

## Executive Summary

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

#### 1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program allocates annual funds to the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas. The CDBG Program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The purpose of the program is to provide funding for grantees to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting for low- and moderate-income persons within city limits of Jonesboro. CDBG eligible activities must address one of the following three National Objectives:

- Benefit to low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons or households;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and
- Meet a need having a particular urgency (urgent need).

City of Jonesboro, as grantee, carry out a wide range of community development activities, such as, housing, economic development, and public services within the following programs:

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program;
- Homeownership Assistance Program;
- Demolition & Clearance Assistance Program;
- Public Services;
- Public Facilities and Improvements;
- Microenterprise Business Accelerator (MBA); and
- Homelessness Prevention.

Designed to set goals that address community needs, the City of Jonesboro 2018 Annual Action Plan is an addition to 2017 – 2021 (Five-Year) Consolidated Plan. This Action Plan is a report with descriptions and action items for specific activities that meet the goals outlined in the original Consolidated Plan.

As the lead agency for the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan, the City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development follows a citizen participation plan

to include citizens, City departments, CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee, non-profits, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan.

## **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 City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development along with citizens' participation process have identified objectives and outcomes to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting for low- and moderate-income persons within city limits of Jonesboro.

Based on the responses of surveys during the public hearing, the citizens scored three community needs higher. Economic development was the highest scored community need, following with housing and homelessness. These surveys were taken into consideration to identify objectives and outcomes for the 2018 Annual Action Plan.

## **3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

The City of Jonesboro has continued addressing homelessness prevention, a problem identified by the Homelessness Task Force Coalition. The HUB (Helping Underserved Belong) Program has provided services to the homeless and those at risk to become homeless. The Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds have enable the City to provide rent assistance and utility bill payments for low-and moderate-income persons homeless and/or at risk of homelessness. Furthermore, the City has continued forming partnerships with other entities to establish two of the activities mentioned above, fund the Homeless Shelter, and introduce and manage the Veteran Village.

Housing services have been one of the priorities for the Grants and Community Development Department. Providing low-and moderate-income persons with decent housing and a suitable living environment is a continuing effort. Homeownership and Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance, and other activities funded have been instrumental to enable the City to address issues that homeowners encounter by living in substandard conditions. The partnership with Mid-South Health Systems (MSHS) is a

great example addressing the City's goals of providing decent housing and a suitable living environment. In the past, MSHS has been awarded funds to rehabilitate their Transitional Group Homes to improve the quality of living conditions for individuals suffering mental illnesses.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City follows the citizen participation plan to include citizens, City departments, non-profits, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee and the Grants and Community Development Department staff are involved in the decision-making for funds allocation. Citizens have the opportunity provide input and informed throughout the planning process by participating in public hearings and public review and comment period, all advertised in local newspaper and City website.

On January 3, 2018, the *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* was published in the local newspaper. The Notice of Public Hearing was advertised on January 25, 2018 for two separate hearing on February 15, 2018. The two public hearings were at two different locations and times most convenient to citizens to encourage participation. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on February 20, 2018 to review and score the proposals submitted. At this meeting, the CAC also identified objectives for the 2018 Annual Action Plan.

#### **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.

Through the newspaper advertisement, the website, and City social media the public where given the opportunity for a 30-days public comment period. There were no comments or concerns submitted or brought up to the department.

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

Not applicable. No comments or views were received.

#### **7. Summary**

Not applicable.

## 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
Lead Agency	City of Jonesboro, AR	Dept. of Grants and Community Development
CDBG Administrator	City of Jonesboro, AR	Dept. of Grants and Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

### Narrative (optional)

The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development is the lead agency assigned to administrate, implement and oversee the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded programs and activities. The staff are responsible of preparing the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan with the input and collaboration with citizens, public and private entities.

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Jonesboro recognizes that collaborating with citizens, public and private entities is vital for the advancement of the community. The Grants and Community Development Department administers the Community Development Block Grant and continuously form partnerships with organizations to provide input on their field of expertise to better assist the department in developing the Plan.

During the planning process for the 2018 Annual Action Plan, the City consulted with the community, City departments, public and private organizations. Collaborated and consulted with the Jonesboro Urban Renewal & Housing Authority (JURHA), Crowley's Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Department of Human Services, United Way of Northeast Arkansas, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro, and many other organizations and agencies.

### **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))**

The City of Jonesboro receives input from City departments, Citizens Advisory Committee, public and private organizations, and federal and state agencies to coordinate community development and housing services. Coordination between entities include strategizing, communicating, and serving on committees and boards.

### **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 City of Jonesboro is involved with planning and strategizing of the Homelessness Task Force Coalition, a member of the Arkansas Balance of State, collaborate with Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA).

During the planning process, the jurisdiction reached out to JURHA, Mid-South Health Systems, Goodwill Industries, the Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (N.A.R.T.C.P), East Arkansas Planning and Development District (EAPDD), Craighead County Veterans Services, Crowley's Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Hispanic Community Services, Inc. (HCSI), and a host of other non-profit organizations, church outreach ministries, community groups and neighborhood associations.

The City conducts the annual Point in Time Count (PIT); collaborates with its partners to serve the homeless populations and at-risk of becoming homeless. The PIT count this year, an increase of individuals being homeless within Craighead County than in Greene or Poinsett.

**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**

The City of Jonesboro planning process is a 12-month process that solicits and accepts input throughout the year. Information and data are collected from federally mandated public hearings; including CDBG, AFH hearings, community meetings and listening sessions. The jurisdiction met with the local housing authority on several occasions to plan and discuss the joint AFH plan. This process has enhanced the avenues for sharing data and gaining a better understanding of how we can coordinate our efforts to improve the lives of our low- and moderate-income citizens. Additionally, social service agencies and other entities were also invited to the table during the planning process as well as throughout the year. This year-long listening process has proven to be successful in gaining input from a cross-section of the community and service providers.

**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**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Jonesboro Urban Housing Renewal
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans AFH Plan
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority (JURHA) is the jurisdiction's partner on the development of the AFH Plan. They provided the public housing needs, housing choice vouchers data and assisted in the public hearings. In addition to the AFH partnership, JURHA has representation on the Homeless Taskforce since its inception.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	East Arkansas Planning & Development District, Inc.

	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	EAPDD has developed through a Housing Sustainability and Economic Development Plan in 2014 for 12 counties in Northeast Arkansas. This plan was made possible through the HUD Sustainability and Economic Growth Program and the City was an active participant in their study for housing stock and economic conditions.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Jonesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County Regional Planning and Transportation
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Transportation Planning
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City of Jonesboro has consulted over the last three years regarding transportation planning for the City and County jurisdictions.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Jonesboro Economical Transportation System
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Public Transit Organization Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Transportation
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	JET has been involved in the transportation needs for our low-and moderate-income populations as well the homelessness programs of the jurisdiction.

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

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

Not applicable - None known.

**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	City of Jonesboro	This plan overlaps the Consolidated and Action Plans through ensuring affordable and decent housing is available for the homeless to become independent and integrated into the community. In addition, transportation planning and implementation was the second goal that was part of both programs for the jurisdiction.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**



## **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**

The citizen participation process began with advertising the *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* in the local newspaper and City website on January 3, 2018. The Notice of Public Hearing was advertised in the local newspaper, flyers were put on City's social media and website on January 25, 2018 for two separate hearing on February 15, 2018. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on February 20, 2018 to review and score the proposals submitted. At this meeting, the CAC also identified objectives for the 2018 Annual Action Plan. **On May 30, 2018 advertisement for *Notice of 30 Days Public Comment Period* for the 2018 Annual Action Plan.**

**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	Newspaper Advertisement, email messages, City social media flyer posts and website calendar announcements, and flyers posted around town parks/community centers	Non-targeted/broad community  Non-Profit Organization	Non-profit organizations accessed application (RFP) on City website. Four (4) organizations submitted proposals for projects servicing LMI persons.	No public comment received.	Not Applicable	
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Citizens, Citizens Advisory Committee members, and non-profit organizations attended on February 15, 2018 two separate meetings.	Dept. staff made presentation of all activities and organizations' proposals accepted. Attendees filled out a short survey identifying priority community needs.	12 individuals filled out the surveys identifying the community needs as priority: 6/12 – Economic Development. 3/12 – Housing and Homelessness	
3	Newspaper Ad online and printed, City social media and website post	Non-targeted/broad community	2018 AAP draft displayed for review and comment period.	No comments received during public comment period.	No comments received.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

#### 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	Federal	Housing services Homeless Prevention Public Services Public Facilities & Improvements Economic Development Administration & Planning	622,310	0.00	104,034.54		422,852.10	This is the expected amount of CDBG funds for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan. It is estimated by the Year One (1) allocation times two (2)

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

None at this time.

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

**Discussion**

Not Applicable

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## 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	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing  AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$14,000	Homeowner Housing Added: 2 Household Housing Unit
2	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled	2017	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro- Low Income Areas	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings	CDBG: \$100,000	Other: 1 other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability	2017	2021	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability	North Jonesboro Citywide LMI Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$94,800	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Households Assisted Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 2 Buildings
4	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide Citywide LMI Areas North Jonesboro	AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$325,191	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4 Persons Assisted Other: 3 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit	2017	2021	Public Housing Transportation	Citywide LMI Areas North Jonesboro	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings	CDBG: \$0 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted
6	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Advisory Board	2017	2018	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	Citywide	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes & Restrictions AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing	CDBG: \$0 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$0	Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 2018.  8 board members.  Objective: Fair Housing Training through Fair Housing Commission

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Citywide	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$0 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 262 Persons Assisted
8	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement	2017	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Citywide LMI Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing	CDBG: \$0 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted



Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Citywide LMI Areas	AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing	CDBG: \$0 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$0	Other: 10 other
10	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless	2017	2021	Homeless	Citywide	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$50,000 Competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: \$94,397	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 8 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 50 Persons Assisted

**Table 6 – Goals Summary**

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank
	<b>Goal Description</b>	City Land Bank for vacant lots and donated property for the repurpose of property into affordable residential housing, this will provide low-income households to become homeowners.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Opportunities and accessibility issues for individual with disabilities goes to the heart of fair housing issues for these residents. Individuals with disabilities without transportation and other key public infrastructures can cause limited housing opportunities to exist throughout the city.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	<b>Goal Description</b>	This goal will specifically target the slums and blight elimination in the low-income neighborhoods. In addition, it addresses park and recreational centers improvements, provide public services for low-income individuals and encourages employment programs for those identified areas.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Fair housing is not only about housing, but also about ensuring all residents have a great quality of life. The development of revitalization strategies will allow all residents to provide input into the vision of the quality of life they want for their neighborhood. Revitalization strategies will address contributing factors expressed by residents and staff identified throughout the AFH. The Census data shows that over the last ten years, there has been a constant flow of moderate/middle income families as well as white families moving out of North Jonesboro. Over the same period, there has been a constant influx of low- income and minorities moving into North Jonesboro. If this trend continues, it is only a matter of time before this R/ECAP become a slum and blight neighborhood; then criminal activities will filter into the area.

5	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The Jonesboro Housing Authority is unfamiliar with the challenges facing the city in providing transportation for more routes and extending hours to weekends. The PHA is requesting a representative from the Housing Authority be added to the committee to promote the needs of Publicly Assisted Housing residents who rely on JET for transportation. The limited schedule affects their ability to access opportunity including jobs in the service industries, third-shift jobs, and other community amenities. Many residents who are impacted include the elderly, disabled and minorities.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Establish a Citizens Fair Housing Board to educate residents (with a focus on protected classes) on how to effectively utilize fair housing laws; and to reduce opposition community to the development of affordable housing in high opportunity areas in Jonesboro.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Citizen's Fair Housing Board increase knowledge and understanding of fair housing among property owners and residents to affirmatively further fair housing, international property maintenance codes and influence the State of Arkansas to create tenant/landlord laws. This addresses the issues because education of the public regarding their rights and responsibilities with regards to the fair housing law is an essential component of fair housing enforcement. This includes the education of landlords and tenants, housing and financial providers, as well as citizens. Potential victims of housing and/or lending discrimination law should be aware of fair housing issues, know what constitutes a violation, and what they can do in the event they believe they have been discriminated against. Likewise, it is important for lenders, housing providers, and their agents to know what their responsibilities are and when they may be violating fair housing law. The Community Development Office is responsible for conducting public education, training and outreach of fair housing rights and remedies in Jonesboro. People are often unaware of their fair housing rights. Housing discrimination tends to be more subtle these days than it was in the past. Instead of saying no children are allowed, unreasonable occupancy standards may exclude families with children. Rather than saying, "We do not rent to Hispanics," a rental agent may say they have no vacancies, when, in fact, they have vacancies. In addition, a person who believes he/she may have been discriminated against will probably do nothing if he/she does not realize a telephone call can initiate intervention and a resolution, without expenditure of funds or excessive time.

8	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increasing awareness and enforcement of fair housing among publicly assisted families.
9	<b>Goal Name</b>	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>Increase the number of property owners willing to accept housing choice vouchers to open up available housing throughout the community due to the lack of affordable housing for publicly assisted families in the housing choice voucher programs.</p> <p>Jonesboro is one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Arkansas with an increase of 23.5% from 2000 per Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce with an annual growth rate of 2%. It is a challenge to enlist owners who willing to participate in the HGV program because it is a "sellers' market" where there are more renters looking for units than there are rentals available.</p>
10	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase housing and services opportunities to the homeless populations.

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$622,310 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the City of Jonesboro to achieve their set goals of activities listed in the 2018 Action Plan.

#### Projects

<b>HOUSING SERVICES</b>		
1	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (may include sewer connection)	\$141,705.50
2	Homeownership Assistance	\$14,000
3	Demolition & Clearance Assistance	\$10,000
<b>HOMELESS SERVICES/PREVENTION</b>		
4	Transitional Housing for Veterans	\$50,000
<b>PUBLIC FACILITIES &amp; IMPROVEMENTS</b>		
5	Mid-South Health Systems – Transitional Group Home	\$25,209
6	Patrick Street Sidewalks	\$110,000
7	Rotary Park	\$25,000
8	Northside Baseball Park – Deral Burrow Memorial Park	\$50,000
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b>		
9	Hispanic Community Services, Inc.	\$20,000
10	West End Neighborhood Association	\$11,981
11	Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro	\$19,952.50
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>		
12	Microenterprise Business Accelerator (MBA)	\$20,000
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
13	CDBG Program Planning & Administration	\$124,462

**Table 7 - Project Information**

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

The above listed activities are the proposed and approved projects for the 2018 – 2019 program year. The City of Jonesboro aims to fund activities that benefit low-and moderate-income persons.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (may include sewer connection)</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$141,705.50
	<b>Description</b>	The City will rehabilitate housing unit for low-and moderate-income homeowner-occupant to provide decent and standardized housing for those whom are unable to fund the repairs of their housing units.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City will repair approximately 12 housing units for qualified LMI homeowner-occupants.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	It may include replacement, repair, and installations of roof, heat and air units, plumbing, electrical, foundation, windows, doors and many more.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Homeownership Assistance</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$14,000
	<b>Description</b>	Assist qualified LMI first-time homebuyers with closing-cost/down-payment.

	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City will assist 4 LMI first-time homebuyers.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Grant assistance for 4 LMI first-time homebuyers with closing-cost/down-payment.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Demolition &amp; Clearance Assistance</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	Assist LMI homeowners with funds to demolish their vacant blighted houses. The City aims to continue on preventing and or eliminating slum and blight.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City will provide assistance for 2 – 3 demolition or clearance projects. Approximately 3 LMI households will benefit from the program.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The jurisdiction will assist four low- to moderate- income neighborhoods with the removal of blighted and deteriorated structures that are public safety issues and increase the revitalization efforts within those neighborhoods.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Transitional Housing for Veterans</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro low-to moderate-income census tracts
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing for Veterans

		Increase Access to Quality facility and services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing for Veterans Increase Access to Quality facility and services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000
	<b>Description</b>	Veterans Village: Contraction of supportive housing for veterans.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	20 LMI families
	<b>Location Description</b>	City of Jonesboro
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will construct supportive transitional housing for the area Veterans in the city.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PF) Mid-South health Systems – Transitional Group Home</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	LMI Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 25,209
	<b>Description</b>	Upgrading transitional housing for the mentally ill exiting institutional setting.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Approximately 30 individuals currently live in the three transitional group homes being rehabilitated.
	<b>Location Description</b>	1905, 1913, and 1919 Race Street, Jonesboro



	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Mid-south Mental Health Systems has three transitional housing for mentally and physically disabled individuals. The transitional houses will be rehabilitated to weatherize and install new windows.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PI) Patrick Street Sidewalks</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro LMI Area (specific street)
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 110,000
	<b>Description</b>	Patrick Street construction of new sidewalks. The street has had an increase of vehicle and foot traffic in the past few years and there are no sidewalks for pedestrians.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Over 5000 residents and commuter drivers will be directly benefitting of the public improvements. Sidewalks will benefit drivers and pedestrians to avoid danger of hitting pedestrians walking on the road.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Jonesboro residential area
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Construction of new sidewalks. The street has had an increase of vehicle and foot traffic in the past few years and there are no sidewalks for pedestrians.
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PI) Rotary Park</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategy
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 25,000
	<b>Description</b>	Purchasing wall stage unit for Rotary Park.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The entire city will benefit from the accessibility to the park where community activities and entertainment will be hosting to bring families in to the downtown area.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Jonesboro Downtown – Rotary Park located at the corner of Monroe St. and Church St.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Purchasing wall stage unit for Rotary Park.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PI) Northside Park – Deral Burrow Memorial Park</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro Jonesboro LMI Area North Jonesboro
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability Create Green Space to Promote Healthy Living
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 50,000
	<b>Description</b>	Beautifying an empty lot park. Providing area for BBQ stands and picnic area. Installing benches, tables, and playground equipment.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The entire city will benefit from the accessibility to the park where community activities and games will be hosted. Families will be able to come play, picnic, and socialize.
	<b>Location Description</b>	North Jonesboro Jonesboro LMI Area
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Beautifying an empty lot park. Providing area for BBQ stands and picnic area. Installing benches, tables and playground equipment.
<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PS) Hispanic Community Services, Inc.</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide Jonesboro LMI Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 20,000
	<b>Description</b>	El Centro Hispano – The Hispanic Center serves the Hispanic community in Jonesboro and providing services to LMI residents. The HELP—Hispanic Emerging Leaders Program was established to assist Hispanic/Latino students with leadership skills, options to attend college and/or learn trade skills. Students are exposed to civic community in Jonesboro and visit multiple local businesses where they may intern and or work.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	20 High School Students will be in the program, however, the skills and exposure they learn during this yearlong program will benefit their families, approximately 80 LMI individuals will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Hispanic Center – Jonesboro Hispanic Community Services, Inc. 211 Vandyne St. Jonesboro, AR 72401
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Funds will be used to cover cost of 20 scholarships and administrative cost for portion of Project Coordinator’s salary.
10	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PS) West End Neighborhood Association</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro LMI Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability Public Safety
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,981
	<b>Description</b>	West End Neighborhood Association request funds for the materials and installation of security cameras to the neighborhood park.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The program will directly benefit 6,800 persons within the targeted neighborhood. Of those 6,800 persons, there are 1,700 households with 60% families' w/children, 20% female head of households and 20% single households. These households have elderly, physically and mentally disabled, youth and some homeless populations.
	<b>Location Description</b>	West End Neighborhood, CWL Park North: Union Pacific RR, south: Nettleton Ave., East: Main St., West Gee St.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Purchase and installation of security cameras at CWL Park.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>(PS) Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide Jonesboro LMI Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$19,952.50
	<b>Description</b>	A Brush with Kindness is a new program developed by Habitat to work on the revitalization and beautification of neighborhoods to assist LMI homeowners with exterior home repairs, painting, and landscaping.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	5 households with benefit directly, with an impact to the entire city to prevent slum and blighted areas.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro 520 W. Monroe Ave. Jonesboro, AR 72401
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Revitalization and beautification of neighborhoods to assist LMI homeowners with exterior home repairs, painting, and landscaping.
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Microenterprise Business Accelerator (MBA)</b>

	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro LMI Areas Jonesboro LMI Census Tracts
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Create Economic Opportunity
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 20,000
	<b>Description</b>	Creation and retention of job opportunities for LMI persons.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Four businesses assisted
	<b>Location Description</b>	Downtown primarily, with some microenterprises located citywide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City anticipates assisting start-up businesses and expanding businesses in the downtown area by providing business technical assistance and working capital investment to incentivize businesses to locate to properties in the downtown area.
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>CDBG Program Planning &amp; Administration</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro LMI Areas
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: 124,462
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG administration costs necessary for planning, project management, implementation and compliance reporting.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Project management will directly/indirectly have a positive effect on thousands of low-to moderate-income individuals for the program year.
<b>Location Description</b>	City of Jonesboro 300 S. Church Street Jonesboro, AR 72401
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

## **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**

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Citywide	100

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

### **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

#### **Discussion**

City of Jonesboro – citywide has multiple sectors where data shows low-and moderate-individuals habitat.

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	5
Non-Homeless	53
Special-Needs	3
Total	61

**Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	58
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	9
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	77

**Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

#### Discussion



## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) public housing developments are primarily located on the outskirts of the R/ECAP. Even though it is physically located out of the R/ECAP, based on the JURHA annual review for de-concentration in public housing, 87 percent (121 of 140 public housing residents) fall at or below the extremely low-income levels. Of the remaining eleven percent of the households (19 residents) live at the 50 percent or the very low-income levels of the city population.

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

Jonesboro Housing Authority notes that residents have frequently given opposition to the requirement that public housing residents provide community service. However, JURHA has no choice but to implement this requirement of federal law. In designing the program, the JURHA has addressed resident concerns. Non-exempt residents will be encouraged to perform community service at the development where they reside or in their immediately surrounding communities. Activities such as participation in Neighborhood Watch, Bus Stop Patrol, Tenant Patrol, Computer Lab Volunteer, and Youth Event Chaperone are made available to residents for community service credits. Residents may, however, perform community service at locations not owned or controlled by Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority. JURHA has ten approved work sites.

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

JURHA encourages active participation in our Public Housing Resident Council. Many single parents lacked the time and scheduling conflicts from residents' work schedules prevent adequate participation in these resident council meetings. JURHA offered different schedules for resident council and their board meetings, however the varying non-traditional work schedules of our residents is still second only to lack of transportation as an excuse for nonattendance at the meetings.

JURHA has a public housing resident on our Board of Commissioners, as required by HUD. We give each resident a flyer from JURHA CHDO that sells houses with homeownership tips. Unfortunately, we no longer offer a homeownership program where we were able to truly consult and advise residents on ways to improve credit scores and educate them about homeownership. HUD discontinued funding for the Homeownership Program, expecting housing authorities, to acquire funding from other sources. Even though banks were willing to provide some funding, we were unable to secure adequate funding from local banks

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

Not applicable

**Discussion**

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

### **Introduction**

The City of Jonesboro is in the process of tackling the ever-increasing issue of homelessness. As more and more people find themselves without shelter, we are forced to come to grips with the fact that we can and must do more to provide for those who find themselves without a home. However, individuals with disabilities struggle to transition into permanent housing. The jurisdiction is aware of these issues and are willing to work with the service providers and the families of these individuals. There have also been an increase in veterans being homeless or in danger to becoming homeless, as a result, the City is working to construct a Veterans Village and \$50,000 of CDBG funds will be used.

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including**

The goal of the Veterans Village is to house veterans as a transitional home. Partnering with other veteran service organizations to provide services, job preparedness, and to assist individuals to be able to achieve permanent housing and employment.

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

The City of Jonesboro is in the process of tackling the ever-increasing issue of homelessness. As more and more people find themselves without shelter, we are forced to come to grips with the fact that we can and must do more to provide for those who find themselves without a home. However, individuals with disabilities struggle to transition into permanent housing. The jurisdiction is aware of these issues and are willing to work with the service providers and the families of these individuals.

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

**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.**

The jurisdiction will continue working with the HUB to provide emergency and transitional  
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housing needs for homeless individuals. As a resource center, the HUB will initially tap into emergency and transitional service providers. These includes area homeless shelters and churches. If beds are not available at a shelter, HUB volunteers call area churches who provide 1-2 nights in a motel. If churches are out funds for the month, the HUB used donated and/or raised funds to provide 1-2 nights' motel stay before starting the process over. The jurisdiction and the HUB will continue to refine this process and encourage churches and other organizations to support our efforts to shelter our homeless.

Through ESG the city has been to able assist more than 70 residents with short term utility and rental assistance. CoC funding has successfully assisted 8 families in danger of being homeless with services such as case management. The city will continue to partner with agencies such Crowley's Ridge Development Center to provide assistance to families in need.

**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.**

The city has received ESG funding to provide homeless prevention services to those in danger of becoming homeless. This grant has provided intermittent assistance to those in danger of losing their home or having their utilities turned off. Program participants have also had the opportunity to take budgeting and financial management classes to help them be better equipped to manage their finances.

The elderly and disability populations require additional resources to stay within the community once they have been discharged from the institutional settings. The city intends to assist individuals and service providers with the resources through providing decent and affordable housing opportunities. In addition to the housing aspect, opportunities to enter into life skills and other programs will assist those living within a community setting.

The City currently provides housing rehabilitation assistance to those who own their home and need assistance to bring their homes up to codes.

## **Discussion**

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

### **Introduction:**

Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor in our AFH, because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just two neighborhoods (North Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representation of minority and other protected class residents. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like good schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods.

### **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**

A significant barrier to affordable housing remains the financial ability of the low- to moderate- income families to provide necessary funding for acquisition or for major or minor homeowner repairs, so acquisition and repair programs implemented by the city help address this obstacle. Another obstacle the city continues to face is the rising cost of materials and labor for rehabilitation projects in the community and the negative impact of that escalation on the existing program limits. The city currently administers minor repair programs that enable low- and moderate- income homeowners to stay in their homes in a safe and decent environment. The city continues to assist the low-income community by offering the First-Time New Homeownership Assistance program to eligible participants. This program continues to be very successful.

The city enforces various zoning, permit, and parking requirements, which restricts 'free' use of land, but the city considers these regulations as being necessary to regulate safety and traffic issues for residential areas. The city has provided for more affordable housing by allowing for relaxed lot standards; smaller lots with reduced setbacks (RS-8 Single Family District). This district allows reduced 15 foot, setbacks in front and back yards, as well as 7.5 foot, side setbacks with a lot as small as, 5,445 square feet at 50 foot, in width. The city's Zoning Code requires two parking spaces per single-family or duplex unit.

### **Discussion:**

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

The City of Jonesboro continues to place major emphasis on HUD's priority goals of housing, and improving the quality of life for marginalized residents through the provision of needed public services. This year's projects and activities address these goals directly as it increases accessibility of affordable housing and the viability for potential homeownership through the provision of direct homeownership financial assistance. The city will address the sustainability of our existing affordable housing through its preservation, improvement, and rehabilitation projects. This year the plan prioritizes public improvements in low-income residents and homelessness through Continuum of Care.

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

The City of Jonesboro's Department of Grants & Community Development has implemented a city-wide community engagement strategy that includes residents, churches, stakeholders and non-profit organizations that serve our lowest income residents. It is the city's intention to build a model of community involvement that directly addresses poverty issues, encourages community leadership, and enables low income neighborhoods to see marked change in the program year 2018.

There continues to be many community stakeholders willing to further our efforts to address the needs of their individual neighborhoods. Through the 2018 CDBG program funds the city will be serving not only specific low income neighborhoods, but directly serving our low income and special needs populations including youth, elderly, disabled, and otherwise disadvantaged.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The City of Jonesboro is committed to the proper implementation of a balanced Community Development Program that maximizes benefits to low and moderate income persons both directly and indirectly through the improvement of their neighborhoods. Through the provision of decent and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, educational and supportive services, and the expansion of economic opportunities, the city intends to change the face of our low income neighborhoods and provide residents with the needed resources to assist them in breaking both generational and circumstantial poverty. This year's primary focus is housing, along with a broad range of public and social services addressing the core needs of our low income residents.

CDBG funding makes it possible for Jonesboro to provide meaningful housing improvements, public improvement, and community restoration and development

activities. It is through these activities that we address the quality of life issues that are essential in achieving a truly beneficial level of neighborhood specific community improvements. The following pages define the distribution of funds and outline the proposed projects and activities to be undertaken with the federal fund allocation.

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

According to the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X), lead based paint hazard is defined as any condition that causes exposure to lead from lead contaminated dust, lead contaminated soil or lead contaminated paint that is deteriorated or present in chewable surfaces, friction surfaces, or impact surfaces that would result in adverse human health effects. As required by Title X, the City of Jonesboro is carrying out CDBG funded activities in tandem with our Jonesboro Inspection Department. The Chief Building official and inspectors are also certified in lead-based paint testing and removal.

Owners of properties to be rehabilitated are informed of the risks of lead based paint. As part of the rehabilitation process, the property is inspected for signs of defective paint. Defective paint in older homes that is suspected to be lead based is removed following the lead based paint standards. If there are children in the home, the parents are provided information regarding the benefits of having the children tested for lead based paint and also where they can go to get this done.

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

#### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The institutional structure for implementation of the Consolidated Plan includes non-profit organizations along with other public agencies and educational institutions. The City of Jonesboro Grants and Department of Community Development is responsible for implementation of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans.

The city funds and coordinates with the nonprofit organizations that provide public services to benefit Jonesboro residents. The city also works with housing developers in the development of affordable housing throughout the city. Non-profit organizations are vital partners in achieving the Consolidated Plan goals.

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

The city will continue to offer their assistance to the Public Housing Authority in submitting

applications for funding to increase Section 8 vouchers or provide additional funds for affordable housing or other housing services. The city regularly collaborates with the local PHA, participates in non-profit meetings and faith-based activities, and organizes and facilitates focus groups.

The city assists non-profit agencies in securing other state and federal funding by writing letters of support and assisting agencies to complete applications for funding.

The major strengths of the city's institutional structure is in the access to various city departments and a large number of very capable non-profit organizations who are highly competent in using available resources and leveraging funding in order to achieve the desired housing and services.

**Discussion:**



## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro will continue to affirmatively further fair housing as set out under 24 CFR §91.220, and has prepared the AFH Plan that identifies impediments and barriers to fair housing choice, and maintains records pertaining to carrying out this certification. CDBG funding allows low-income individuals and families to be assisted in homeownership through education and matching grants for down payment and closing costs. For those who cannot afford to maintain their homes, CDBG funds will be used to provide grants for rehabilitation. The city has undertaken activities to address homeless resource center, transitional housing needs and rapid rehousing of our homeless individuals and families.

#### 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
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