



Annual Action Plan

Community Development Block Grant

2025 Program Year

(July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

City of Jonesboro

Department of Grants & Community Development

300 South Church Street, Suite 402

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401

2025 Annual Action Plan

(July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

City Council Members

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Janice Porter, Ward 1

Brian Emison, Ward 1

Dr. Charles Coleman, Ward 2

Chris Moore Ward 2

Ann Williams, Ward 3

Chris Gibson, Ward 3

John Street, Ward 4

Kevin Miller, Ward 4

LJ Bryant, Ward 5

Joe Hafner, Ward 5

Dr. Anthony Coleman, Ward 6

David McClain, Ward 6

Department of Grants & Community Development

Alejandra Morales, Interim Director of Grants & Community Development

Brenda Hall, Grants & Finance Specialist

Madelynn Williams, CDBG Program Manager

Mark Coomes, Grant Writer

Table of Content

Community Development Block Grant Program

2025 Program Year Funds \$728,792

CONTENT	PAGE
Process	
AP-05 Executive Summary	4
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies	8
AP-10 Consultation	9
AP-12 Participation	13
Annual Action Plan	
AP-15 Expected Resources	18
AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives	21
AP-35 Projects	23
AP-38 Project Summary	25
AP-50 Geographic Distribution	30
AP-55 Affordable Housing	32
AP-60 Public Housing	33
AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities	35
AP-75 Barriers to Affordable Housing	37
AP-85 Other Actions	38
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements	41
Appendices	
Appendix 1: Citizen Participation Comments	
Appendix 2: Guidance on Submitting 2025 Plan (CDBG)	
Appendix 3: COJ Passed and Approved Resolution	
Appendix 4: Forms SF424 and SF424-D, and Certifications	

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 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 expanding economic opportunities benefiting 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-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).⁵

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

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
- Homeowner Assistance
- Demolition and Clearance Assistance
- Public Services Program
- Public Facilities and Improvement Program
- Neighborhood Revitalization Program; and
- Homeless Prevention and Services

Designed to set goals that address community needs, the City of Jonesboro 2025 Annual Action Plan is an addition to the 2022-2026 (Five Year Consolidated Plan). This Action Plan is the fourth annual report with descriptions and actions for specific activities that meet the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

HUD FY 2025 appropriations were released on May 14, 2025. The City of Jonesboro received \$728,792 in CDBG allocations to carry out allowable activities listed herein. These funds will be used to provide assistance to the Public Services; Homeowner Rehabilitation; First Time Homeownership and Infrastructure Improvements.

As the lead agency for the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan, the City of Jonesboro Department of Grants & Community Development follows a citizen participation plan to include citizens, City departments, CDBG Advisory Committee, Non-Profit Organizations, and other public and private entities to contribute to 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 with the citizen participation process has identified objectives and outcomes to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting low- and moderate-income persons in areas within city limits of Jonesboro.

Programs and FY 2025 CDBG allocations are as follows

- Public Services Program and First Time Homeownership Assistance Grant will have approximately 15% of funding dedicated to these programs in total. The First Time Homeownership Assistance to aid LMI first-time homebuyers with down payment and closing costs to assist 3 qualified individuals at a maximum of \$5,000 per applicant. Public Services Program provides nonprofit organizations with funding for programs benefiting LMI persons and/or areas.
- Demolition and Clearance Assistance will receive approximately 3% of the annual allocation to demolish qualified homeowner properties and other dilapidated structures in LMI areas.
- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance to LMI qualified homeowners has an allocation of approximately 10% of the funds to assist approximately 4 homeowners with rehabilitation projects.
- Public Improvements will receive approximately 52% of allocated funds for public improvement projects in LMI areas.

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 (COJ) continues addressing housing services as one of the priorities for the Department. Providing LMI persons with decent housing and suitable living environment is a continuing goal. Homeownership, 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 and having limited access to affordable housing.

The rehab grant provides qualified homeowners with the opportunity to complete needed home repairs; the grant is very sought after. Most applicants are elderly with low fixed income and female-headed households. The City of Jonesboro continues addressing housing services as one of the priorities for the Department. Providing low-and moderate-income persons with decent housing and a suitable living environment is a continuing goal. Homeownership, 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 and having limited access to affordable housing.

The First Time Homeownership Grant program has funded three homeowners in FY 2024. In an effort to grow the program interest, the City is allocating funding in FY 2025 to assist more applicants fulfill their dream of owning a home. For 2025, the COJ plans to assist three eligible First Time Homeowners.

Aiding in the prevention and elimination of homelessness continues to be a priority for the jurisdiction. In previous years, CDBG funding has been awarded to organizations providing services to the homeless and those at-risk of becoming homeless through facility rehab projects, administrative expenses, and or program related costs.

Moreover, the Public Services Program is a great way to assist nonprofit organizations with administrative and program expenses for services they provide to their LMI clients and residents. The Hispanic Community Services, Inc. is an organization providing several programs and services to the Hispanic community in Jonesboro and the outskirts of the city. This year, CDBG will fund several non-profits that aim to assist and to provide an array of needed services for LMI residents.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The jurisdiction follows the citizen participation plan process to include citizens, city departments, non-profits, and other public and private entities to contribute to the development of the Plan. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee and the Grants & Community Development staff are involved in the decision-making process for funding allocations. Citizens have the opportunity to provide public input and to become informed throughout the planning process by participating in public hearing and public review and comment period, all advertised in a local newspaper, COJ website, and social media platforms.

On December 28th, 2024, a public notice was posted in the Jonesboro Sun and on the City of Jonesboro's website and other social media platforms inviting citizens to attend a public hearing held on January 16, 2025, at 10:30 am and 5:30 pm. The public hearings were held one in the morning and one in the evening to facilitate participation and convenience for citizens to attend. There were no participants at the 10:30 am public hearing and no participants at the 5:30 am public hearing.

To fulfill the public comment and review periods for the Action Plan draft. The City published the Notice of 30 Days Public Review and Comment Period advertisement in the local newspaper and on the COJ website. The public comment period began January 16th, 2025, and was open until February 24, 2024. This comment period was used to solicit public input for the Annual Action Plan planning process. A copy of the plan was available in the office for review necessary to submit any comments about the 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.

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

Not Applicable - None Known

7. Summary

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

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

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

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		JONESBORO	Grants and Community Development Department

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 for preparing the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan with the input and collaboration with citizens, public and private entities.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Grants and Community Development Department

grants@jonesboro.org

870-336-7170

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

1. Introduction

As part of the consolidated planning process, the City of Jonesboro (COJ) 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 Program and continuously forms 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 2025 Annual Action Plan, the City consulted with the community, COJ 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, Beck Pride Center, United Way of Northeast Arkansas, 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 jurisdiction 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 includes 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 was involved with planning and strategizing the Homelessness Task Force Coalition in 2016 and 2017. COJ is a member of the Northeast Arkansas Continuum of Care Coalition, part of the Arkansas Balance of State CoC. The City maintains its goal of addressing the needs of homeless persons and continues to work diligently, collaborating on a future site for a shelter, if the citizens wish to move forward in that direction.

Being part of the NEA AR CoC Coalition has facilitated the COJ by working together with other organizations and agencies that provide services to the homeless population in Craighead, Green, and Poinsett Counties. During the planning process, the jurisdiction has collaborated with Crowley's Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Hispanic Community Services, Inc. (HCSI); Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (N.A.R.T.C.P), East Arkansas Planning and Development District

(EAPDD), Craighead County Veterans Services, HUB Homeless Resource Center, and other non-profit organizations, church outreach ministries, community groups and neighborhood associations.

The City participates in the annual Point in Time Count (PIT), collaborating with its partners to serve the homeless populations and at risk of becoming homeless. Craighead County had a PIT count of **xx** homeless individuals for 2025-2026.

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 citizens' input throughout the year. Information and data are collected from federally mandated public hearings, including CDBG, AFH hearings, community meetings and listening sessions. 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 low- and moderate-income citizens. Additionally, social service agencies and other entities continue to be invited to the table during the planning process as well as throughout the year. This yearlong 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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Jonesboro
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development has collaborated with all City departments through the year process for the annual action plan. The purpose of collaborating is to find ways to leverage CDBG funds with other local, state, federal, and private funding for projects to benefit LMI areas and individuals. Projects such sidewalk and street improvements, parks improvements and playground equipment, economic development, in conjunction with assisting with City's Master Plan to provide connectivity to LMI neighborhoods to access to stores, health services, and more.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Regional Transportation Planning
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The N.A.R.T.P.C partnership with the Grants and Community Development Department to enable input to pedestrian safety issues and improvements needed in areas of town, especially in north Jonesboro.

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.

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

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 Ad	Non-targeted/broad community Non-Profit Organizations	Notice of Public Hearing- Non-Profit organizations and residents contact office for more information if there are questions about public hearing times and location. Notice of Funding availability and RFP- citizens and organizations contact the office to inquire about the grants available, qualification, and requirement. Seven proposals were received. Notice of 30-Day and Day Public	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable
---	--------------	--	--	----------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------

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)
			Review and Comment Period			
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Not Known - Not applicable	One inquiry asking when public service applications will become available.	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable	https://www.jonesboro.org/152/CD BG-Program and https://www.facebook.com/cityofjonesboroar/
4	Radio	Non-targeted/broad community	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable	Not Known - Not applicable

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The 2025 CDBG allocation of \$728,792 will be utilized for the program year to fund multiple projects and activities to benefit LMI persons directly or indirectly.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	728,792	0	XX	XX	XX	2025 (Year 4) CDBG allocation received is \$728,792. Prior Year Resources is the amount in IDIS at the end of FY2024 (Year 3). The remainder of the Con Plan Years 4-5 (2025-2026) estimate was based on the 2024 actual allocation amount.

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

FY 2025 is the fourth year of the Consolidated Plan. The jurisdiction will continue to utilize the CDBG funds for the improvement of the community with infrastructure projects, assisting LMI citizens with housing assistance, and funding nonprofit organizations to provide services vital for the Low to Moderate Income community. In effort to increase the positive impact CDBG funds, the jurisdiction may leverage CDBG funds with additional state, local, and private funds.

One of the projects in which CDBG funds are leveraged is the Veterans Village Outreach Center. The Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA) awarded the City of Jonesboro \$1,058,925 from the National Housing Trust Fund Program to construct the affordable housing for veterans (Veterans Village of Jonesboro); the grant covers the costs of building the housing units. CDBG funds are going towards the construction of the Outreach Center located in the Veterans Village premises. Having a center will enable us to provide onsite housing and supportive services to the veterans being housed in the village and those in the community seeking these services. In FY 2020, \$50,000 was allocated to assist with the construction of the center, specifically, to cover the cost of plumbing. Then, in FY 2021, \$50,000 was allotted to cover the costs to complete the project. The Veterans Village project is an example of leveraging federal, state, local, and private funds to complete a project such this one of this magnitude. It is necessary to be noted that no CDBG funds went towards the housing aspect of the project; all funds allocated were for the Outreach Center.

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

One of the priorities of the jurisdiction is to aid in the prevention and eradication of homelessness. The City is currently working with appointed coalition members, other COJ departments, and key stakeholders to find a location for a homeless shelter. Additionally, the Veterans Village and the Outreach Center are on city-owned property.

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

1	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability	2025	2026	Non-Housing Community Development	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: Approximately \$583,033.60	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Households Assisted Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 4 Household Housing Unit Demolition and Cleared housing: 4 Household Housing Unit Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted
---	---	------	------	-----------------------------------	--	--	--

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Goal Description	<p>To create attractive neighborhoods the City will continue to focus on funding housing services.</p> <p>Public services providing diverse resources to the LMI community will be funded (\$94,318.80) to serve many Jonesboro residents. The services may include after-school programs, assistance to presumed benefit groups (such as the elderly, homeless, battered persons) and health services. Furthermore, funding (\$15,000) will be used to provide assistance to cover closing or down payment for new homeowners looking to purchase a home in Jonesboro. Approximately 3 people will benefit.</p> <p>Housing services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (\$72,879.20) to LMI homeowner occupied. Approximately 4 homeowners will benefit from the grant; additionally, it helps improve their quality of life. Demolition and Clearance Assistance (\$21,863.76) to LMI homeowners, approximately 4 homeowners will benefit from the grant. LMI neighborhoods to prevent/eliminate slums and blight will benefit.</p> <p>Many of the activities funded this fiscal year will be to address neighborhood revitalization specifically through public facilities and improvements (\$378,971.84).</p> <p>The remaining funds (\$145,758.40 or 20% of funding) will be used to cover the cost of program administration.</p> <p>Additionally, creating attractive neighborhood livability is part of the City aiming to develop a community revitalization strategy with the goal to conduct a professional neighborhood assessment. The assessment will enable the City to design better strategies to target specific and identified neighborhoods in need.</p>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$728,792 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the City of Jonesboro to achieve the set goals of activities listed in the 2025 Action Plan.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
2	Homeowner Assistance
3	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
4	Public Services
5	Public Improvements
6	CDBG Program Planning & Administration

Table 6 - Project Information

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

CDBG funds benefit LMI individuals throughout the City of Jonesboro. Housing Services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance; Homeownership Assistance; Demolition & Clearance, are citywide services for qualified LMI applicants. It is a priority for the City to provide these services, the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance benefits individuals at 51 percent and below of HUD income guidelines. These services are a priority due to the high number of applicants having homes near dilapidation caused by years being unattended by the homeowner for various reasons, one being limited income. Demolition assistance is needed for preventing and eliminating slum and blight in LMI neighborhoods. Furthermore, assisting LMI individuals that are unable to afford to demolish their own houses after a fire or severe decay. Assisting first-time homebuyers with closing costs/ down payments provides accessibility to affordable housing.

This program year, funds will be allocated to address Public Services Program needs. Public Services provide diverse necessary services to LMI Jonesboro residents and serve different cross sections of the community needing assistance. The services provided can for after-school programming, health services,

crime reduction, housing and much more.

Lastly, over half of the funding will be used for public infrastructure improvements such as asphalt overlays, sidewalks or crosswalks in North Jonesboro. This kind of investment in the most impoverished area of the city will improve neighborhood attractiveness and livability.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG:\$72,879.20
	Description	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance for qualified homeowner-occupied properties for minor and major home repairs. Repair, replacements, energy efficiency improvements, and / or installations (such as plumbing, roof, electric up top codes, windows and many more). Households can receive up to \$20,000 in repairs but may only receive up to \$25,000 in repairs per house if they have received assistance before.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 projects will be completed for qualified LMI applicants. Most grant recipients are elderly with fixed incomes below the 50% HUD income limits.
	Location Description	Citywide projects based on LMI applicants in various locations throughout the city limits of Jonesboro.
2	Planned Activities	CDBG Funds will cover the cost of the rehab projects that may be comprised in replacement, repair, and installation.
	Project Name	Homeowner Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Homeownership Assistance program provides qualified first-time homebuyers with a \$5,000 grant for a down payment and closing costs assistance. Most applicants are within 80% of HUD income limits.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Three LMI households will directly benefit from this grant

	Location Description	Citywide projects based on LMI applicants in various locations throughout the city limits of Jonesboro.
	Planned Activities	Homeownership Assistance program provides qualified first-time homebuyers with a \$5,000 grant for a down payment and closing costs assistance.
3	Project Name	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties
	Funding	CDBG: \$21,863.76
	Description	The demolition assistance grant benefits LMI homeowners to demolish their dilapidated properties. It may include the demolition of privately owned buildings aiming to address slum and blight in LMI areas. Up to \$7,000
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Three to four homeowners will benefit directly from receiving the grant to demolish their dilapidated homes.
	Location Description	Citywide qualified applicants, most in identified LMI areas, especially in North Jonesboro.
	Planned Activities	Qualified applicants will receive the grant to demolish dilapidated homes. CDBG funds will cover the cost of demolition and tipping fees.
4	Project Name	Public Services
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$94,318.80
	Description	Non-profits receive funding to provide community services and resources such as after-school programming, health services, housing services, crime reduction and much more.
	Target Date	6/30/2026

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This program will directly benefit many LMI individuals located Jonesboro.
	Location Description	Administration of project will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grant and Community Development Department.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of supplies, materials, printing, and staff wages.
5	Location Description	Public Improvements
		North Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability
	Needs Addressed	Lack of Public Investment Lack of Services & Amenities
	Funding	CDBG: \$378,971.84
	Description	Public Improvements
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The infrastructure improvements will benefit many LMI residents in North Jonesboro
	Location Description	Citywide projects based on LMI applicants in various locations throughout the city limits of Jonesboro.
6	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of asphalt overlays in Areas of North Jonesboro currently suffering from heavily damaged or undrivable roads.
	Project Name	CDBG Program Planning & Administration
	Target Area	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless

Needs Addressed	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
Funding	CDBG: \$145,758.40
Description	CDBG administration expenses necessary for planning, project management, implementation and compliance reporting. Planned activities include managing 2025 CDBG funded programs, projects, and complying with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Program management will directly/indirectly have a positive effect on thousands of low-to-moderate income individuals throughout the program year. Planned activities include managing CDGB funded programs, projects, and complying with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Meeting the 20 percent cap.
Target Date	6/30/2026
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide outreach and services, specifically to LMI residents
Location Description	Municipal Center at 300 S. Church St., Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401
Planned Activities	Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and complying 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

City of Jonesboro – data shows multiple low-and moderate-income sectors citywide. There are multiple pockets of low-income and minority concentrations throughout the city. Three key areas in the city have the highest LMI population and with neighborhoods needed rehabilitation, revitalization, and beautification strategies. These areas are north Jonesboro (NRSA), Fairview at the east of city limits, and West Ends adjacent to downtown in the west side of town. North Jonesboro has approximately 74.8 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 6.01 Block Group 3, 6.02 Block Group 1 and 2. Fairview has approximately 70 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 4.01 Block Group 1 and 3, 4.02 Block Group 3, and 5.02 in Block Group 1 and 3. West End overall census tract data shows that approximately 55 percent of the population is LMI; however, the area of focus are in Census Tract 1.01 Block Group 1 and 3, and 2 Block Group 3 indicating that 75.9 percent are LMI.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Jonesboro	38
North Jonesboro	52
Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	10

Table 6 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

It is the City's priority to fund projects and activities that benefit LMI individuals and areas; subsequently, to comply with §91.220(f), the City dedicates over 70% of funds to benefit LMI persons and areas. A portion of the funds will be utilized to fund activities in north Jonesboro, where a large number of LMI households reside. Most of the public services organizations being funded this fiscal year provide services to LMI individuals. Funds for housing services are awarded to qualified LMI individuals citywide; however, there is a large number of applicants from north Jonesboro for the rehabilitation assistance program.

Geographic distribution is as follow: Jonesboro (citywide) 38 percent, LMI areas 52 percent, north Jonesboro 10 percent. Program Planning and Administration amount allocated was divided evenly

among the three areas of focus for a balanced distribution.

Discussion

Funds will benefit low-and moderate-income individuals all throughout the city of Jonesboro.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

In FY2025 are being awarded to three first-time homebuyers for the Homeownership Assistance Program. These funds are awarded to qualified LMI individuals to assist with closing costs and the down payment.

Currently, the jurisdiction is working on funding housing services from 2023-2024 CDBG funds. Approximately four houses will be completed for the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program. Funds to rehabilitate homeowner-occupied properties to bring them up to code and to create a clean and safe environment to live in. With this program, homeowners in very dilapidated housing will be able to stay in their property that they can afford as opposed to relocating in case their home becomes condemned-unlivable conditions.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	3
Special-Needs	0
Total	3

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	4
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	4

Table 8 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

All direct and indirect services are provided for LMI individuals, including the homeless or at-risk of being homeless

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The jurisdiction does not own or manage any public housing. The City of Jonesboro collaborates with Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) who is over public housing. JURHA public housing developments are primarily located on the outskirts of 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 of public housing

Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority notes that residents have frequently given opposition to the requirement that public housing residents provide community service in exchange. However, JURHA has no choice but to implement this requirement of federal law. In designing the program, JURHA has addressed resident concerns. Mon-exempt residents will be encouraged to perform community service at the development where they reside or in their immediate surrounding community. Activities such as participation in the Neighborhood Watch, Bus Stop Patrol, Tenant Patrol, Computer Lab Volunteer, and Youth Event Chaperone are available to residents for community service credits. Residents may 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 had scheduling conflicts from residents' work schedules prevent adequate participation in these resident council meetings; however, the varying non-traditional work schedules of our residents is still second only to lack of transportation as a reason for non-attendance 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 are 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 are 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 - None Known

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Jonesboro is tackling the ever-increasing issue of homelessness. As more and more people find themselves without shelter, the jurisdiction deems it necessary to address this issue and allocate funds for services that aim to prevent or eliminate homelessness in the City. However, individuals with disabilities struggle to transition into permanent housing. The jurisdiction is aware of these issues and is willing to work with service providers and the families of these individuals.

Through the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program, funds are utilized to make ADA accessible bathrooms, doorways, ramps, and other modifications for qualified LMI applicants with disabilities.

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

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

The jurisdiction is working collaboratively with several entities within the city limits of Jonesboro on identifying a permanent location for a homeless shelter. Discussions are ongoing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The jurisdiction is in collaboration with other private and public entities to open a new emergency shelter and or transitional housing for homeless individuals. Within the city limits of Jonesboro, there are not many shelters, for instance, the Salvation Army has approximately 20 beds and 2 being family rooms, other organizations and churches have expanded their services to the homeless by assisting the homeless seeking for shelter with vouchers for motel stays.

The previous administration appointed a Homeless Task Force made up of service providers, churches, and key stakeholders to find a location for a shelter, funding opportunities, and partnerships. Communications are still ongoing.

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 housing

needs for homeless individuals. As a resource center, the HUB will initially tap into emergency and transitional service providers. These include 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.

In addition, the City is invested in the Veterans Village of Jonesboro for affordable housing to provide services and housing for the homeless or at-risk of being homeless veterans (and their families). The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be the hub of organizations and agencies to provide housing and supportive services to the veterans to provide skills and transition them into self-sufficiency with being employed, paying rent, and covering all necessities. The Outreach Center can also be used as a temporary emergency shelter if the need prevails.

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.

Finding solutions to establish a homeless shelter that meets demand is a priority. One of the core CDBG programs for the City is the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance that provides housing repairs for those who own their home and needs assistance to bring their homes up to code. Most of the applicants are elderly, on a fixed income, or a single parent head of household that without receiving the grant for needed housing repairs may run the risk of losing their homes or their homes becoming beyond repair that may be condemned.

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 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 low-income individuals. This concentration of AFH has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and influences their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like better schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing needs to be 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 LMI families to provide necessary funding for acquisition or for major or minor homeowner repairs. Acquisition and repair programs implemented by the City help address this obstacle. Obstacles the City continues to face is the current rising cost of materials and labor for rehabilitation projects in the community due to the impact of COVID causing a severe disruption of the supply chain for materials and the negative impact of that escalation on the existing program limits. The City currently administers minor and major repair programs that enable low- and moderate- income homeowners to stay in their homes and in a safe and decent environment. The City continues to assist the low-income community by offering the Homeownership Assistance program to eligible first-time homebuyers. These programs continue to be very successful and in demand. The Homeowner Rehabilitation program, specifically, is a great resource and tool for qualified homeowners to apply for the grant and have their homes repair to avoid fines or losing their homes for becoming dilapidated or inhabitable.

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

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro continues to place major emphasis on HUD's priority to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for LMI persons. COJ's goals of housing improving the quality of life for LMI residents through the provision of needed public services, public improvements, and housing assistance programs. 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 assistance. The City will address the sustainability of our existing affordable housing through preservation, improvement, and rehabilitation projects. Providing grant opportunities for the underserved LMI and minority groups, fund services through public service programs, working on finding suitable locations to open a homeless shelter, and following lead-based paint regulation are all efforts to assure the most disadvantages residents have access to these programs and opportunities.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Jonesboro's Department of Grants & Community Development has implemented a citywide community engagement strategy that includes residents, churches, stakeholders, and non-profit organizations that serve our lowest income residents. It is the jurisdiction'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 2025.

The FY 2025 program year includes multiple projects that will benefit the LMI and minority persons in the COJ. Every year through the planning process of the plan, the City focuses on identifying community needs through its Citizen's Participation Plan. Those comments, concerns, and community needs identified take priority in developing projects to be funded through CDBG. This year, funding nonprofit organizations through public services that serve primarily minorities and LMI individuals is of importance to the City. Furthermore, the housing programs grants available to LMI individuals is a great way of servicing and providing opportunities to those underserved and with financial difficulty. The City is working towards strengthening of neighborhood revitalization efforts to improve accessibility and livability in LMI areas. Thus far, the COJ has not faced any obstacles to meeting the needs of residents being served within the programs mentioned.

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 LMI 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

residences with the needed resources to assist them in breaking both generational and circumstantial poverty. This year's focus is housing, along with a broad range of public and social services addressing the core needs of our low-income individuals.

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 the City addresses the quality of life issues.

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 deteriorates or presents 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 risk 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 with information regarding the benefits of having the children tested for lead-based paint and also where they can go get this done. When the Rehab project scope includes paint disturbance or touching paint, the RRP Certified contractor will test the paint surface for lead and if the lead is found then the contractor follows Lead-Based Paint Safety Work Practices. All properties with built date unknown are assumed to have lead and SWP must be followed to avoid lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The institutional structure for implementation of the Consolidated Plan includes nonprofit organizations along with other public agencies and education institutions. The COJ Department of Grants and Community Development is responsible for the implementation of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans. Providing LMI Individuals with multiple services and opportunities for grants enables the jurisdiction to decrease the number of poverty-level families in the city.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

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. Nonprofit 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 COJ 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 nonprofit meetings and faith-based activities, and organizes and facilitates focus groups.

The City assists nonprofit 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 nonprofit 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, through the Jonesboro Urban Renewal Housing Authority. JURHA 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 centers, affordable housing needs and continues to work with CRDC regarding 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 it will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

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