land and property for public housing. The County of Ocean does not use any of its CDBG funds for a public housing authority activity. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations do not permit the use of the HOME Investment program funds on an activity with a public housing authority.

The Qualitative Efforts – Number of Activities by Program tracks labor hours and qualitative impacts of HUD financial assistance on employment opportunities and sustainability.\*

Section 3 applies to housing rehabilitation, construction, and other public construction projects funded by HUD programs, with a total assistance threshold of \$200,000, or \$100,000 for Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes programs.\*\*

Data will be appear in this table only if Section 3 funding thresholds are met.

\*(Source: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-29/pdf/2020-19185.pdf>)

\*\* (Source: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/field\\_policy\\_mgt/section3/reporting\\_requirements](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/field_policy_mgt/section3/reporting_requirements))