

**City of Hopewell, Virginia
Consolidated Annual
Performance and Evaluation
Report for the Community
Development Block Grant
Program Year 2019-2020**



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 City of Hopewell is an entitlement grantee it is required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to develop and execute a Consolidated Five Year Plan. An Annual Action plan is developed in order to carry out the goals of the Consolidated Plan. The Annual Action provides a concise summary of the actions, activities and specific resources that will be used each year to address the identified priority needs and goals. This CAPER addresses activities between July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

The grantee completes “The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report” (CAPER) in order to summarize its resources, allocation of investments, programmatic accomplishments, and status of actions taken during the program year to implement goals identified in the annual plan.

The FY 2019 CAPER was available for review at the Department of Development Satellite office located at 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, VA 23860, the Hopewell public library, located at 209 East Cawson Street, and the City’s webpage.

The CAPER was available for a period of fifteen days prior to its submission to HUD. The public was notified through a publication in the Progress Index on Monday, December 28, 2020, and Monday, January 4, 2021

In FY2019 the City met accomplishments in the following areas:

- Rapid rehousing
- Providing aid for children at risk of child abuse
- Food pantry
- Providing after school tutoring and mentoring to children in public housing
- Providing resources, therapy to persons/families threatened by domestic violence or sexual abuse.

The City did not meet goals for rehabilitation of owner occupied housing.

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 |
|---|--|-----------------|--|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Capacity Building for Early Childhood Education | Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | CDBG: \$ | Other | Other | 85 | 94 | 110.59% | | | |
| Disaster Recovery Planning | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Other | Other | 1 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| Ending Homelessness and Homeless Prevention | Homeless | CDBG: \$ | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 128 | | % | 2 | 3 | 150.00% |
| Ending Homelessness and Homeless Prevention | Homeless | CDBG: \$ | Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Households Assisted | | | | | | |
| Ending Homelessness and Homeless Prevention | Homeless | CDBG: \$ | Homeless Person Overnight Shelter | Persons Assisted | 90 | | % | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------|-----|---|---------|---|---|--|
| Ending Homelessness and Homeless Prevention | Homeless | CDBG: \$ | Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added | Beds | | | | | | |
| Ending Homelessness and Homeless Prevention | Homeless | CDBG: \$ | Other | Other | 218 | 0 | 0.00% | | | |
| General Planning and Administration | General Planning and Administration | CDBG: \$ | Other | Other | 1 | 1 | 100.00% | | | |
| Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |

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 jurisdiction was able to use the limited funding provided through public service to aid those that have experienced domestic violence and are at risk for child abuse through the James House and Hopewell Prince George Healthy Families.

The Hopewell Food Pantry also helped bridge the gap for households experiencing food insecurity. These households consisted of persons that were either elderly and/or disabled.

STORY, and non-profit organization committed to providing educational tutoring, mentoring and life-skills to children living in public housing continue to do wonderful in the City.

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 |
|---|--------------|
| White | 1,159 |
| Black or African American | 1,153 |
| Asian | 0 |
| American Indian or American Native | 1 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 1 |
| Total | 2,314 |
| Hispanic | 43 |
| Not Hispanic | 2,271 |

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

Narrative

A total of 2,314 people were serviced utilizing CDBG funds. Fifty-percent (50%) were White, and 49.8% were black. Less than 0.1% were American Indian or American Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Ethnically, 2% of those serviced were Hispanic. While the City has become more diverse over the past ten years, the majority of residents are Non-Hispanic Whites.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

| Source of Funds | Source | Resources Available | Made | Amount Expended During Program Year |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| CDBG | public - federal | 253,359 | | 146,104 |

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

| Target Area | Planned Percentage of Allocation | Actual Percentage of Allocation | Narrative Description |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| City Wide | 100 | 100 | City Wide |

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

All activities financed through the Community Development Block Grant were city-wide. The City did not target a specific area for any projects approved.

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.

This program year there were no publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan. While the sub-recipients leveraged CDBG dollars with public and private funding, there was no required match.

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 | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 0 | 0 |

Table 5 – Number of Households

| | One-Year Goal | Actual |
|--|---------------|----------|
| Number of households supported through Rental Assistance | 2 | 3 |
| Number of households supported through The Production of New Units | 0 | 0 |
| Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units | 16 | 0 |
| Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 18 | 3 |

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

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

Commonwealth Catholic Charities was able to service three (3) households this year instead of 2 as anticipated.

Unfortunately, the housing rehabilitation programs scheduled through Rebuilding Together and Project:homes did not occur. Due to the retirement of the part-time Housing and Grants Coordinator and the time taken to revamp the program, contracts were provided to these two sub-recipients months after the year start. By the time the sub-recipients were ready to begin work, the COVID-19 pandemic halted progress. The sub-recipients decided not to continue with housing rehabilitation activities to ensure safety for their employees and residents receiving services.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Project:homes and Rebuilding Together plan to continue with the FY19 projects in the FY20 program year. These are the only two housing rehabilitation sub-recipients that work in the City of Hopewell. Their funding in the FY20 year will be reduced and less homes rehabilitated.

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 | 3 | 0 |
| Low-income | 0 | 0 |
| Moderate-income | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 3 | 0 |

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

All households serviced were extremely low income.

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 City of Hopewell opened a cold weather shelter approximately four years ago. The City has hired Commonwealth Catholic Charities to operate the shelter. The operator assesses individual needs and administers the VDATSPIDAT on each person that enters and agrees. The City does not use CDBG funds to operate the shelter.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will continue to provide bed nights for the homeless. It is a top priority of the City Council. The City has rallied around the homeless shelter. Houses of worship and individual volunteers, along with the City ensure there is food, donations, and supplies are provided to the shelter. CARES is the women and childrens shelter in the City of Petersburg, an adjacent jurisdiction. The FY19 Action Plan recognized CARES as a sub-recipient for FY19, however, while CARES participated in sub-recipient orientation meetings, they never signed the contract for the year. Staff suggest this funding be reappropriated.

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

There are no current programs specifically targeted to help low-income individuals and families to avoid becoming homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care. However, there has been increased conversations on ways to bridge this gap in services within the City.

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

Commonwealth Catholic Charities receives limited funding from the City through CDBG to provide rapid rehousing. There has been heightened awareness and conversation about ways to provide rapid rehousing for those in transition from homelessness to transition and permanent housing. The Salvation Army transitional men's program located in Petersburg, VA is no longer in operation since the shift to rapid rehousing models. In the past, most recently in 2012 and 2013, the City appropriated funding through CDBG to the Salvation Army to provide rent and utility payments for those at risk for becoming homeless. In 2012 and 2016, CDBG funding rapid rehousing efforts through the Flagler House located in Petersburg, VA.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Through CDBG the City has funded STORY to help children that reside in public housing within the City. Additionally, the City has also partnered with the the Housing Authority to facilitate a rezoning request to provide a mixed income community to replace a failing public housing community; Langston Park to the Summitt. The City also helped facilitate the project to rehabilitate a 100 public housing high-rise community for the elderly/disabled at Kippax Place. This facility is now owned by Community Housing Partners.

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

This year the City has not partnered with the Housing Authority to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership. However, the Housing Authority continues to administer its self sufficiency program workshops on nutrition, youth activities, adult education, workforce development, financial literacy, mental health referrals, and other special events.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Hopewell Development Staff and HRHA staff meet regularly to discuss ways to improve housing quality and affordability in the City. The HRHA sponsored tours of all properties and an overview of the HRHA vision with City Staff and City Council members. The HRHA and the City Development Staff worked to

complete action steps from the City Council's Strategic Planning session held earlier this year. The City and HRHA will continue to work closely together to foster open communication and work toward the shared goal of providing quality affordable housing in the City.

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)

The City has participated in a regional fair housing impediments study with the City's of Richmond, Petersburg and Colonial Heights and the Counties of Chesterfield, and Henrico, as well as the Richmond Housing Authority and the Hopewell Redevelopment and Housing Authority. We anticipate receiving the final report in the first quarter of 2021.

The Study will assess land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes and any other policies that create barriers to access housing for protected classes. We anticipate reviewing this information presenting it to City Council and the HRHA Board to determine a plan to address any impediments to affordability.

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

The City has opened the warm weather shelter in the past four years. This is a big stride for the City as in year's past there was no formal shelter located within the City. Additionally, the City has provided funding to a local substance abuse program whose mission is to provide support to persons in the criminal justice system to decrease recidivism rates for those with substance abuse addictions. There are surely more things that can be done to address obstacles to meet underserved needs, but the City eyes have opened to the issues of the underserved and there is now conversation on how to help persons in this category.

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

The City has not taken formal strides to reduce lead based paint hazards in housing in the City. City Staff did participate in webinars that discussed funding available to investigate and possibly remove lead based paint hazards, however, there is not staff available to prepare and administer the program.

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

There no measures taken using CDBG fundst that directly reduced the number of poverty-level families. This was not a goal outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The CDBG program provides funding for rapid rehousing, and the food pantry that assist poverty-level families. The Hopewell Social Services department provivdes assistance daily to reduce the number of poverty-level families.

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

After the retirement of the part-time Housing and Grants Coordinator, the adminstration of the CDBG Program was given to the Senior Planner. The person is this position has worked on the State CDBG program in the past. There is checks in balances regarding drawdowns, program and activity setup and voucher generation. The Executive Assistant makes all creates all vouchers after verification of request is completed by the Senior Planner. The Director of the Department of Development approves the voucher.

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

City Staff from the Department of Development coordinated a housing meeting with key stakeholders to discuss housing in the City. These stakeholders included developmers, builders, finance agencies and others to discuss housing issues. The meeting served as a starting board to begin a broader discussion about ways to improve housing quality, diversity, and maintenace of the City's current housing stock. The Department of Development and Social Services coordinate efforts in regards to code enforcement violations and wellness checks, specifically for the elderly in homes that cannot be maintained. Some of these homes have been referred to housing rehabilitation

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

The City in partnership with the City of Colonial Heights, Petersburg, and Richmond and Chesterfield and Herico County is in the final stages of completing a regional analysis of impediments study. The impediments study will be complete by March 2021. After this time the City will review the impediments identified and take strategic steps to overcome them.

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

Hopewell desires to provide an efficient process to manage the CDBG program. The City has created a monitoring form, sub-recipient training, and reimbursement forms to each sub-recipient that outlines the policies and procedures to administer CDBG funding programs.

After applications are reviewed, and scored based on consistency with City goals, Staff determines if the number of clients to be serviced is feasible based on the funding amount and time. Adjustments are made to ensure projects are complete in a timely manner. The COVID-19 pandemic and turn-over in the Development office created a lapse in implementation of emergency home repair projects. The City works closely with sub-recipients that are having issues with any portion of the program.

The City uses a project checklist to ensure program requirements are fulfilled in the correct order. Monitoring is accomplished through annual or biennial on-site visits, and analysis of quarterly reports. During the 2019 program year all sub-recipients attended a meeting in City Hall to discuss programmatic procedures in general. The sub-recipients were then divided into sub-groups to discuss programmatic issues specific to their program objectives. The City does not fund projects that require employee interviews, pre construction conferences and review of activities in relation to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act and Wage procedures.

Sub-recipients are required to submit quarterly reports to the City. Each sub-recipient was provided a detailed list of the required submissions. Funds are provided to the sub-recipient after reporting documentation is reviewed and approved by the Program Coordinator. A check for the service and voucher is generated from IDIS by the Executive Assistant. The Director approves the voucher and reimbursement check.

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.

Notice of availability for the draft CAPER was published in the Progress Index Newspaper on Thursday, December 31st and January 7th. Citizens were given 15 days to review and provide comments on the documents. The draft was available at the following locations:

1. City's website: <http://www.hopewellva.gov>

2. City of Hopewell Department of Development, 300 North Main Street, Satellite Office
3. Appomattox Regional Library, 209 East Cawson Street
4. Hopewell Recreation/Community Center, 100 West City Point Road

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.

Capacity Building for Early Childhood Development was a goal of the City in the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan in addition to owner occupied housing rehabilitation, and ending homelessness and homeless prevention. To this end the City funded two programs, Smart Beginnings and Reading is Fundamental. The City was informed in 2018 that the projects did not meet national objectives and was required to repay approximately \$56,000 back to HUD. This money was placed back into the City's CDBG program. The City therefore no longer funds early childhood development projects whose objective is to reduce poverty.

The City's 2021-2026 Consolidated Plan outlines new objectives for the next 5 years. These goals include: owner occupied housing rehabilitation and assistance, ending homelessness and homeless prevention, homeless facility, recreational facilities, and employment training.

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

No

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

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