



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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DRAFT

2022 CAPER

Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report

2022 CAPER Public Hearing

September 20, 2023 | 3:00 p.m.

Allen County Public Library, Conference Room A

900 Library Plaza | Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Or attend virtually via zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88076061578?pwd=TkRob05RUHZKcGtFdHJCYUUhKYkhQQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 7606 1578 | Passcode: b9d7qc

Please note: this draft will undergo revisions and refinements over the 15-day comment period.

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CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

In accordance with the Federal Code of Regulations, the City of Fort Wayne's Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services (OHNS), a division of Community Development has prepared its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. This CAPER's purpose is to notify the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of activities undertaken and of grantee's efforts towards implementing outcomes using federal funds for the City's 2022 Program Year. The 2022 Program Year marks the second year of the City's 2021 – 2025 Consolidated Plan.

The projects / activities and their accomplishments which are described in the CAPER were based on the City of Fort Wayne's 2022 Annual Action Plan goals:

Goal #1 Increase and Preserve Affordable Housing

Goal #2 Strengthening People and Families

Goal #3: Enriching Neighborhoods

The City of Fort Wayne receives funding from HUD that includes: Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (HESG).

The City of Fort Wayne's 2022 entitlement funding available to accomplish community priorities consisted of:

CDBG \$2,044,495

HOME \$1,207,322

ESG \$173,753

The COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges for our community. It aid in addressing these challenges HUD distributed CARES Act funding to many communities throughout the United States. The City of Fort Wayne was fortunate to have been a beneficiary of these COVID Relief allocations that included CDBG-CV and ESG-CV.

The City of Fort Wayne's CARES Act funding available to assist in efforts to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the pandemic included:

CDBG-CV \$2,494,937

ESG-CV \$1,756,822

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

The City of Fort Wayne continued to utilize its resources to impact the quality of life for the community's most vulnerable residents and to increase and preserve affordable housing units in the City. Through partnerships and strategic investments, the City made progress on its priorities as described in the 2022 Annual Action Plan and will continue to do so into the future.

A portion of these accomplishments under Goal #1 were completed through four CDBG assisted rehabilitation programs administered by City staff. The first of these programs assists homeowners with an HVAC replacements. This program assisted 8 homes during the 2022 program year. The second of these programs assists homeowners with roof replacments. This program assisted 11 homes during the 2022 program year. The third of these programs assists homeowners with accessibility modifications. This program targeted homeowners with mobility limitations and assisted with home modifications to increase the homeowner self-sufficiency. This program assisted 2 homes during the 2022 program year. The final rehabilitation program administered by City staff was a HUD funded Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program and CDBG. A total of 5 homes were assisted in this program. This lead program total consists of 3 rental units and 2 owner-occupant units.

Additional projects to support the community's goal of Increase and Preserve Affordable Housing are currently underway. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne have several HOME assisted construction projects. Six HOME assisted single family homes were completed during the 2023 porgram year. All six of these units have been or woll be sold to LMI families and be combinded with downpayment assistance.

Currently underway in the community is the construction of new rental units in the City's downtown. The second phase of The Landing Project is

currently underway. This project is a \$12.4 Million revitalization project that will create twenty-one new rental housing units in the community. Five of these rental units are HOME assisted and thus will be affordable and occupied by an LMI individual or family.

The 2022 program year saw an expanded winter contingency program due to the ongoing health crisis. The 2022 winter contingency plan included the emergency overnight shelter of unaccompanied women. CDBG-CV funds were utilized to provide this shelter, the staffing, security, and meals for this population for 100 consecutive days during the winter months. The winter contingency program resulted in 145 shelter stays. City's entitlement funding assisted three partner shelters to provide shelter and services to 835 homeless individuals during the 2022 program year.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME	ESG
White	17,861	7	
Black or African American	9,175	12	
Asian	3,293	0	
American Indian or American Native	17	0	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	16	0	
Total	30,362	19	
Hispanic	3,331	0	
Not Hispanic	27,031	19	

Table 1 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Programs and projects that were funded during the City's 2022 Program Year served many beneficiaries. In addition to the statistics captured in the chart above, other significant beneficiary data was collected throughout the program year. Through these activities 2,435 people living in a female head of household benefited from these programs and projects in addition to the 317 military veterans, 1,391 elderly individuals and 1,737 people with disabilities were assisted through the various 2022 programs and projects funded by the City's HUD entitlement and COVID Relief allocations.

OHNS engages in affirmative marketing for all its housing programs. OHNS made a collaborative effort to connect families and individuals with limited- English-proficiency to available services in the City through a partnership with Language Services Network (LSN). LSN was able to provide interpretation and translation services for populations that may not have had an opportunity to apply and benefit from City programming in the past due to a language barrier. All applications are processed in a non-discriminatory manner and in accordance with fair housing principles.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	2,382,858	2,264,521
HOME	public - federal	1,319,721	1,544,253
ESG	public - federal	173,753	185,908

Table 2 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

One of CDBG's main function is to ensure safe, decent, affordable housing in the City. The City works in conjunction with many partners and with the input of stakeholders at various levels to ensure federal funds are used to reach their maximum effectiveness for making positive change in our community.

HOME funds are utilized to improve the quality of housing and in conjunction with developers and partners to ensure the availability of safe, decent and affordable units for owners and renters.

ESG funds are focused on assistance for families and individuals to move from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

The City of Fort Wayne received \$2,494,937 in CDBG-CV and \$1,756,822 in ESG-CV from the CARES Act to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Building off consistent communication and input from the Board of Health, community partners and service providers, the City used the additional CARES Act funding to respond to the immediate negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The City initially partnered with key local agencies to ensure that housing stability measures were put in place to prevent precariously housed families from losing their housing. The City was later able to release a Notice of Funding Availability for CARES Act funding, giving partner agencies an opportunity to use the additional financial support to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with enhanced or alternative programming that could best serve families and individuals in crisis, boost shelter operations and maintain service levels in their organizations. As more immediate needs were addressed, the City was finally able to take a more proactive approach with CARES Act funding, choosing to make more intentional placemaking investments with the funding to address current gaps in services and make lasting impacts to fully take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime funding opportunity. During the 2022 Program the City COVID Relief expenditures totaled \$619,508 in CDBG-CV expenditures and \$393,480 in ESG-CV expenditures.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Citywide	96	98	planning area
DOWNTOWN BluePrint Area	0	0	
PACKARD Area Planning Alliance CDAP	0	0	
Southeast Strategy	4	2	

Table 3 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**Narrative**

The difference between planned and actual expenditures is due to delayed or cancelled projects that were identified to target the Southeast Strategy Area. The City had intended to undertake a playground renovation and streetscape project in the Oxford and Renaissance Pointe neighborhoods. The playground project was completed with local funding and the streetscape project is currently on hold. In addition to these projects, the renovation of a vacant home to create new ownership opportunities was also placed on hold.

Leveraging

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

In an effort to maximize the capacity and impact of projects funded with the City of Fort Wayne's annual federal allocation, the City ensures that partners leverage their federal funding with other financial resources and local support. During the 2022 program year, matching funds were generated by three of the federally allocated funding sources that the City of Fort Wayne receives. Community partners receiving CDBG and ESG to expand local programming were able to generate match in the form of non-federal funding. HOME matching funds are also included in the City's 2022 Program Year match funding reported in this CAPER.

Five partner agencies received Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement funding during the 2022 program year for Rapid Re-Housing programming and Emergency Shelter services and operations. The five agencies generated matching funds in the amount of \$185,908. The sources of these matching funds were associated with support from local charitable foundations, other federal grants, funds utilized for case management, and tenant portion of rents.

The City of Fort Wayne releases a Notice of Funding Availability for CDBG Public Services funding on an annual basis. Partner agencies are encouraged to apply for funding to support new or expand existing programming. One of the major funding application review criteria is the amount of other funding that is contributed to the program to ensure that there is local support and financial capacity to effectively implement the program. Public Services undertaken during 2022 included many privately/locally generated match sources.

The Landing Phase 2 is currently underway and will create new rental units in the City's downtown. This second phase is a \$12.4 Million revitalization project that will create twenty-one new rental housing units in the community. Five of these rental units are HOME assisted and thus will be affordable and occupied by an LMI individual or family. This project generated HOME match in the amount of \$750,000 in the form of CREDIT funds. These HOME matching funds were generated and are being included in this Match Report even though the City of Fort Wayne had opted to utilize the COVID waiver that had waived the HOME match liability.

In partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne, the new construction of six single-family 3-bedroom homes were recently completed on publicly owned land, and will be built in accordance with the neighborhood's historical designation. The retired Fire Station #9

and five City owned parcels continue to serve the surrounding community as an urban farm and commercial kitchen.

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Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
Columbia Street West	07/01/2021	750,000	0	0	0	0	0	750,000

Table 4 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
129,371	31,387	121,554	0	39,203

Table 5 – Program Income

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	27	27
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	49	16
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	76	43

Table 6 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	25	27
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	10	11
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	1	0
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	40	5
Total	76	43

Table 7 – Number of Households Supported

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

The pandemic has had a negative impact on the production of new housing units. The resulting high demand and low supply of affordable housing market priced out many LMI first time homebuyers. The City plans on increasing the number of first time homebuyer opportunities in the upcoming program years.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Large scale rental development and/or acquisition rehabilitation projects often involve complex funding layering. Each funding source has the potential to delay securing other funding sources, which will result in a delay in construction activities. Future Annual Action Plan goals that include complex multi-family projects will better account for the time-commitment realities included in the pre-development stage. Accounting for these potential delays will more accurately reflect accomplishments that often require multi-year project timeframe.

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

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	5	11
Low-income	6	5
Moderate-income	3	0
Total	14	16

Table 8 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The City of Fort Wayne's goal is to ensure equal opportunity for families of all eligible income levels to participate in programs and projects. In 2022 the Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services prioritized rental assistance and other programs that reduced homelessness.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS BREAKDOWN INCLUDE:

Number of extremely low-income renter households - 38

Number of extremely low-income owner households-5

Number of low-income renter households- 0

Number of low-income owner households- 6

Number of moderate-income renter households - 0

Number of moderate-income owner households-8

Number of middle-income renter households - 0

Number of middle-income owner households- 0

Number of homeless persons served-59

Number of renter households that meet the Section 215 definition of affordable housing = 38 housing units.

The 2017 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice identified that 25.7% of people with a disability living in Fort Wayne live below the poverty level, compared to 18.2% of people without disabilities. This disparity indicates that people with disabilities are more likely to have lower incomes and greater difficulty affording housing. OHNS has held several in-depth conversations with the Community Integration League to discuss housing needs and priorities for people with disabilities. These discussions will be used to identify homeowner repair, accessibility and development priorities in the coming years. They will also continue to help identify ways to market affordable and accessible HOME units to the populations most in need of them.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The City of Fort Wayne's Planning Council on Homelessness has adopted a Coordinated Entry system that is used to move people from homelessness to stability by establishing a streamlined and uniform method of serving clients in crisis. The goal of Coordinated Entry (CE) is to increase the efficiency of local response systems and improve fairness and ease of access to resources. When households or individuals in crisis connect with Coordinated Entry, they are assessed using a vulnerability index to determine the type of housing intervention that will most adequately address their need. Brightpoint serves as the lead agency for Coordinated Entry in Region 3, and all people experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of homelessness should call Brightpoint's Coordinated Entry Phone Line.

The City of Fort Wayne allocated 2022 CDBG Public Services funding to best assist Brightpoint's Coordinated Entry efforts in the process for entry, assessment, scoring, eligibility determination, prioritization, and referral for homeless housing and services. Weekly case conferencing was a pivotal factor in the success of the Coordinated Entry program. Each week, representatives from key housing and service agencies from Brightpoint, Park Center, Just Neighbors, Vincent Village, the YWCA Shelter, Fort Wayne Housing Authority, Cedars Hope, Fort Wayne Rescue Mission, Catholic Charities and Huntington House met to review the assessments completed for the week, explore the issues that resulted in housing crisis, and identify the household barriers and vulnerabilities that have led to housing instability for each family on the prioritization list.

The Planning Council on Homelessness is made up of various subcommittees to serve particular homeless populations. The Street Outreach Committee is one of the key subcommittees made up of separate street outreach groups that connect with the most at-risk homeless populations in Fort Wayne. The Street Outreach group keeps the Planning Council apprised of the needs, gaps in services and living patterns that they see when serving their clients.

Reaching out to homeless persons, continued

To further serve families in crisis and individuals who are experiencing homelessness, the City also funded Just Neighbors Interfaith Hospitality Network's Same City Food Truck. This new initiative is an innovative food truck project that focuses on not only bringing high-quality restaurant meals to the most vulnerable individuals in our community, but also connects unsheltered homeless with case management services and a network of other community resources. The first of its kind for our community, the food truck served as a nucleus for increased connectedness with the street outreach teams and Just Neighbors, creating an opportunity to build a better working relationship amongst the

street outreach teams to more effectively and efficiently serve the homeless in Fort Wayne. The program was able to feed 1,400 individuals in crisis and connect 430 clients with ongoing case management from various service providers throughout the City. With the additional Emergency Solutions Grant funding from the CARES Act, the City of Fort Wayne has also partnered with the Handing Out Hope initiative: a collaboration between Connect Allen County, The Lutheran Foundation and the Hope and Rescue Team that dispatches social workers to individuals in crisis that are currently experiencing homelessness. In addition to the street outreach component, the collaboration also hosts a monthly Handing Out Hope initiative in which homeless individuals are able to connect with over 20 service providers throughout the community. The City of Fort Wayne is currently in the final development stages of creating a Homeless Strategic Plan in partnership with the nonprofit planning agency Homebase. A key component of "Everyone Home: Fort Wayne's Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness" is the established goals that were developed based off of the data collected as well as the input received from not only service providers, but individuals with lived experience of homelessness. Goal #2 of the strategic plan is to expand access to homeless emergency response services, with a focus on low-barrier housing-focused shelter development and connecting unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness to services. In their effort to develop a comprehensive plan, Homebase developed a survey that was distributed to currently or recently homeless individuals to assess their experience and also hosted focus groups with homeless individuals to hear their perspective on the needs and gaps in services that they have witnessed or experienced in the City of Fort Wayne. City of Fort Wayne staff also had an opportunity to host a focus group with women experiencing homelessness that are currently residing at St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter. The women were able to discuss the barriers and challenges that they have had to face as they work towards stability and self-sufficiency. Aside from the difficulty of navigating the City's various social service systems, the focus group participants mentioned the lack of affordable housing, inconsistent public transportation options, access to mail service, criminal records, and lack of support networks as key barriers that they have had to face as unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Fort Wayne works to ensure access to emergency shelter and transitional housing by offering several avenues to those in need so they can be connected to vital programs and services. Within Fort Wayne, several providers address the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of the community, with several projects also targeting the needs of specific subpopulations or vulnerable groups. Although many providers have had to institute program and service changes in order to alleviate the potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, people experiencing homelessness still have several ways and options in terms of accessing these vital programs and facilities.

Across the entire state of Indiana, anyone can dial 2-1-1 and be connected to a trained Community Navigator for confidential, 24-hour information and referral assistance regarding shelters and transitional housing. Additionally, in-person emergency facilities can also be visited and households can inquire about bed availability directly through the providers as well. Further, any individual or family in

crisis should contact the Brightpoint Coordinated Entry phone line to begin the assessment and referral process for housing, resources and service referrals.

Projects in Fort Wayne target a variety of populations and offer emergency shelter and transitional housing for men, women, youth, veterans, women with children, and families. During the past 2022 winter season, the annual winter contingency project offered consistent overnight shelter and case management services to women experiencing homelessness that needed a safe and warm place to stay during inclement weather. The winter contingency plan ultimately provided overnight shelter for 145 unique individual women.

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

Permanent housing, and the specialized support required to obtain and maintain it, is the key to ending homelessness. With this recognition, the City of Fort Wayne works to ensure that a continuum of housing options and strategies are used to meet the varying levels of resources and support a household may need. This approach starts prior to a household's entry to the homeless system of care with prevention and diversion. It also utilizes cross-system partnerships that lead to the creation of additional affordable housing units. In collaboration with the Planning Council on Homelessness, Fort Wayne is working to improve efficiency and responsiveness of the homeless system of care by regularly examining data to create a system that better meets the needs of the community.

Rapid Re-housing (RRH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) play a critical role in the City's response to homelessness and serve as key steppingstones on the path towards permanent housing in the community. RRH and PSH projects in the community serve as part of a strategy to offer a continuum of housing options. In order to shorten the time individuals and families experience homelessness, placements into RRH programs like the City's Ready to Rent are done through the Coordinated Entry System. This ensures a streamlined referral system and collaboration between shelter case managers to maximize a household's chance of retaining housing.

As mentioned previously, the City of Fort Wayne supports the Region 3 Coordinated Entry system. Local psychological and medical hospitals know to connect with the Coordinated Entry system when they have patients in need of housing assistance. The Coordinated Entry specialist at Brightpoint has worked to cultivate relationships with law enforcement as well, ensuring that probation officers know to work with the Coordinated Entry system before inmates are released. The new Hope and Recovery Team (HART) that is housed in the Fort Wayne Police Department has proven to be an invaluable asset in serving as a liaison between law enforcement and homeless individuals in crisis. As trained social workers, HART members are out on the streets cultivating relationships with individuals experiencing homelessness

while also developing a wide network of social services providers to call upon as needs arise.

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

Effective homelessness prevention requires proactive identification, engagement, and investment in communities most at risk of entering the homeless system of care. Across the geographic region, service providers, along with city, county, and state departments, have cross-system partnerships and offer a variety of services aimed at ensuring a robust safety net that helps prevent households from falling into homelessness. In addition, the city plans to continue working and coordinating with the Planning Council on Homelessness in order to ensure gaps within the system of care are addressed and resources are expanded to match the needs of the community. As mentioned previously in this report, The City of Fort Wayne allocated 2022 CDBG Public Services funding to best assist Brightpoint's Coordinated Entry efforts in the process for entry, assessment, scoring, eligibility determination, prioritization, and referral for homeless housing and services. Ultimately, Brightpoint served one thousand three hundred and thirty (1,330) individual household members in the 2022 program year. Weekly case conferencing was a pivotal factor in the success of the Coordinated Entry program. Each week, representatives from key housing and service agencies from Brightpoint, Park Center, Just Neighbors, Vincent Village, the YWCA Shelter, Fort Wayne Housing Authority, Cedars Hope, Fort Wayne Rescue Mission, Catholic Charities and Huntington House met to review the assessments completed for the week, explore the issues that resulted in housing crisis, and identify the household barriers and vulnerabilities that have led to housing instability for each family on the prioritization list.

Prevention services in Fort Wayne are historically funded through CDBG and ESG funding streams and are complimented by mainstream services and funding outside of the system of care through entities like the Allen County Division of Family Resources (DFR), the Indiana Department of Public Health, the Department of Child Services, Fort Wayne Community Schools, and the VA of Northern Indiana Healthcare System. Each of these funding streams and partnerships is then used to serve the city's larger prevention and diversion strategy to increase the collaboration and robustness of the social safety net. Cross-system partnerships between state agencies and providers operating in Fort Wayne also work to address the intersections between the homeless system of care and other intersecting institutions and systems. The city supports these relationships in order to build meaningful and sustainable partnerships to address the needs of the community. Using CDBG and new ESG-CV funding, the City directly supports the YMCA, Just Neighbors, and has now expanded availability of homeless prevention, emergency financial assistance services, and case management targeting families that may have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Through CDBG funding, the city has been able to build lasting partnerships supporting the needs of youth in public housing, provide additional outreach and case

management to proactively assist families at risk of becoming homeless, and provide emergency financial assistance for rent and utilities to prevent households from entering emergency shelter. Within the community, providers like the YWCA of Northeast Indiana have also worked with state agencies like the Department of Child Services in order to provide women in adjacent systems and institutions from entering homelessness. Through projects like Hope House and Harriet House, YWCA helps women who may be coming from treatment centers or exiting incarceration with substance use issues.

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

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

The City of Fort Wayne partnered with Allen county in 2019 to update the Comprehensive Plan. The new plan will provide guidance and set the vision for future growth and development of housing by providing guidance to decision-makers and elected officials regarding land use and zoning, policy creation and capital improvements. Some of the action steps identified include:

- Identify zoning and subdivision regulation updates to support and promote a greater range of housing types and sizes for rent and sale.
- Review and update land use regulations to allow opportunities for innovative housing solutions.
- Evaluate the creation of land trusts and cooperative housing.
- Identify barriers to incorporate universal design principles into development regulations.
- Identify incentives for the development of visitable housing.

Steps have already been taken to address some of the identified goals including decreasing the minimum size requirement for single-family dwellings from 950 square feet to 700 square feet in the local zoning ordinance. The goal is to allow more affordable housing products and, also, creating a development option for vacant lots in our core neighborhoods.

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

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted and intensified the housing, financial, and physical needs of City of Fort Wayne residents, and further highlighted the gaps in services and barriers that families and individuals in crisis have to face when seeking stability. Through the additional CARES Act funding received in 2021, the City was able to address new and existing underserved needs in the community.

Recognizing that food access has been a consistent issue in the City, continued support was given to Johnnie Mae Farm during the 2022 program year. The Johnnie Mae Farm is located in the heart of a food desert, where a lack of transportation creates a barrier for many who need access to fresh and healthy food. By way of a state-of-the-art industrial kitchen, residents are introduced to culinary arts and are provided with the opportunity to buy produce. The COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted the disproportionate need for access to health care and health information for families and individuals in crisis.

Actions taken to address obstacles continued

A prominent underserved need in the City of Fort Wayne is the access to services for non-English

speakers, immigrants and refugees. Language Services Network, with the support of 2022 CDBG Public Services funding, served 727 individuals with interpretation and translation services in more than 15 different languages, and provided instruction to 79 adult learners with English as their second language in their ESL Language Innovations courses. Amani Family Services received CDBG-CV funding to support their Prevention Coordinator and Bilingual Outreach Assistant in their efforts to advocate and provide critical information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccine to the City's immigrant and refugee populations. Amani ultimately served 105 individuals during the 2022 program year with a total of 316 individuals served throughout the pandemic.

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

The City of Fort Wayne continued to implement HUD's Lead-Safe Housing Rule for all housing programs in 2022. Specifically, the owners of all housing units built prior to 1978 enrolled in a City housing repair program receives the "Protect Your Family From Lead In Your Home" and "The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right" pamphlets to educate them on the dangers of lead poisoning. All rehabilitation work completed in pre-1978 housing was completed by EPA RRP Certified Lead Safe Firms.

During the 2018 Program Year the City was awarded \$3,691,673 in funds to test and remediate lead-based paint hazards. This funding was able assist a total of 66 housing units across the City. These lead programs were open Citywide, but program outreach was focused on children with EBLLs and homes in high risk census tracts. In 2019, 2020, and 2021 the City funded a total of eight lead-based paint training courses in an effort to increase local contractor capacity in lead safe work practices. These courses included: three Indiana State Department of Health Abatement Supervisor classes, three Indiana State Department of Health Abatement Worker classes, and two EPA RRP classes.

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

In a strategic effort to reduce the number of households living in poverty, and prevent households at risk of moving in to poverty from doing so, the City of Fort Wayne releases an annual Notice of Funding Availability for CDBG Public Service funding that invites local agencies to apply for funding to support their agency programs that assist clients in their pursuit of stability and self-sufficiency. The 2022 program year proved to be difficult for many of our partner agencies due to high turnover rates, pandemic precautions and inflation, but there were nevertheless significant successes in their programming.

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

The Fort Wayne Area Planning Council on Homelessness continues to act as the institutional agent that coordinates the participation of agencies and organizations to further regulate and analyze how the City of Fort Wayne's system functions for individuals that are progressing from homelessness to self-sufficiency. The Fort Wayne Area Planning Council on Homelessness steering committee meets monthly to discuss the needs of the community. In turn, the Planning Council on Homelessness meets as a large

group every quarter to provide training, share information on services and events, and gauge the needs of the community.

The Fort Wayne Area Planning Council on Homelessness assisted in the organization of both the Winter Contingency Plan and Coordinated Entry for Fort Wayne. The Contingency Plan was designed to assist those living on the streets with a viable shelter option when weather conditions become so severe and extreme that an imminent risk of death due to over exposure of these conditions is present. With families experiencing homelessness being taken in by Just Neighbors Emergency Shelter and unaccompanied men finding shelter at The Rescue Mission, there was a gap for the influx of women experiencing homelessness to find shelter during inclement weather. With 2022 CDBG Public Services funding, St. Joseph Missions was able to support women experiencing homelessness during the 2022-2023 winter season, ensuring that each woman had a safe place to stay and resources to help her move towards stability. After previously being selected to participate in the pilot program for the Continuum of Care, the Planning Council has developed a coordinated access system, led by Brightpoint, to address the need for a centralized coordinated one-stop point to prioritize resources available to the individuals with the greatest need in the community. Community shelters and services providers gather on a weekly basis to review the Coordinated Entry prioritization list and develop a plan to help the individuals and families on the list find shelter, and ultimately a permanent housing option.

The lack of overnight shelter for unaccompanied women experiencing homelessness has long been a critical need in the City of Fort Wayne. After using the CARES Act funding to first respond, prevent, and prepare for the COVID-19 pandemic and address the immediate needs of the community, the City was able to take advantage of the once in a lifetime funding to make investments in projects that will have a lasting impact on our community. One of the projects completed in the 2020 program year was the conversion of an old business building into the City's first overnight shelter for women - the St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter. The shelter has the capacity to host 16-18 women at a time, has space for case management, mental and physical health check-ups, classrooms, office spaces for staff and a familial kitchen space for the use of all residents.

The 2020 update of the City of Fort Wayne's Southeast Strategy covers a comprehensive sub-area plan focused on re-investing in Fort Wayne's southeast quadrant of the City. The plan provides strategies for investing in commercial and housing growth, building community, and improving the quality of life for southeast residents. The strategy will be key to develop institutional structure in the southeast quadrant of the City for years to come, covering short term strategies for engagement and activation, along with long-term policies and project that will provide a framework for future re-investment. The five topic areas include Community Pride, Economic Development & Revitalization, Housing and Neighborhoods, Public Spaces and Interconnectivity, and Transportation and Infrastructure. The Southeast Strategy update will inform the City's decisions for future housing programs, strategies, initiatives and projects. The City of Fort Wayne is currently in the final development stages of creating a Homeless Strategic Plan in partnership with the nonprofit planning agency Homebase. "Everyone Home: Fort Wayne's Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness" is centered on the actual implementation of the goals established from the data collected as well as the input

received from local service providers and individuals with lived experience of homelessness. With four collaborative strategic plan goals, the development of institutional structure to best address homelessness in Fort Wayne is a core component of the plan. The finalized version of the plan is scheduled to be released to the public in October 2022, with goals focused on increasing safe and affordable housing, expanding access to homeless emergency response services, partnering across Fort Wayne to build collective solutions, and, finally, to prevent homelessness before it begins. The City of Fort Wayne currently received HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) funding that must be used to primarily benefit individuals or families that are: homeless; are at-risk of homelessness; are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking; or other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability, including veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meets one of the preceding criteria. Following the feedback received from individuals that have or are currently experiencing homelessness, service providers and the community at large, the City has determined to focus its HOME-ARP funding on Supportive Services and the development of Non-Congregate Shelter to address the greatest needs in our community. Two applicants responded to a Notice of Funding Opportunity that was released for non-congregate shelter development, and the City is currently working with each partner to determine the eligibility, feasibility and actual need of their projects in the community. The two projects, if they come to fruition, will enhance the homeless services institutional structure of Fort Wayne by responding to the need for more domestic violence victim beds in the community, and will develop the first and only facility in our City that will cater to the needs of unaccompanied youth currently experiencing homelessness.

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

The City partnered with Allen Superior Courts, the United Way of Allen County, and Just Neighbors to create a court-based approach to addressing the eviction crisis in Fort Wayne. The enhanced coordination between the agencies ensures that financial assistance can be provided in a timely manner and is taken into account by the courts when they review eviction cases. The program has been highly successful in maximizing the use of the City's Emergency Rental Assistance funds and preventing evictions.

In addition to the eviction diversion partnership, over the past year the City engaged the services of a nonprofit consultant, Homebase, to develop a Homelessness Strategic Plan. The planning process involved an in-depth review of community resources, gaps in services and a needs assessment. The goals of the plan include: building relationships with private market landlords and improving coordination and communication to prevent homelessness.

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

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to

comment on performance reports.

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) Notice & Publication

Notice of CAPER availability was published in the local newspaper, the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, fifteen (15) days prior to its submission to HUD. The availability is widely distributed through the Community Development Newsletter, social media, and editorials in the local newspaper. The notice states the locations where the Report may be reviewed. The notice will include phone, e-mail address and postal address where comments on the Report may be sent. This publishers claim is attached to this CAPER.

Access to Records

Citizens, public agencies and other interested parties may review information and records relating to the Consolidated Plan. The City requests that it be given written notice two days prior to review in order to locate records and arrange space for viewing. Review of records that are at least three years old will require a five-day notice. There will be a per-page copying charge, but no more than the City pays for its copies.

Complaints and Comments

The City provides written responses to every written citizen complaint related to the Plan, Substantial Amendment to the Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report within 15 working days. Citizens may write to "Plan and/or Report Complaints," Citizens Square, 200 East Berry, Suite 320, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

There have been no changes to the City's program objectives however due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 the City anticipates focusing additional CDBG COVID Relief funds to public service and financial assistance activities.

No, the City does not have any open BEDI grants however the City does have a Section 108 loan that was undertaken in 2009 to support the Renaissance Pointe Revitalization project in the Southeast quadrant of Fort Wayne. In 2022 the City made a payment of \$450,912.50 towards the loan. Housing Tax Increment Financing was used to cover \$193,861.80 of the payment amount. The rest was covered with the 2020 CDBG entitlement allocation. Payments on the Section 108 loan will continue through 2033.

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

No

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

CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

Recipients and sub-recipients of HOME funds must follow OHNS's affirmative marketing practices in soliciting renters, determining their eligibility, concluding transactions, and in all aspects of program rollout and management. OHNS has adopted, and follows, these practices for direct program rollout and management as well.

These affirmative marketing procedures have been established to provide information and otherwise attract eligible persons in the housing market area to the available housing and programs without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status, and/or disability.

Each OHNS HOME recipient and subrecipient must certify to OHNS that they have adopted these affirmative marketing procedures and will utilize them throughout the project's period of affordability (POA).

Where a recipient or subrecipient fails to follow the affirmative marketing procedures, corrective actions shall include, among others, extensive outreach efforts to appropriate contacts and/or other sanctions OHNS may deem appropriate.

There are several multi-family housing developments which require affirmative marketing of their units that are currently under construction, nearing completion, or recently just completed. During OHNS's most recent monitoring of properties under the Period of Affordability, OHNS staff did not identify any lack of compliance with affirmative marketing. During the Period of Affordability, if a property owner and/or management company is found to be non-compliant with their affirmative marketing plans, OHNS staff will work with the property owner and/or management company to take corrective actions.

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

The City of Fort Wayne expended \$121,554.34 of HOME program income in 2022. All program income was used to support the Bottle Works Lofts project. This project consists of the Adaptive Reuse of the former Coca-Cola Bottling Plant into 31 LMI rental units plus the new construction of 19 scattered site lease-purchase single-family homes. Three of these units are considered HOME assisted units.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 91.320(j)

The City implemented several programs during the reporting period that fostered and maintained affordable housing. Three homeowner repair programs, including Lead Remediation, Roof replacement, and HVAC replacement, provided assistance to a total of 66 low-income homeowners to preserve housing longevity and affordability. In addition, HOME funds are being utilized to construct a total of 8 new affordable homeowner housing units through a partnership with Habitat for Humanity. HOME funds are also being used to construct 5 affordable rental units in the Landing Phase 2 projects.

The 2017 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice identified that 25.7% of people with a disability living in Fort Wayne live below the poverty level, compared to 18.2% of people without disabilities. This disparity indicates that people with disabilities are more likely to have lower incomes and greater difficulty affording housing. In our 2022 Program Year OHNS will be launching a CDBG-funded homeowner repair program focusing on accessibility modifications for seniors and residents with disabilities.

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CR-58 – Section 3

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

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

Table 9 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	0	0		
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0	0		
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	0	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	0	0	0		
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	0	0	0		
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents with finding child care.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	0	0	0		
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	0	0	0		
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	0	0	0		
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0	0		

Other.	0	0	0		
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Table 10 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

The City of Fort Wayne is actively working to promote the HUD Section 3 Business Registry with local contractors. To date, only one firm is currently certified as Section 3 in the newly revised HUD Section 3 Business Registry. Due to the substantial changes in Section 3 monitoring and compliance, the City of Fort Wayne has reached out to the HUD for additional Section 3 training.

CR-60 - ESG 91.520(g) (ESG Recipients only)

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

Recipient Name	FORT WAYNE
Organizational DUNS Number	064702616
UEI	
EIN/TIN Number	356001029
Identify the Field Office	INDIANAPOLIS
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance	Indiana Balance of State

ESG Contact Name

Prefix	Ms
First Name	Kelly
Middle Name	
Last Name	Lundberg
Suffix	
Title	Deputy Director

ESG Contact Address

Street Address 1	200 E. Berry Street
Street Address 2	Suite 320
City	Fort Wayne
State	IN
ZIP Code	-
Phone Number	2604272158

CAPER

Extension
Fax Number
Email Address

kelly.lundberg@cityoffortwayne.org

ESG Secondary Contact

Prefix Mr
First Name JOHN
Last Name STINEBURG
Suffix
Title Grants Administrator
Phone Number 2604272125
Extension
Email Address john.stineburg@cityoffortwayne.org

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date 07/01/2022
Program Year End Date 06/30/2023

3a. Subrecipient Form – Complete one form for each subrecipient

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: COMMUNITY ACTION OF NORTHEAST INDIANA
City: Fort Wayne
State: IN
Zip Code: 46853, 0570
DUNS Number: 051965374
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 37500

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: Housing Opportunities Program
City: Fort Wayne
State: IN
Zip Code: 46816, 1175
DUNS Number: 187667290
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 37500

11. Project Outcomes Data measured under the performance standards developed in consultation with the CoC(s)

The City of Fort Wayne attends the Fort Wayne Area Planning Council on Homelessness, formerly known as the Region 3 Continuum of Care. The large Planning Council, made up of shelter providers and representatives of agencies, organizations and services serving the homeless and precariously housed population, meets quarterly while the smaller Planning Council Steering Committee meets monthly. At each meeting of the council, a portion of the agenda focuses on coordinated access and how best to utilize data to determine quality service and shelter. Region 3 has recently transitioned from a more central approach to a more decentralized Coordinated Entry process that involves Brightpoint serving as the new lead agency, and a more stringent case management component for participating shelters in the community. The new process is currently in implementation, and requires that shelters input their own data into HMIS for their own clientele, or will depend on the lead agency or other partners to input the necessary data into HMIS if they are currently unable to do so.

Though the community conversation regarding ESG funding has typically focused on rapid re-housing endeavors, the City has expanded the scope of services for 2022 ESG funding to include shelter operations, renovations, rapid re-housing and street outreach activities as eligible projects. Members of the Planning Council Steering Committee served on the scoring committee to assess the application received for 2022 ESG funding, and were able to advocate for proposals that would best serve the homeless population in the City of Fort Wayne with the limited ESG funding available. All ESG subrecipients receiving 2022 ESG funding were required to use the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to best track the services provided to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. ESG Subrecipients were also expected to adhere to the proposed scope of work in their application, and worked closely with City staff to ensure that reporting covering performance standards and benchmarks are properly documented and submitted to the City on a consistent basis.

ESG funding is used to administer the programs and to fund financial assistance as defined by program policy for eligible program participants. Private and faith-based organizations will be collaborators in referring potential clients to the program and may be engaged to continue and support case management roles with these clients, each of whom will have been referred from identified partner shelters.