

SALT LAKE COUNTY 2021-2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This document contains the second year action plan of the Five Year Plan for the Salt Lake County Consortium. It describes the allocation of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds for 2021. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires any community that receives an allocation of the following grants to complete a Consolidated Plan.

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnership Grant Funds
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

This Annual Action Plan reviews the needs of Salt Lake County and details how the Salt Lake County Consortium has allocated CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding to meet some of those needs.

URBAN COUNTY

Salt Lake Urban County includes unincorporated Salt Lake County and the cities of Alta, Bluffdale, Brighton, Cottonwood Heights, Draper, Herriman, Millcreek, Holladay, Midvale, Murray, Riverton and South Salt Lake, the townships of Kearns, Magna, Copperton, White City, Emigration, and unincorporated Salt Lake County

SALT LAKE COUNTY CONSORTIUM

The Salt Lake County Consortium includes the Urban County and the cities of West Jordan, Sandy, South Jordan, Taylorsville and West Valley. Included as part of the Salt Lake County Consortium Consolidated Plan are the Action Plans of Salt Lake County, Sandy City, South Jordan City, City of Taylorsville, West Valley City and West Jordan City.

ACTION PLAN

These action plans identify how approximately five million dollars of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds will be spent. Salt Lake County is the lead agency for the Urban County and the Consortium and will disperse the funds to Urban County cities and Consortium HOME program cities, respectively, as well as service providers for projects identified in the One-Year Action Plan.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The objective of the Salt Lake County Consortium Consolidated Plan is to identify the greatest needs in Salt Lake County through a public process and public input, and input received from a variety of agencies and organizations. Through the review and the analysis of the needs, the priorities for the next five years were established (See Strategic Section) and goals were developed. The strategic needs and goals were used to help to decide on how CDBG, HOME and ESG funds will be prioritized and allocated to mitigate some of those needs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Decent Housing Affordability:

- **Home Improvement Program:** 1,250 households over five years or 300 households annually will receive some form of emergency repair, minor home repair, or a home improvement loan/energy efficiency retrofit.
- **Rental Housing:** HCD anticipates helping finance the development and construction of 600 Affordable Rental Housing Units over five years or 120 units annually. In addition to these objectives, HCD has estimated that 300 rental housing units will be built over five years or 60 units annually for the chronically homeless, seniors and those with special needs, providing new rental housing as well as preserving existing units for Homeless and those with Special Needs.
- **Tenant Based Rental Assistance:** It is estimated that over the next five year, 1,000 homeless households or households at risk of becoming homeless, or 200 households annually will receive short term rental assistance. As additional resources become available more funding will be provided to increase the amount of rental assistance for the prevention of homelessness.

Suitable Living Environment; Availability and Accessibility:

- **Capacity of Nonprofit Organizations:** 25 nonprofit organizations over five years, or 5 annually will receive funding for operations and/or building improvements.
- **Infrastructure, Neighborhood and Park Improvements:** 20 projects over five years or 4 annually will be funded and completed.
- **Creating Economic Opportunity and Sustainability Economic Development:** 10 businesses over five years or 2 annually will receive some form of assistance.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Summary of activities for the last fiscal year

CDBG, HOME and ESG funds were committed to a broad range of programs and projects benefiting low to moderate-income households.

HOME Investment Partnership Program

- Four affordable rental housing projects were completed

Community Development Block Grant Program:

- Home Improvement/Emergency Home Repairs were completed on 160 homes
- Down Payment assistance was provided with CDBG funds to 19 low-income homebuyers during the year (International Rescue Committee / Community Development Corporation of Utah)
- Four infrastructure improvement projects were completed (Kearns, South Salt Lake, Midvale, Millcreek)
- Seven non-profit agencies completed facility improvements to serve clients homeless, persons with disabilities, and low-moderate income people (First Step House, Odyssey House, House of Hope, Work Activity Center, Columbus, SVS, TIB)
- Six agencies provided public services which addressed crisis needs, stabilization, and economic mobility for homeless, persons with disabilities, and low-and-moderate income people.

Emergency Solutions Grant Program: Two agencies were provided funding through the ESG program, which facilitated three programs. Both Agencies matched these funds at 100% and the accomplishments include:

- Two agencies received funding for emergency shelter services covering the costs of operations+ and supportive services for clients. These agencies provided services to more than 6095 homeless persons.
- One agency was provided funding for Rapid Re-housing to provide financial assistance and stabilization and relocation services for homeless clients. Salt Lake County ESG funds supported 19 households comprised of 61 individuals out of the Road Home's overall Rapid Re-Housing program.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Starting in the latter part of 2019, Salt Lake County Housing and Community Development completed a community needs assessment to gain a better understanding of the community needs of low-to moderate-income households in Salt Lake County, Utah. The purpose was to help use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) grant funding for organizations whose programs and projects could best address the needs of low-to moderate-income households in Salt Lake County, Utah. The needs assessment was completed in a multi-step process which included:

- Literature review of prior needs assessments
- Coordination and guidance from the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Director and Program Managers
- Public Comment Process
- Internal stakeholder meeting with Salt Lake County
- Follow up by Housing and Community Development to the internal stakeholder meeting

In particular, the Public Comment Process on the above list greatly informed the finalized identification of needs. The Public Comment period was administered through two in-person meetings held on December 12, 2019, as well as an option to submit written comments through January 2020. Prior to the public comment period a draft copy of the Needs Assessment was posted on the Housing and Community Development web site, a legal notice was run in the Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News on September 8, 2019, and email reminders were sent to community organizations. Public response was representative of a range of community organizations and individuals. In total, 27 organizations and 2 private citizens engaged in the public comment process. The identified highest needs of low-to-moderate income households in Salt Lake County, Utah, are provided below. These needs were

incorporated into five year strategic plan for 2020-2024, and informed the development of the Request for Proposals (RFP) processes for Salt Lake County for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) grant funding.

- Safe, affordable and accessible homeownership and rental opportunities
- Crisis shelters and housing for special needs populations
- Supportive services to assist with housing stability and housing accessJob readiness/knowledge of work supports
- Post –secondary and adult learning opportunities
- Financial education and legal resources to increase income
- Access to emergency food resources
- Safe and healthy families and communities; services to prevent and address substance abuse, child and elder abuse, domestic violence and criminal behavior
- Access to legal services and information resources

Low-opportunity areas are places that lack access to quality jobs and education, and have higher rates of poverty, housing instability and labor market engagement. Low-opportunity areas in Salt Lake County include Kearns, Magna, Midvale, Murray and South Salt Lake City. Combined, 231 individuals from these areas took the public survey, with participants from Kearns making up 45% of total responders.

Directly related to the highest needs identified through public engagement and reflected in the five-year strategic plan, Salt Lake County Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is committed to supporting housing, housing stability, and economic mobility of individuals and families. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on low-income earners who were already facing obstacles of ever-increasing rents, food insecurity, access to health care and access to opportunities e.g. living-wage jobs and economic mobility. In response to these challenges, which have been exacerbated for low-to moderate income households in the 2021-2022 program year, Salt Lake County intends to prioritize available resources for targeted activities that increase or sustain affordable housing inventory, increase housing stability, or contribute to economic mobility. In particular, HCD sought proposals for FY21 that focus on recovery for community members who are at higher risk of being left behind in the wake of the losses of 2020.

The Salt Lake County Citizen Participation Plan was updated in May 2020, to reflect the adoption of waivers that were available from HUD related to the COVID-19 pandemic. To provide additional flexibility to communities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and better assist individuals and families, including those experiencing homelessness infected with the virus or economically impacted by the virus, HUD determined that good cause was found to provide a regulatory waiver to 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) and (k), 91.115(c)(2) and (i), in order to balance the need to respond quickly to the growing spread and effects of COVID-19 with the statutory requirement to provide reasonable notice and opportunity for

citizens to comment on substantial amendments concerning the proposed uses of CDBG, HOME, HTF, or ESG funds. The 30-day minimum for the required public comment period was waived for substantial amendments, provided that no less than 5 days are provided for public comments on each substantial amendment. Salt Lake County determined that a 5-day period provides reasonable notice and opportunity to comment, and thereby reduced the public comment period to 5 days for substantial amendments deemed necessary to the FY19 and/or FY20 Action Plan.

In addition, Salt Lake County implemented the HUD waiver related to the submission of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), effective 4/29/2020 and applicable through the 2020 Program Year (ending 6/30/2021). Given the outbreak of the coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 and the extenuating circumstances placed on state and local governments, and citizens, HUD determined that there was good cause to waive the 90-day submission provision, which requires for the CAPER submission to HUD within 90-days after the close of a jurisdiction's program year. Pursuant to the waiver, Salt Lake County made the applicable 2019 CAPER available for public comment December 9-23, 2020, and submitted it as allowed within 180 days after the close of the program year, prior to the December 31st deadline.

5. Summary of public comments *

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

**This section will be updated after the public comment period.*

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

**This section will be updated after the public comment period.*

7. Summary

The onset of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) required a reset of the needs, priorities and goals for the five-year plan and more focus on the most critical needs to be mitigated by the 2021 Action Plan. The challenges and needs appear overwhelming; however, Salt Lake County will continue to assess the evolving priorities and integrate responsive goals into the strategy for the deployment of federal resources in 2021.

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