

Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) Year 49 May 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024

DRAFT Report – July 12, 2024

Ben Walsh, Mayor Michael Collins, Commissioner

Department Of Neighborhood & Business Development 300 South State Street Suite 700 Syracuse, New York 13202

# City of Syracuse Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report (CAPER) – Year 49 (May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024)

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#### **Executive Summary**

#### **Purpose**

In accordance with Title 24 Code of Federal Regulations (24 CFR) Part 91, all jurisdictions receiving any of the federal grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) listed below must complete a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) within 90 days from the close of the jurisdiction's program year.

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

The Department of Neighborhood and Business Development (NBD) is the lead agency responsible for the overall administration and compliance of all CDBG, ESG, and HOME funding on behalf of the City of Syracuse. Since 2013 the City of Syracuse has elected to have its HOPWA funds administered by the New York State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (NYS OTDA).

The City allocates funds from each program annually to support services that address the community development, housing, and human services needs identified in its Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The Annual Action Plan is created to outline specific programs and funding priorities for each program year within the five-year period. The City releases the CAPER annually at the end of each program year to report on accomplishments and progress towards achieving the goals identified within the corresponding Annual Action Plan and overarching Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The City's current five-year Consolidated Plan covers the period from 2020-2024. This CAPER is the summation of the accomplishments of Program Year 49 (May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024), the fourth year of the current five-year plan.

#### **CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes**

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

During Program Year 49 (2023 - 2024) the City of Syracuse, through the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs, made significant progress towards achieving the goals outlined in its five-year strategic plan and one-year action plan.

Please see <u>Appendix A</u> for a detailed data listing of accomplishments during the program year and accomplishments in the strategic plan to date. Year 49 highlights include:

- 425 potential homebuyers provided with first-time homebuyer education and budgeting assistance.
- 184 homeowners preserved through emergency and health safety repairs.
- Legal assistance provided to 406 individuals facing homelessness or eviction.
- 7,808 individuals participated in human service programs within neighborhood-based community centers.
- 303 individuals provided with workforce development training.

- 35 individuals with HIV/AIDS provided housing assistance.
- Ten dilapidated structures have been or are scheduled to be removed to support strategic revitalization efforts in targeted block plans throughout the city.
- 135 newly arriving refugees provided with resettlement support services, including assistance with accessing quality, affordable housing, language development/translation, and job readiness training.
- 595 individuals at risk of homelessness provided with eviction prevention, referrals to needed services and relocation assistance.

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

The table below lists the categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the City of Syracuse's program year goal.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected  - Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complet e	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Build Family Wealth & Promote Economic Inclusion	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$353,540	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	17,566	12,918	74%	104	303	291%
Build Family Wealth & Promote Economic Inclusion	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$353,540	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	205	425	207%	175	425	243%
Build Family Wealth & Promote Economic Inclusion	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$353,540	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	104	92	89%	0	0	-
Build Family Wealth & Promote	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$353,540	Jobs created/retaine d	Jobs	15	0	0%	0	0	-

Economic										
Inclusion										
Build Family Wealth & Promote Economic Inclusion	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$353,540	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	20	19	95%	0	0	-
Creating More Vibrant, Resilient Neighborh oods	Non- Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$800,880	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	4	0	0%	0	0	-
Creating More Vibrant, Resilient Neighborh oods	Non- Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$800,880	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	3,000	0	0	0	0	-
Creating More Vibrant, Resilient	Non- Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing	CDBG: \$800,880	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate	Persons Assisted	18,945	14,801	78%	5,843	7,808	134%

Neighborh	Community		Income Housing							
oods	Development		Benefit							
Creating More Vibrant, Resilient Neighborh oods	Non- Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$800,880	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	0	0%	0	0	-
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	250	248	99%	0	0	-
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	1,005	1,045	104%	557	936	168%
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	65	17	26%	0	0	-

Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	196	84	43%	36	39	92.3%
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	32	7	22%	1	1	100%
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	546	554	102%	205	201	98%
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	45	36	80%	45	36	80%
Promote and Preserve	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME:	Tenant-based rental assistance	Households Assisted	616	499	81%	104	111	107%

Quality,		\$1,565,122	/ Rapid							
Affordable		ESG:	Rehousing							
Housing		\$435,488								
Promote		CDBG:								
and	Affordable	\$2,770,670	Homeless							
Preserve	Housing	HOME:	Person	Persons	206	125	61%	220	470	_
Quality,	Homeless	\$1,565,122	Overnight	Assisted	200	123	01/0	220	470	
Affordable	Homeless	ESG:	Shelter							
Housing		\$435,488								
Promote		CDBG:								
and	Affordable	\$2,770,670								
Preserve	Housing	HOME:	Homelessness	Persons	3,102	1,569	51%	775	1,074	139%
Quality,	Homeless	\$1,565,122	Prevention	Assisted	3,132	1,303	32/0	,,,	2,07	10370
Affordable	T.O.Meiess	ESG:								
Housing		\$435,488								
Promote		CDBG:								
and	Affordable	\$2,770,670	Housing for	Household						
Preserve	Housing	HOME:	People with	Housing	0	0	0%	0	0	_
Quality,	Homeless	\$1,565,122	HIV/AIDS added	Unit	· ·	Ü	<b>3</b> 70			
Affordable		ESG:	,,							
Housing		\$435,488								
Promote		CDBG:								
and	Affordable	\$2,770,670	HIV/AIDS	Household						
Preserve	Housing	HOME:	Housing	Housing	52	51	98%	36	35	97%
Quality,	Homeless	\$1,565,122	Operations	Unit	32	<u> </u>	33/0	30		3,70
Affordable		ESG:		J						
Housing		\$435,488								

Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	25	23	92%	0	0	-
Promote and Preserve Quality, Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing Homeless	CDBG: \$2,770,670 HOME: \$1,565,122 ESG: \$435,488	Other	Other	4	1	25%	1	1	-

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

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

The City's Action Plan guided all applications and funding allocations for Year 49. All strategies to achieve the Action Plan's stated vision are designed to reflect and uphold the following goals identified in the five-year strategic plan: (1) Promote and preserve safe, affordable, and stable housing, (2) Build family wealth and promote economic inclusion, and (3) Create more vibrant, resilient neighborhoods. Specific activities and strategies to help reach these goals include:

- Home improvement direct assistance, targeting healthy housing principles with an emphasis on lead hazard remediation and improving energy efficiency.
- Affordable housing development with preferences for scattered site, mixed income approaches, complementing identified community needs for those most vulnerable and improving housing quality.
- Eviction prevention and landlord/tenant counseling assistance with an emphasis on early intervention and reducing forced family mobility.
- Homeless prevention, street outreach, and rapid rehousing activities.
- Fair housing barrier reduction.
- Homeownership promotion and retention, including homebuyer education, down payment assistance, and legal services related to estate planning and requests.
- Workforce development programming targeting underserved Syracuse residents that focuses on existing and projected employment opportunities, most notably the construction trades and supporting the Syracuse Build collaborative.
- Financial empowerment services available to all City residents, with an emphasis on partnerships with those preparing for and/or newly entering the workforce.
- Creative financing solutions to assist individuals, families, and small business owners in achieving their goals and achieving long-term sustainability.
- Residential and commercial corridor vacancy and blighting influence reduction.
- Development resulting from demonstrated grassroots input and community engagement.

Specific activities and strategies were identified within the City's Action Plan for Program Year 49 (2023-2024) to help reach goals identified within the current five-year strategic plan including:

• Homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers, including support for down payment and closing cost assistance.

- Affordable rental housing access.
- Substantial rehabilitation of distressed properties.
- Emergency home repairs to reduce health/safety threats.
- Housing counseling and foreclosure prevention assistance.
- Eviction prevention, landlord/tenant counseling and legal services.
- Street outreach and rapid re-housing for homeless individuals and families.
- Homeless prevention support services.
- Emergency housing and supportive housing services.
- Programming for youth and seniors.
- Supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS.

These accomplishments directly align with the goals and priority areas identified in both the five-year strategic plan and the annual action plan.

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

The table below describes the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted). 91.520(a)

,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Racial Composition of Families Assisted – Table 1								
Race	CDBG	НОМЕ	ESG	TOTAL					
White	829	4	452	1,285					
Black or African American	1,220	8	402	1,630					
Asian	37	0	10	47					
Native American	18	0	15	33					
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	7	0	0	7					
Black/African American & White	73	0	9	82					
Other multi- racial	142	0	319	461					
Total	2,326	12	1,107	3,445					

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

	Ethnic Composition of Families Assisted – Table 2								
Ethnicity	CDBG	НОМЕ	ESG	TOTAL					
Hispanic/ Latino	100	2	62	164					
Non- Hispanic/Latino	2,226	10	1,039	3,275					
Unreported or Unknown	0	0	6	6					
Total	2,326	12	1,107	3,445					

#### **Narrative**

See attached tables and graphs reflecting the total number of families assisted by Race and Ethnicity, including those identifying as two or more races. In all, 3,445 unduplicated households were served through CDBG, ESG, and HOME during the program year. Demographics are not available for HOPWA.

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

#### Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made	Amount Expended
		Available	<b>During Program Year</b>
CDBG	public - federal	\$4,906,360	5,471,841.01
HOME	public - federal	\$1,565,512	\$37,472.02
HOPWA	public - federal	\$479,223	\$454,154.07
ESG	public - federal	\$435,488	\$413,011.68

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

#### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City of Syracuse New York Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area	60		

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

#### **Narrative**

NBD identified two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) within the city of Syracuse, which were subsequently approved by HUD. The northeast and southwest portions of the NRSA are primarily residential areas, housing the highest percentage of low- and moderate-income households and children living in poverty.

The northeast NRSA includes the following neighborhoods: Hawley-Green, Lincoln Hill, Near Eastside, Northside, Prospect Hill, part of Salt Springs and Washington Square (census tracts: 2, 5.01, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17.01, 23, 24, 34, 35 and 36.01). The southwest NRSA includes the following neighborhoods: Brighton, Elmwood, Far Westside, Near Westside, North Valley, Park Avenue, Skunk City, and Southside (census tracts: 20, 21.01, 30, 38, 39, 40, 42, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57 58, 59 and 61.01). A map of the NRSA can be found in the images attached.

NBD prioritized allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction in an effort to revitalize these areas. Currently all ongoing redevelopment projects and those completed during this program year were located within the NRSA. The Home HeadQuarters Urgent Care Home Improvement Program and the SHARP funding was primarily used for homeowners located within the NRSA.

#### 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.

The City of Syracuse leveraged HOME, ESG, and CDBG funds using both public and private funds. The City has used the Community Development Block Grant funds and distressed property funds to leverage HOME funds. The City's annual Distressed Property Program includes projects that complement, enhance, and advance the neighborhood development initiatives set forth in the City's Consolidated Plan. The City continues to support the development of affordable rental projects with Development Subsidies, often supporting Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Projects with HOME funds. Tax credit projects provide substantial leverage to the amount of HOME funds invested. For rental projects that are not Low-Income Housing Tax Credit projects, HOME funds are leveraged with other federal, state, local and private sector resources. NBD requires that the developer provide confirmed commitments from other funding sources prior to the commitment of any HOME dollars in a project. NBD also provides developer assistance for homeownership projects. Through the developer assistance program, NBD offers subsidies to housing partners as gap funding to write down the cost of construction to sell the home to an income-qualified homebuyer at market value.

Throughout Year 49, the City of Syracuse was able to leverage significant funding through the City's allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to further bolster capacity of programs funded through CDBG, HOME, and ESG. \$32.4 million -- approximately ¼ of the City's total ARPA award -- was allocated to support programing in the following priority areas identified in the strategic plan:

- New construction and substantial rehabilitation of affordable housing units \$11m
- Emergency home repairs to reduce health/safety threats \$6.85m
- Blighted property demolition and stabilization \$5m
- Lead remediation \$4.5m
- Emergency rental assistance \$1m
- Workforce development and training \$1.67m
- Neighborhood community centers serving youth and seniors \$500,000
- Closing cost assistance for first time home buyers \$335,500
- Tenant counseling and case management \$800,000
- Financial empowerment services \$411,000

In addition to the City's ARPA allocations, funds were additionally leveraged from HOME-ARP, CDBG-CV, ESG-CV3 funds made available through New York State's Department of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR).

#### Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match

The City is exempt from the HOME Program match requirement. HOME funds are used in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Projects as well as other residential developments. A subsidy layering evaluation is required prior to a project receiving HOME funds to ensure that funding is necessary for the completion of the project. Even though match reporting is not required, the city strategically invests in projects with a variety of funding sources and leverage investment far beyond the amount of HOME resources provided.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match						
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	0					
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0					
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	0					
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0					
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0					

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

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

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

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

Table 7 – Program Income

**Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises** – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period

	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Hispanic
Contracts						
Number	10	0	0	0	0	10
Dollar Amount	1,784,196	0	0	0	0	1,784,196
Sub-Contra	cts					
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Bu	siness Enterpr	ises	Male	
Contracts						
Number	10	0	10			
Dollar Amount	1,784,196	0	1,784,196			
Sub-Contra	cts	•	•			
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

**Minority Owners of Rental Property** – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted

	Total		Minority Property Owners				
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Dollar	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Amount							

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

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

Parcels Acquired	0	0
Businesses Displaced	0	0
Nonprofit Organizations	0	0
Displaced		
Households Temporarily	0	0
Relocated, not Displaced	U	•

Households	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				
Displaced		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	White Non- Hispanic
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

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

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual	
Number of Homeless households to be	85	87	
provided affordable housing units	65	0/	
Number of Non-Homeless households to be	280	201	
provided affordable housing units	280	261	
Number of Special-Needs households to be	279	720	
provided affordable housing units	2/9	728	
Total	644	1,076	

Table 11 - Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual	
Number of households supported through	80	02	
Rental Assistance	80	83	
Number of households supported through	0	0	
The Production of New Units	0	0	
Number of households supported through	235	225	
Rehab of Existing Units	233	223	
Number of households supported through	45	36	
Acquisition of Existing Units	45	30	
Total	360	344	

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

NBD exceeded or is on pace with its one-year goals in most all areas and is on track to meet or exceed our five-year goals as stated in the Consolidated Plan for activities supporting individuals. For construction activities, NBD fell short of our one-year goals due to supply and other construction-related delays that resulted from the pandemic. It is expected that the remaining properties, all of which are under construction or awaiting a closing with the income-eligible homebuyer, will be completed during the upcoming program year and the goals will be met or exceeded during program year 49. Additionally, delays were encountered in providing rental assistance due to the COVID-related housing moratorium in New York State that allowed residential and commercial tenants suffering financial hardship because of the pandemic to remain in place for a portion of the program year.

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

Throughout the program year, the City of Syracuse closely monitors the progress of agencies in accomplishing set thresholds and meeting annual goals by the end of the funding period. NBD consistently evaluates program accomplishments and adjusts its goals within annual action plans as needed to ensure that funds are allocated in a way that effectively balances meeting performance metrics and ensuring community needs are met. Currently, there are no specific adjustments that the City of Syracuse intends to make at this time to subsequent Action Plans within this five-year period.

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.

CDBG HOME BENEFICIARIES FOR HOUSING AND NON-HOUSING SERVICES BY INCOME

Population Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	1,335	2
Low-income	347	4
Moderate-income	497	6
Total	2,179	12

Table 13 - Number of Households Served

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

In Syracuse, reaching out to unsheltered persons is performed through street outreach services. Service providers meet the unsheltered individuals physically where they are and work to build supportive and positive relationships. Conversation begins while distributing basic needs such as food, water, blankets, gloves, and hats. Outreach workers assess the homeless individual's needs and encourage them to accept services. If necessary, transportation for medical treatment is provided along with partnering with the "House Calls for the Homeless Program", where a medical doctor twice a week accompanies our Street Outreach Team and offers medical treatment, covid testing and vaccinations for those living outside.

All pertinent information is captured in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) where client information is entered by all agencies and tracked throughout the process. During ESG Year 49 364 individuals received street outreach services, 1, 409 meals were served to individuals living outside and 121 individuals either came inside or were placed into permanent housing.

The Street Outreach workgroup meets monthly. This group consists of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals with case management, housing, mental health, medical and substance use expertise, who case-review all homeless individuals living on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation. This group also includes the local Downtown Committee who has security paired with street outreach providers to assist people who are living on the streets in Syracuse's downtown. A City of Syracuse Police Officer is also heavily involved and pairs with street outreach providers to respectfully engage people who are living outdoors to bring them indoors in a non-criminalized fashion. Medical, mental health and substance abuse service providers ride along with outreach workers to offer on the spot services when needed to persons living on the streets and under the bridges. A medical outreach van has become a "Doctors office" on wheels with all the necessary medical equipment, supplies and medical staff (doctors, nurses and medical students needed to serve those living on the streets in need of medical treatment.

A housing-first philosophy is followed, finding appropriate housing first (shelter or permanent housing) and then identifying the difficult barriers to housing these individuals face and making all attempts to think "outside the box" for solutions to ending their homelessness and bringing individuals in-doors permanently. The City of Syracuse Department of Code Enforcement assists with identifying people living in abandoned properties and allows time and space for street outreach providers to engage these individuals to arrange for proper supportive housing services. The most recent Point in Time (PIT) in Onondaga County was conducted on January 24, 2024. ESG and Continuum of Care (CoC) funded

programs along with the Police Department, the Department of Public Works, Code Enforcement, service providers, City and County officials and dedicated volunteers collaborated with the HHC Street Outreach workgroup and the CoC Director in offering possible locations for unsheltered persons. Street outreach teams were formed to go out in the evening and night in search of homeless individuals and to offer encouragement to come in out of the cold. Fifty-two individuals were found residing on the streets in the CoC, 1027 homeless individuals were living in emergency shelters and 113 individuals living in transitional housing on this night.

In Year 49, ESG services were provided to 1,107 individuals, with 707 individuals receiving Homeless Prevention services, 19 individuals receiving Rapid Re-housing services, 20 individuals receiving shelter services (transitional housing) and 364 individuals receiving Street Outreach services. Additionally, 708 individuals were stabilized, placed into permanent housing, or had a positive outcome to services. Individual needs were assessed through the Continuum of Care's (CoC) coordinated assessment process and completed by all program case managers or representatives. Housing barriers were identified, individualized service plans were completed, and referrals made to aftercare support and mainstream resources when needed.

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

The City of Syracuse works alongside the Continuum of Care (CoC) and its workgroups in addressing the housing needs of homeless people. This initiative is working toward decreasing the length of time individuals and families spend in shelters and transitional housing. Goals are established that help improve the quality of life and address life skills necessary in achieving and maintaining housing stability among the homeless persons served. Our only transitional program has adopted the housing first philosophy, eliminating barriers upon intake. The service focuses on:

- · Improving health and stability
- · Increasing economic security either by obtaining mainstream benefits or employment
- Finding and maintaining affordable housing

Some of the needed skills and strategies include assisting with relocation such as finding actual affordable housing units and advocating with reliable landlords. Case management and follow up case management efforts are needed to assist individuals in maintaining and or locating affordable housing. Financial assistance may be needed for security deposits, subsidies or help with rental payments and/or utilities. This is especially true for homeless youth, who typically have no income upon intake.

Emergency shelter case managers are trained assessors for the Coordinated Entry System. Shelter case managers make referrals to the CE list and coordinate with housing providers to facilitate intake into ESG, CoC, and other housing programs through the CE System.

This process also eliminates duplicative intake efforts and reduces referral time. In Year 49, ESG funded one transitional program serving 20 individuals.

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.

ESG funds provide multiple prevention services which this past year has been dedicated to aiding in the eviction court process through legal services as well as two case management programs who work with housing vulnerable individuals and families to identify their barriers to housing stability and assist in finding workable solutions.

Our community uses its Departments of Social Services and 211 referral line for diversion efforts when people are presenting for emergency shelter. Staff at these access points are trained to actively problem-solve with clients and seek alternatives to shelter placement. In addition, ESG, CDBG, and private funding are used to support homeless prevention programs, including legal services, case management, and financial assistance programs. The ESG Homeless Prevention programs have assisted 562 households in obtaining housing stability through their services this year. Our CoC continues to advocate for stronger eviction laws to protect tenant's rights and increase housing stability.

Syracuse is strong in community-wide collaboration and works with its Continuum of Care (CoC) in trying to prevent homelessness. The CoC partners with criminal justice, mental health, substance use treatment, domestic violence, crisis services; transition age youth, DSS, family, healthy homes, vocational, outreach and shelter providers and partners with NYS Department of Correction and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to address barriers to parolees accessing housing. Cross-sector collaboration is encouraged to limit discharges into homelessness.

The CoC also partners with affordable and supportive housing programming to ensure there are multiple options for permanent housing. The CoC coordinates with other housing resources supported through state funding like Medicaid Redesign and Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative, that use a broader definition of homelessness and can assist in supporting low-income individuals and families who may be at risk of homelessness as a result of discharge from institution.

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.

All ESG funded RRH programs participate in the Coordinated Entry system set up by the CoC to ensure that people who are homeless, especially those who are chronically homeless, are prioritized for housing opportunities. Helping homeless people, especially the chronically homeless, transition to permanent housing and independent living is being done through supportive services. Financial assistance, relocation assistance, prevention efforts, follow up case management and street outreach work together to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living effective by assisting individuals and families to develop skills and strategies that address personal barriers to successful permanent housing.

These skills and strategies may include assistance with relocation as far as finding actual affordable housing units and/or advocating with reliable landlords. Case management and follow up case management efforts are needed to assist individuals or families in maintaining and or locating affordable housing. Financial assistance may be needed for security deposits, subsidies or help with rental payments and/or utilities. This financial assistance helps all homeless or chronically homeless individuals' transition from shelters to permanent housing at a much faster pace. By assisting homeless individuals and families identify their housing barriers to achieve permanent housing and aiding them in developing skills and strategies that address these barriers will increase success in maintaining permanent housing. Efforts are being made to engage landlords in collaborating with service providers and legal services to assist tenants in overcoming specific housing barriers to prevent evictions. The CoC has started a Housing Services Coordination program which will focus on landlord education and engagement to centralize housing search activities. The program will include a database of available housing units that can be paired with participants in ESG and CoC projects to better facilitate individuals and families' access to affordable housing.

Financial assistance is especially needed for homeless youth, with approximately 75% arriving upon intake with no income and no available financial resources. Youth living in housing programs attend weekly living skills classes. These classes provide practical information that will assist a youth when transitioning to permanent housing. Topics include money management, employment readiness, education enrollment, cooking, and cleaning, dealing with landlords, understanding utility bills and energy conservation, health/mental health issues and pregnancy prevention.

All youth in housing and shelter programs participate in case management services. Case Managers meet with the youth daily to establish service plans which focus on primary issues identified during the intake and assessment process. Service plans provide measurable tasks and time frames to assist the youth in obtaining the goals they wish to accomplish. Mandatory service plans for residential youth include finding housing and securing income. Optional service plans may include any variety of topics such as education, counseling, family reunification, health care, skill building and volunteerism.

Aftercare services for youth who move into permanent housing are essential to maintain these new housing situations and to minimize crisis episodes and prevent confrontations from leading to eviction or a return to homelessness. Aftercare services and home visits are conducted by the same Case Managers that worked with the youth during their housing stay and have built strong relationships with these youth. These services provide referral and advocacy to assist with rental payment programs, utility financial assistance, basic needs assistance, recreation, and socialization. Helping the youth to become connected to their community through employment, volunteering or local programming strongly increases a youth's ability to maintain permanent housing.

The Veterans Workgroup, comprised of CoC Collaborative Applicant, HMIS Lead, ESG Administrator, VA HUD-VASH Coordinator, DSS staff, shelter discharge planners, street outreach providers, and SSVF Coordinators, continues to meet monthly to case review a by-name list of all Veterans experiencing homelessness and ensure that a housing plan is in place and services are available for those in need. ESG-funded program goals are to get homeless individuals and families housed first while receiving support services to help overcome housing barriers. ESG funding is committed to supporting programs whose mission it is to aid homeless and/or chronically homeless families and individuals with homeless prevention efforts as well as rapid rehousing and street outreach support services.

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

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

NBD coordinates public housing assistance through the Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA), which owns and operates 12 Federal Public Housing developments and four affordable housing developments in Syracuse. Public Housing in the City of Syracuse faces a greater need for improvement rather than expansion. Planning and redevelopment of outdated, severely distressed, and antiquated Public Housing into high-quality, mixed-income housing options is currently underway.

Syracuse is home to the first public housing complex in New York State and this specific neighborhood area is involved in a comprehensive neighborhood strategy, called the New 15th Ward Transformation Project, intended to holistically improve a myriad number of conditions for residents. The plan for this neighborhood seeks to create the conditions necessary for public and private investment to catalyze increased commercial activity, and critical amenities such as a grocery store, and improve public safety, education, and employment outcomes.

SHA has begun to redevelop four of its public housing sites which account for 1,055 units of distressed public housing. These units are situated in 118 square acres of a 27-block area experiencing high rates of unemployment and concentrated poverty, crime, health disparities, low home-ownership rates, and limited healthy food options. The average AMI for this area is \$12,800. Displacement is the primary concern among residents, advocates, and city officials given the poverty rates and the significant need for affordable housing. The project will include one-for-one replacement of affordable housing units as part of a comprehensive mixed-income, mixed-use housing plan.

SHA is working in partnership with the City of Syracuse, McCormack Baron Salazar (MBS), Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) of New York State, and Blueprint 15, a neighborhood-based nonprofit organization singularly devoted to transforming the 15th Ward neighborhood. The comprehensive transformation of the New 15th Ward is built upon a multi-year visioning process, including completion of the East Adams Street Neighborhood Transformation Plan and Preferred Concept Plan in September 2016, the establishment of a shared vision in 2018, an RFP process and subsequent approval of a Master Planning and Developer Services Agreement with MBS between 2019-2021. Most recently, SHA has submitted low-income tax credit funding applications for the first two phases to HCR and is in the process of submitting a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) application with HUD. The first demolition and redevelopment component will take place on the site of the current McKinney Manor project, which has nearly \$18 million in deferred maintenance. This phase will include 75 one-for-one replacement units and 180 additional low-income and market-rate units. Significant investment in new public streets and infrastructure is anticipated, as is the development of a park and a state-of-the-art early childhood education and community center. Resident relocation and case management support before and during construction is being provided by Urban Strategies Inc., in partnership with Blueprint 15. This project exemplifies actions Syracuse is taking to address the needs of deficient public housing

facilities in a thriving neighborhood.

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

The Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA) continues its successful Section 8 Homeownership Program. SHA continues to partner with Home HeadQuarters, Inc. to assist in the home-buying education and support programs that are necessary to move individuals from renting to owning homes. This effort will continue to be a strong part of the Section 8 FSS (Financial Self-Sufficiency) program. SHA is also exploring homeownership possibilities for some of its higher-income tenant families with the Greater Syracuse Land Bank (GSLB) and local realtors. The GSLB has been banking vacant and tax-delinquent properties near the New 15th Ward Transformation Project for future planning and development. These investments complement SHA's housing redevelopment efforts as well as the City's Infill Housing strategy in partnership with several affordable housing developers including Home HeadQuarters and Housing Visions who are actively building in the area. Several residents could benefit from homeownership due to family size, but also to build wealth as they currently pay more in rent than they would otherwise for a mortgage. These opportunities are being fostered in tandem with the New 15th Ward transformation plan to further stabilize and strengthen neighborhood conditions. Urban Strategies Inc., as well as Blueprint 15, will case manage SHA tenants during relocation and help determine if goals for homeownership can be pursued for residents within their same neighborhood area.

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

The City of Syracuse understands the New 15th Ward transformation project represents the complete redevelopment of nearly 50% of SHA's public housing inventory within the city. As such, NBD has created additional capacity for the project with a new position and has full support from the Mayor's office to assist with fundraising, advocacy, and overall coordination across partners, including with HCR, the agency responsible for administering housing and community development programs to promote affordable housing, community revitalization, and economic growth in New York. Syracuse's public housing transformation is not only the largest housing development project in the city's history but is also one of the largest projects in New York State.

#### 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 approved a new zoning ordinance, ReZone Syracuse, effective July 1, 2023. ReZone is an effort to reflect land use trends that have occurred since the last substantial update of the ordinance more than 50 years ago. The new zoning ordinance will streamline and simplify allowable uses to provide predictability in growth; it also will reduce the need for use and area variances which can be costly and time consuming to obtain. It also includes provisions for inclusionary housing, mandating a 10% setasside of affordable units for all residential projects of 20 units or more. It additionally supports increased mix-use development and allows for the addition of accessory dwelling units (ADU's) citywide.

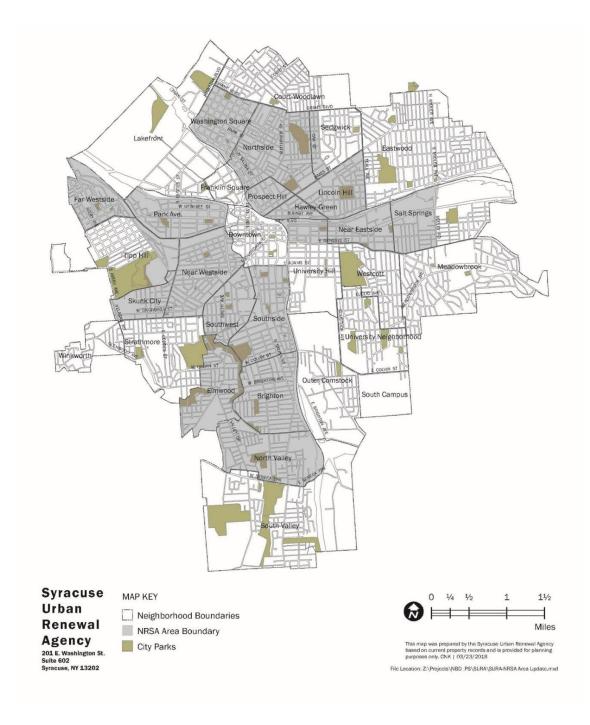
The City also has in place tax relief programs for developers of new, quality housing or those that rehabilitate vacant structures. These programs generally freeze the pre-improved value of the property for up to 10 years as the basis of its taxable value to allow the owner to pay less in property taxes during that time frame. The City also provides technical assistance and limited direct financial assistance to offset the costs of vacant lot resub division. This allows homeowners to formally incorporate the adjacent vacant lot into their property to create defensible space within the neighborhood and to increase the value of the owner's property. Additionally, the City achieved state authorization to provide property tax relief to homeowners whose properties are located in a FEMA flood hazard area within the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, to help mitigate the increased insurance costs associated with homeownership.

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

Within the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, a participating jurisdiction can designate specific areas or neighborhoods as a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). The City's creation of two NRSAs enables strategic investment of CDBG, ESG and HOME funds to address the needs of households within these areas. The NRSAs represent the city's highest concentration of low-income residents and allow a broader array of services and activities to be delivered using CDBG funds. The NRSA boundary can be found attached.

The City of Syracuse employs a strategy that creates opportunity for those living in NRSA neighborhoods by providing programming that fosters economic inclusion and development that promotes access to safe, healthy, and affordable housing. Community centers and youth facilities serve as anchors in these communities, operating educational programs and engaging with residents of all ages. The income qualifications for affordable housing development within the NRSA are more flexible to reduce concentrations of poverty and maintained outside of the NRSA to promote an increase in neighborhood

access and choice among low and moderate-income households. The NRSA boundaries also mirror the Syracuse Urban Renewal Area (SURA) boundaries and foster a comprehensive approach to allow the City to target enhanced code enforcement activities and to address the needs of the residents within these areas in conjunction with projects and programs being funded with CDBG, ESG, and HOME.



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

The City of Syracuse was awarded the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH). This grant enables the remediation of lead-based paint hazards by providing \$4.1 million over 4 years to remediate lead from 198 residential units. The mission of the Syracuse Lead Program is to (1) develop lead-safe housing in low- to very-low-income target areas; (2) to decrease the number of children with elevated blood levels; (3) improve the environment of families residing in Syracuse and (4) continue educating City residents about the effects of lead poisoning and prevention. The City provides local match funding through CDBG fund and has secured outside funding from local foundations. Both sources of additional funding have assisted the program greatly. To date, the program has reduced lead-based paint hazards from 114 homes and has 59 additional units in the pipeline for remediation.

This program has continued to grow and impact the community as the city implemented its Lead Ordinance. The Syracuse Lead Ordinance gives authority to the Department of Code Enforcement (DOCE) to cite city properties for lead-based paint hazards. This ordinance helps prevent the poisoning of city residents by requiring that the presence of deteriorated lead-based paint on the interior and exterior of pre-1978 residential structures be identified and correctly addressed. Low-income families, with children under the age of six that face lead violations in their homes will be referred to the Syracuse Lead Program. Additionally, the American Rescue Plan Act has supported the DOCE Lead Hazard Control Office by providing an additional \$4.8 million for lead poisoning prevention measures. A portion of these funds was allocated towards equipping DOCE with training and equipment necessary to carry out the Lead Ordinance, while the remaining portion has been allocated to lead remediation of 144 additional units in ARPA Qualified Census Tracts throughout the city.

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

During the program year, the City allocated program funds to support several affordable housing, workforce development, and economic opportunity programs. A significant portion of the City's annual CDBG and HOME funds, as well as other federal, state, and local fund sources, are allocated each year to supporting programs that expand access to homeownership opportunity, allowing low-moderate income residents a pathway to build generational wealth and equity. Program funds were also allocated to several organizations to support financial literacy, individual employment assistance, and job skills training. These workforce development activities provide opportunities for those entering the workforce for the first time or returning after an extended absence to help build a set of transferable skills that allows them to be attractive to employers in need of a reliable and skilled workforce. Economic development activities such as business recruitment and facilitation efforts by CDBG-funded partners also play a role in the enhancement of neighborhood commercial corridors. New businesses provide

necessary services and employment opportunities that can alleviate the effects of poverty on low-income households in the city of Syracuse. Just under a third (\$1.56 million) of the city's CDBG award in the program year was allocated to programs to provide these services.

The City of Syracuse also collaborates with CNY Works to increase career planning and workforce preparation and to promote financial literacy and economic growth. CNY Works has a One-Stop Career Center in the City of Syracuse, as well as a searchable website where job seekers and employers can post employment information and resumes. At the One-Stop Center, job seekers can receive counseling on career direction and job searching, attend workshops on topics such as interviewing skills and filling out employer applications, and receive intensive career services such as job training in a new field. The One-Stop Career Center also contains a resource room for job seekers and a training room for workforce development workshops. JOBS Plus! is a joint program between the Onondaga County Department of Social Services (DSS) and Onondaga Community College. The program provides public assistance to clients with job counseling, job training, job search services, and vouchers for transportation to training, interviews, and work.

In addition to funding programs aimed at reducing poverty, the City of Syracuse works closely with DSS in working out social service delivery to residents in high-poverty neighborhoods. DSS is responsible for implementing both the federal and New York State legislation that addresses the anti-poverty programs in this community, and provides a wide variety of social safety net related services to adults, children, elderly, and families in need, including job training, social services, education, home energy assistance and medical assistance.

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

The City is continually working toward strengthening relationships between other tiers of government, programmatically driven agencies and organizations, as well as grassroots associations to ensure comprehensive input into the design of the programs and activities it funds as well as the delivery of those programs. Collaboration with other funders, both public and private, is essential in forming a community-wide approach to addressing the needs of the underserved, in the community and the City is an integral part of that effort.

The City of Syracuse is working actively to address the needs of the homeless and those households that are identified or at risk of being housing vulnerable. The Homeless and Housing Coalition is one example of a collaborative partnership that includes more than two dozen nonprofit organizations, local governments, and community advocates that seek to reduce homelessness for populations that already experience it and to ensure prevention for those who are at-risk.

In June 2023, a housing study was delivered to the City, NBD staff, and community partners by czb LLC, a Maine-based consulting firm, after nearly eight months of deep data collection and analysis, workgroup

engagement, and several open houses. The study underscores two large gaps in the city's housing stock, which has suffered from decades of disinvestment: An affordability gap and a market gap. The analysis produced by the study will help inform the development of a citywide housing strategy, neighborhood plans, and future housing policies, all of which will rely on strong institutional structures and collaboration across government, organizations, and advocates. Onondaga County will similarly undergo a comprehensive housing study, also organized and led by czb LLC, to unify an approach for addressing housing challenges regionally.

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

Syracuse has several agencies that serve the many needs of the poor. The agencies range from large multi-service providers like the Salvation Army, the Rescue Mission, and Catholic Charities to targeted programs. Through these agencies and organizations, every effort is made in addressing the needs of those in poverty. The City of Syracuse, while not a direct provider of many of the services offered, has funded many agency-driven programs through the CDBG social service line. Some of the funds the City has provided have been used to provide transportation to employment, promote household wealth building and housing stability, provide emergency shelter, and support recreation and educational programs.

While the community is fortunate to be rich in private nonprofit resources, we recognize the opportunities available for the consolidation of programs. Local funders have been at the forefront of assisting the community to prioritize its needs with the limited financial resources that are available. Barriers between agencies continue to be broken down, and partnerships in reducing the duplication of services are making the social service delivery system more effective in the community.

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

The City of Syracuse's Analysis of Impediments (AI) is completed every five years to identify barriers to achieving equal housing opportunities within the city. Impediments to fair housing choice are defined by HUD as any actions, omissions, or decisions taken because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin which restrict housing choices or the availability of housing choices; or any actions which have the effect of restricting housing choices or the availability of housing choices for the same groups.

The jurisdiction's last AI was completed in 2019 in conjunction with CNY Fair Housing, Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit fair housing organization. A copy of the study's executive summary listing key impediments and recommendations to eliminate associated barriers to those impediments can be found in Appendix F.

Efforts to address several of the recommendations outlined occurred during the program year with a combination of CDBG, ESG, and HOME funds and additional resources leveraged from a combination of federal, state, and local sources. Notable highlights include:

- Expanding lead hazard remediation The Office of Lead Hazard Reduction was launched to streamline efforts between the Division of Code Enforcement and NBD's Lead Grant Program. An additional \$4.5 million in ARPA funds was allocated specifically to expand lead ordinance enforcement, remediation, and education
- Improving housing quality, code enforcement and landlord accountability An Emergency Repair Program was launched to address health and safety conditions in rental properties in which landlords have been non-compliant. The city hires a qualified contractor to correct violations that extend beyond the comply by date in order to promote health and safety and reduce unnecessary housing instability. The cost of the repairs is rolled over to the owner's tax bill
- Increasing mixed-income housing The City approved a comprehensive overhaul of its zoning policy to take effect July 1, 2023. Key provisions of the policy include an inclusionary zoning policy requiring 10% of all new developments of 20 units or more to be set aside as affordable, significant expansions to the amount of mix-income and multi-family housing allowed by right, and the addition of accessory dwelling units (ADU's) by right city-wide
- Increasing access to homeownership for Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Asian households The City invested more than \$7.4 million of additional ARPA funds to bolster first time homebuyer counseling, down payment/closing cost assistance, financial literacy, and emergency home repair funding. More than 70% of funds expended to date were to BIPOC households
- Supporting tenants' rights and education The City awarded \$800,000 to expand its Community Ambassador program, which hires residents to conduct outreach and case management related to housing issues, particularly focused on renters

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

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

Monitoring is a continuous process to ensure assisted programs and services are meeting their objectives and identify any agencies that are not in compliance with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements set forth by 24 CFR part 85 and 24 CFR 570, as well as other New York State and local regulations and laws. Proper agency monitoring involves on-site visits and regular in-house reviews of quarterly and monthly performance reports including reimbursement requests, in addition to agency policies and procedures. Specifically, the programs to be evaluated and monitored will be those operating with the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME funds. Sub recipients may include private entities, not-for-profit agencies, and City departments. All ESG programs and most CDBG programs and HOME funded projects are monitored at least yearly. Technical assistance is continuously offered to support agency success in meeting their program outcomes.

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

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

The City of Syracuse remains committed to providing a vehicle for residents, businesses, institutions, organizations, and other key stakeholders to provide input on key city projects, plans and reports, especially Five-Year Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Consolidated Annual Performance Report and Evaluation (CAPER) reports, and any subsequent amendments to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Plan.

Given that the total amount of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding allocated to Syracuse each year is largely based upon the severity of both poverty and substandard housing conditions in Syracuse, the City's Department of Neighborhood & Business Development (NBD) makes a concerted effort to ensure that low-income residents who experience these conditions be genuinely involved in participation throughout all stages of the process, including:

- Identifying priority needs
- Prioritizing amongst identified needs
- Providing feedback regarding allocation amounts across needs
- Suggesting alternative programs to meet high-priority needs
- Providing feedback on program implementation

NBD's engagement is conducted in accordance with the guidelines outlined in its Citizen Participation Plan, which provides strategies to ensure a diverse group of residents can participate and provide public

comment on proposed plans and funding allocations through a variety of methods. Outreach occurs through a variety of channels, including email correspondence, direct mailings, social media, public notices, distribution of information to social services agencies, trusted community organizations, churches, and neighborhood associations including Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today (TNT) sectors, and among others.

Once a draft performance report is completed, communications are sent via the aforementioned channels advising the public of the report's completion and how it can be accessed. The notification also provides information regarding how to submit public comments for consideration both in person and electronically. Public comments are collected for a minimum of 15 days following the report's public release. A copy of the public notice for the release of the current year's performance report can be found in Appendix D.

#### 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.

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

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

While no specific changes were made to the City's program objectives during the current program year, the City of Syracuse is currently evaluating the viability of identifying different locally controlled funding sources to support programs currently funded using CDBG public service funds. Syracuse currently leverages CDBG public service funding to address the needs of various underserved populations within the City of Syracuse, including youth, seniors, people with disabilities, low-income tenants, persons with AIDS/HIV, and BIPOC residents. The primary challenge that has emerged locally in recent years is that types of programming that are most conducive to equitably meeting the needs of these various populations are not always in alignment with block grant funding stipulations.

To address this need in the interim, the City is encouraging and weighting funding applications based on direct alignment with the goals stated in the strategic plan, as well as their proximity in or around any of the three City-owned community centers: the Northeast Community Center, the Southwest Community Center or the Westcott Community Center. Consolidating services in the center of the community increases visibility and accessibility of those services to their intended recipients, thereby increasing the likelihood of reaching the intended recipients of these services. Long term, shifting CDBG funding for these organizations to a locally funded source would create a mutual benefit of allowing additional flexibility to provide programming in a way that best serves the unique needs of these populations. Were the City to proceed in this manner, the jurisdiction would likely seek to divert these funds back to programs that promote affordable housing and neighborhood development, given the high need for these supports within the community.

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

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

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

The Neighborhood and Business Development Office relies on our Division of Code Enforcement to oversee construction project management on redevelopment projects within the City of Syracuse. Onsite inspection of affordable rental housing is done periodically before construction begins, during construction and at project completion.

Ongoing periodic inspection of HOME assisted rental housing is completed through our Division of Code Enforcement. On projects that contain 25 or more units, a sampling of 20% of the units was inspected rather than an inspection of each individual unit. This sampling was chosen by the HOME Program Administrator rather than the property owner. 70 properties currently under a HOME affordability period were inspected this year. Any issues that were detected during an inspection resulted in a violation notice being issued and a re-inspection of the property to ensure that any violation was corrected within the time period required by the Division of Code Enforcement. No projects currently under the affordability period have outstanding uncorrected code violations.

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

NBD's Affirmative Marketing Policy is to ensure that individuals who normally might not apply for available housing units without special outreach be informed of available units, be encouraged to apply, and have an equal opportunity to rent or own the available housing units being offered. The City's CHDOs and other developers commit to doing affirmative outreach in marketing HOME Assisted units. In addition, all HOME assisted projects that contain five or more units must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All marketing and outreach material must include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo or slogan.
- An Equal Housing Opportunity poster will be displayed in areas where potential buyers or tenants would be meeting with an agent or property manager.
- A sign will be posted on the property indicating that it is available for sale or rent or information will be provided on how to get on a waiting list.
- Marketing materials and information regarding the availability of the property will be distributed to one or more of the following places:
  - Home Headquarters' Homeownership Center

- Tomorrow's Neighborhood Today (TNT) meetings (City-wide)
- Community-wide listserv
- Newspaper advertisements (Post Standard and other community-wide publications)
- Centers that serve subsets of the population that would be least likely to know about the opportunity (La Liga, Interfaith Works of CNY, Catholic Charities, Community Centers, Arise, etc.)
- Other publications as approved by Neighborhood & Business Development

# 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

NBD received a total of \$89,496 in program income for the HOME Investment Partnership program, which will allow for one additional new construction activity. The program income will be allocated as a developer subsidy to a certified CHDO for the new construction of a single- family home that has recently been completed. The property will be sold to an income eligible first-time homebuyer for owner occupancy.

# Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

The City is using resources to foster affordable housing by investing in projects that provide a portion of affordable units within neighborhoods that do not have a high proportion of low-income residents. A significant portion of rental and homeowner project funding goes into the HUD-approved NRSA areas designated by the city of Syracuse, providing funding for new affordable units in higher-income areas. This creates new opportunities and promotes choice for income-eligible populations throughout the City's housing stock.

The City maintains affordable housing through strategic investment of CDBG and HOME funds. The required affordability periods are enforced by NBD to preserve availability and access to rental units leased by income-eligible tenants. These properties are closely monitored by NBD staff to ensure they are preserved for low- and moderate-income households. This allows the city of Syracuse to increase the amount of affordable housing and improve accessibility for those who are unable to afford the cost of high rent or homeownership.

#### CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

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

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing using HOPWA activities for: Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility	5	2
assistance payments	3	3
Tenant-based rental assistance	90	91
Units provided in transitional housing		
facilities developed, leased, or operated	12	12
with HOPWA funds		
Units provided in permanent housing		
facilities developed, leased, or operated	0	0
with HOPWA funds		
Total	107	106

Table 14 - HOPWA Number of Households Served

#### Narrative

In Program Year 49, Syracuse received its eighth funding allocation for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). This allocation is based annually on the increase in reported cases of HIV and AIDS in the larger Central New York and Southern Tier catchment areas. With HUD consent, NBD opted to again allow the State of New York to administer HOPWA funding which was done prior to Syracuse designation as an entitlement jurisdiction. By opting out of direct administration of HOPWA funds, the Syracuse area will continue to see allocations that far exceed the specific entitlement amount. This arrangement is codified in a three-party agreement between the City of Syracuse, HUD, and the New York State Office of Temporary Disability Administration (OTDA).

CR-58 – Section 3 Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours		HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	84	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	2,179	0	0	0	0
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	479	0	0	0	0
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	479	0	0	0	0

Table 15 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program		HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are		0	0	0	0
Public Housing Targeted Workers		U	U		U
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are	0	0	0	0	0
Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	U	U	0	U
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or	0	0	0	0	0
paying tuition for, off-site training.	0	U	U		U
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete	0	0	0	0	^
for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section	0	0	0	0	^
3 business concerns.	0	0	U	0	0
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns	0	0	0	0	0
understand and bid on contracts.		U	U	U	U
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate	vivision of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate		0	0	0
participation by Section 3 business concerns.		0			
Provided or connected residents with assistance in			0	0	0
seeking employment including drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities,		0			
					U
connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0	0	0	0
Provided or connected residents with supportive	0	0	0	0	0
services that can provide direct services or referrals.		U	U	0	U
Provided or connected residents with supportive					
services that provide one or more of the following: work		0	0	0	0
readiness health screenings, interview clothing,					
uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding childcare.	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community	0	0	0	0	
college or a four year educational institution.	0	0	0	0	0

Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.		0	0	0	0
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.		0	0	0	0
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.		0	0	0	0
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.		0	0	0	0
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.		0	0	0	0
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state onestop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0	0	0	0
Other.	0	0	0	0	0

Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

# Narrative

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	Syracuse
Organizational DUNS Number	071607675
UEI	
EIN/TIN Number	156000416
Identify the Field Office	Buffalo
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance	

# **ESG Contact Name**

Prefix	Mr.
First Name	Michael
Middle Name	S
Last Name	Collins

Suffix	
Title	Commissioner

# **ESG Contact Address**

Street Address 1	300 South State St	
Street Address 2	Suite 700	
City	Syracuse	
State	NY	
Zip code	13202	
Phone Number	315-448-8109	
Extension		
Fax Number		
Email Address	mcollins@syr.gov	

**ESG Secondary Contact** 

Prefix	Ms.
First Name	Michelle
Last Name	Sczpanski
Suffix	
Title	Deputy Commissioner of Neighborhood Development
Phone Number	315-448-8743
Extension	
Email Address	msczpanski@syr.gov

# 2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date	05/01/2023
Program Year End Date	04/30/2024

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

Subrecipient or Contractor Name
City
State
Zip Code
DUNS Number
UEI
Is subrecipient a victim services provider
Subrecipient Organization Type
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount

# **ESG Sub-recipient Information**

Organization	Program Name	Victim Service Provider?	Туре	Award Amount
Catholic Charities	Housing Diversion	No	Non-Profit	\$50,442
Hiscock Legal Aid Society	Homeless Prevention Legal Services	No	Non-Profit	\$76,634
In My Fathers Kitchen	Under the Bridge Street Outreach	No	Non-Profit	\$60,530
Interfaith Works	Stabilization / Case Management	No	Non-Profit	\$26,562
Liberty Resources Inc.	Depalmer House	No	Non-Profit	\$15,138
Rescue Mission	His Team	No	Non-Profit	\$30,265
The Salvation Army	Youth Services Rapid Rehousing	No	Non-Profit	\$46,825
The Salvation Army	Hale	No	Non-Profit	\$38,322
Volunteer Lawyers Project of CNY	Eviction Defense Program	No	Non-Profit	\$58,110

#### **CR-65 - Persons Assisted**

#### 4. Persons Served

# 4a. Complete for Homelessness Prevention Activities

Number of Persons in	Total	
Households		
Adults	509	
Children	197	
Don't Know/Refused/Other		
Missing Information		
Total	706	

Table 16 – Household Information for Homeless Prevention Activities

# 4b. Complete for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

Number of Persons in	Total	
Households		
Adults	16	
Children	3	
Don't Know/Refused/Other		
Missing Information		
Total	19	

Table 17 – Household Information for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

# 4c. Complete for Shelter

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	19
Children	
Don't Know/Refused/Other	1
Missing Information	
Total	20

Table 18 - Shelter Information

# 4d. Street Outreach

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	364
Children	
Don't Know/Refused/Other	
Missing Information	
Total	364

Table 19 - Household Information for Street Outreach

# 4e. Totals for all Persons Served with ESG

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	906
Children	200
Don't Know/Refused/Other	1
Missing Information	
Total	1107

Table 20 – Household Information for Persons Served with ESG

# 5. Gender—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Male	541
Female	554
Transgender	9
Don't Know/Refused/Other	2
Missing Information	1
Total	1107

**Table 21 – Gender Information** 

# 6. Age—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Under 18	200
18-24	70
25 and over	836
Don't Know/Refused/Other	
Missing Information	1
Total	1107

Table 22 – Age Information

# 7. Special Populations Served—Complete for All Activities

# **Number of Persons in Households**

Subpopulation	Total	Total Persons Served – Prevention	Total Persons Served – RRH	Total Persons Served in Emergency Shelters
Veterans	21	12	1	8
Victims of Domestic Violence	197	99	0	0
Elderly	142	77	5	60
HIV/AIDS	20	3	0	17
Chronically Homeless	64	0	1	63

Persons with Disabilities:				
Severely	355	118	5	227
Mentally III				
Chronic	188	18	2	168
Substance				
Abuse				
Other	433	204	6	229
Disability				
Total	1420	531	20	755
(unduplicated				
if possible)				

Table 23 – Special Population Served

### CR-70 – ESG 91.520(g) - Assistance Provided and Outcomes

#### 10. Shelter Utilization

Number of New Units – Rehabbed	0
Number of New Units – Conversion	0
Total Number of bed - nights available	146,365
Total Number of bed - nights provided	140,971
Capacity Utilization	96%

**Table 24 – Shelter Capacity** 

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

NBD, in collaboration with the Continuum of Care (CoC), has determined the following as performance standards for evaluating ESG activities:

- Increase the coordination among agencies and mainstream resources and other support services in assessing the needs of homeless or housing vulnerable individuals and families.
- Increase access to services (credit repair/financial literacy) to reduce an individual's or families' vulnerability to homelessness.

## System Performance Measures:

- Length of time persons remain homeless.
- Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness.
- Number of homeless persons.
- Employment and income growth for homeless persons in funded projects.
- Number of persons who become homeless for the first time.
- Successful placement from street outreach and successful placement in or retention of permanent housing.

#### **ESG Project Outcomes**:

#### Transitional Housing

- Placement in Permanent Housing: 23%
- Income Growth: No reported employment or income growth in the DePalmer House.
- Benefits: 75% of residents had benefits at program exit.

#### Homelessness Prevention

- Placement in Permanent Housing: 66%
- Employment/Income Growth: 10%
- Benefits for Leavers: 98%

# Rapid Rehousing

- Employment/Income Growth: 25% employment, 38% income of any source
- Benefits for leavers: 6/8 (75%)
- Placement in Permanent Housing: 40%
- Average Time to Move In: 65 days

#### The Homeless Annual Performance Report Numbers reported:

- 3,409 people (individuals and families) residing in Syracuse Emergency Shelters between May 1, 2023, and April 30, 2024.
- 71% of all people entering Emergency Shelters leaving in 30 days or less.

The Point in Time (PIT) Count is an annual count of homeless persons who are in emergency shelter, transitional housing or unsheltered (in places not meant for human habitation conducted across the country on a single night in January. The data below is the PIT homeless data for Onondaga County only from January 24, 2024, PIT data:

- Family homelessness has increased by 99% (179 people in 2023, 357 people in 2024)
- Chronic homelessness increased by 53% (38 people in 2023, 58 in 2024)
- Unaccompanied single youth (under 17) increased by 125% (4 youth in 2023, 9 youth in 2024)
- Parenting youth increased by 50% (12 youth households in 2023, 18 youth households in 2024)

City of Syracuse CAPER - Y49

# **CR-75 – Expenditures**

# 11. Expenditures

# 11a. ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year			
	2021	2022	2023
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and	0	0	0
Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	_		_
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Prevention under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	\$204,991.87	\$209,758	\$210,193.32
Subtotal Homelessness Prevention	\$204,991.87	\$209,758	\$210,193.32

Table 25 – ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

# 11b. ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year			
	2021	2022	2023
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Assistance under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	\$71,374.64	\$70,268	\$78,632.14
Subtotal Rapid Re-Housing	\$71,374.64	\$70,268	\$78,632.14

Table 26 – ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

# 11c. ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2021	2022	2023
Essential Services	0	0	0
Operations	\$30,633.93	\$30,645	\$14,469.28
Renovation	0	0	0
Major Rehab	0	0	0
Conversion	0	0	0
Subtotal	\$30,633.93	\$30,645	\$14,469.28

Table 27 – ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

# 11d. Other Grant Expenditures

	Dollar Amou	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2021	2022	2023	
Street Outreach	\$91,512.99	\$90,399	\$90,795	
HMIS	0	0	0	
Administration	\$31,929.53	\$32,518	\$18,921.94	

Table 28 - Other Grant Expenditures

# 11e. Total ESG Grant Funds

Total ESG Funds Expended	2021	2022	2023
	\$430,877	\$418,595	\$413,011.68

**Table 29 - Total ESG Funds Expended** 

# 11f. Match Source

	2021	2022	2023
Other Non-ESG HUD Funds	0	\$12,934	0
Other Federal Funds	\$74,554.36	\$95,763	\$50,442
State Government	\$109,470.30	\$229,320.50	\$553,546
Local Government	\$108,689.34	\$68,238.50	\$187,478
Private Funds	\$141,288.77	\$158,470	\$245,503
Other	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0
Total Match Amount	\$434,002.77	\$564,726	\$1,036,969

Table 30 - Other Funds Expended on Eligible ESG Activities

# 11g. Total

Total Amount of Funds	2021	2022	2023
Expended on ESG Activities			
	\$864,880	\$983,321	\$1,449,980.68

Table 31 - Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities