# 2021 HOME – ARP GRANT ALLOCATION PLAN



## CITY OF ALTOONA PENNSYLVANIA

## Introduction

In September 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the formula allocation of \$1,192,765 in funding made available to the City of Altoona under Section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 and administered through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). The purpose of HOME-ARP funds is to provide affordable housing and related supportive services to qualifying vulnerable populations to prevent or address homelessness. The City of Altoona HOME-ARP Allocation Plan describes the housing and supportive service needs related to homelessness within the City and how the City intends to utilize funds over the life of its contract to address these needs.

The City of Altoona is a participating jurisdiction (PJ) under the HOME Program. The HOME Program is administered through the City's Community Development Department administers the HOME program and will therefore administer the HOME-ARP Program. This allocation plan fulfills PJ funding requirements for the use of HOME-ARP funds as described in this HUD Notice CPD 21-10 and includes descriptions of the following: Consultation, Public Participation, Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis, HOME-ARP activities, HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals and Preferences.

HOME-ARP funds must be used for projects that benefit all populations described through qualifying populations (QPs):

- Homeless, as defined in 24 CFR 91.5
- At Risk of Homelessness, as defined in 24 CFR 91.5
- Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice
- Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice.

HOME-ARP funds may be used to benefit the qualifying populations through the four eligible activities:

- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
- Provision of Supportive Services
- Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

All HOME-ARP funds will benefit low- and moderate-income persons or households, as defined by HUD, and support low- and moderate-income limited clientele which specifically assists the HOME-ARP's qualifying populations.

#### Consultation:

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, was notified in 2021 that it would receive a one-time grant allocation of \$1,192,765 in HOME-ARP funding from the US. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This supplemental funding was allocated by formula under the HOME entitlement program to address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services. The allocation must primarily benefit individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations at greatest risk of housing instability. These funds are intended to provide housing, shelter and supportive services for the following qualifying populations (QP's): persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness; fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; and other vulnerable populations at greatest risk of housing instability.

The City of Altoona advertised the availability of the HOME-ARP funding in the local newspaper of general circulation, the *Altoona Mirror*, on Friday, January 7, 2022. The City held a public hearing on February 9, 2022. The purpose of the hearing was to encourage community feedback on the needs of the homeless and solicit applications from service providers for eligible projects.

In accordance with HUD guidance, City staff conducted extensive outreach to local homeless providers who work with QP's and are a part of the local Continuum of Care (CoC) to determine what services are currently provided to assist QP's in the area, identify gaps in housing and service needs, and prioritize those needs. In-person meetings and on-line contact was made with ten local agencies serving the QP's who focus on affordable rental housing, equity and inclusion, and homeless and special needs.

A majority of those interviewed during the consultations said the priority need with respect to QP's in the region is the need for safe and affordable housing, either by new construction or the rehabilitation of existing buildings. Other needs identified during the consultations were the need for additional rental assistance, assistance with security deposits, housing counseling and other supportive services for those in shelters, and additional training/counseling for families in order to prevent homelessness. In particular, there is a need for training on how to maintain and clean a home, improved access to mental health services, and other supportive services.

The City of Altoona initially established March 18, 2022, as the deadline for submission of applications for funding. As a result, the City received applications from Catholic Charities for emergency financial services, Veterans Leadership Program for veterans' supportive services, and Family Services, Inc., for the substantial rehabilitation of a building into homeless shelter. The City learned that the Family Services shelter was ineligible for these funds because it had already broken ground. The Durbin Companies, a developer who has extensive experience in affordable (as well as market-rate) housing development and is active in the regional CoC, then proposed a permanent affordable housing development project. The project had been conceived a few years earlier by the local CoC but there were no resources to move forward with it. Given the fact that the HOME-ARP Program did not have to be approved at the same time as the

regular budget, staff delayed bringing the plan to Council in order to allow the developer to obtain an updated estimate of costs and initial project design for the affordable housing development. In the meantime, City staff requested a meeting with the area CoC to get additional information for the gaps analysis. At the same approximate time, these providers were able to meet with the HUD Pittsburgh CPD Director when he came to Altoona for a Meet and Greet. This presented an opportunity for local homeless providers to talk about their programs and discuss challenges they face in meeting the needs of the homeless and to discuss the proposed affordable housing construction project with the HUD Director.

On February 22, 2023, the finalized allocation plan and proposed use of funds was advertised in the Altoona Mirror, and on March 13, 2023, the amendment to the 2021 HOME Program Annual Plan was reviewed and approved by Council.

#### Organizations Consulted:

The City of Altoona's CDBG/HOME Program staff consulted with the following agencies:

<u>Blair County Community Action Agency</u>: September 23, 2021 (Conference Call) Director, Sergio Carmona

Blair County Community Action Program (BCCAP) a private, non-profit corporation under Section 501 (c) (3). BCCAP assembles and directs federal and local resources to address the multidimensional influences which impact the low-to-moderate income families and individuals of Blair County. Blair County Community Action Program's role is to encourage our constituents to develop their talents to better themselves, their family, and their community. BCCAP handles all homeless program coordinated entry for the region. When consulting with BCCAP, their feedback was as follows:

- Finding affordable housing units for persons leaving the homeless shelters or hotels.
- Develop a grant program to work with developers to create new affordable housing
- Housing Counseling
- Rehab of vacant buildings to turn into affordable housing.
- Hire an in-house manager strictly to assist veterans.
- Housing for people with mental and physical disabilities

*Family Services, Inc.*: September 27, 2021 (Conference Call) Lisa Hann, Director and Ashley Gay Vocco, Director of Victim Services

Family Services Incorporated (FSI), a private, nonprofit social service agency, has a long history of providing services for Blair County residents, dating back to the late 1800's. The mission of Family Services Incorporated is to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities by providing cost efficient and effective care programs that contribute to healthier relationships. This agency believes in the value of each individual within our society and the

inalienable right each person has to live a life filled with joy, love, stability and a sense of productivity. When consulting with FSI, their feedback was as follows:

- Building affordable housing for persons leaving homeless shelters
- Development of more affordable housing by rehab or new construction, also rehab of vacant buildings for shelter use
- Housing for people leaving domestic violence
- Assisting persons with mental illness find housing

#### Altoona Housing Authority (AHA) October 27, 2021 (In-person meeting)

Cheryl Johns, Director and Kim Palmer-Staff; also attending was a local area developer Brian Durbin

The Altoona Housing Authority is a municipal authority that was created to administer and develop affordable housing for low-income families in the City of Altoona. When consulting with AHA, their feedback was as follows:

- Modernization of existing low/mod income housing units.
- Work with developers to provide new affordable housing.
- The AHA would like to have preference to house individuals that are currently homeless to move to the top of the list.

## <u>Center for Independent Living (CILSPA)</u> November 2, 2021 (In person meeting) George Palmer, Director and Marty Dombrowski-Staff

CILSPA works with disabled homeless or not homeless persons providing a multitude of assistance depending on their needs. When consulting with CILSPA, their feedback was as follows:

- Homeless persons finding it difficult to be placed in shelters.
- Access to fresh food for the unsheltered.
- Transitional services on how to live independently.
- Shelters need staffed for all 24 hours a day.
- Community building to house the homeless

#### Altoona Salvation Army December 1, 2021 (In person meeting)

Ashley Fulmer, Director and Jamie Scallen-Director, Staff

The Salvation Army Altoona, located in Altoona, PA, is a branch office of the Christian non-profit Salvation Army, whose mission emphasizes aiding the poor and people in need. The Salvation Army offers human services through its programs, including disaster relief and public emergency services. When consulting with Altoona Salvation Army, their feedback was as follows:

- Major issue homelessness
- Uptick in domestic violence
- Drug addiction leading to homelessness
- Shelters for just women with children and also for men coming out of prison
- Training for counseling to prevent homelessness

#### Andrae' M. Holsey - Civil Rights Leader December 1, 2021 (In person meeting)

Andrae' M. Holsey-President, NAACP #2252

The mission of the NAACP, is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. When consulting with the Civil Rights Leader, his feedback was as follows:

- Lack of affordable housing
- Housing Counseling
- Supportive Services
- Stable place to live and affordable
- Need more shelters
- Renovate vacant houses
- Rent to own program
- Teaching potential homeowners on how to secure housing loans
- Predatory landlords
- Tenant accessibility

#### Veterans Administration (VA) January 4, 2022 (Conference Call)

Bethany Farabaugh, LSW and Melinda Shea – Veterans Administration

Provides veterans the world-class benefits and services they have earned and to do so by adhering to the highest standards of compassion, commitment, excellence, professionalism, integrity, accountability, and stewardship. When consulting with the VA, their feedback was as follows:

- Lack of housing inventory
- Housing options
- Assistance with security deposits
- Develop more affordable housing by rehabbing or new construction

- More VASH Vouchers specific to Veterans
- Homeless prevention activities
- Case Management
- VA Care for discharging

#### Fair Housing Administrator (FHA) December 3, 2021 (Conference Call)

Jaime Milligan of Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Aid (Fair Housing Consultant)

The Fair Housing Law provides education, advocacy and legal representation to victim of housing discrimination. Work to make all members of the community aware of their fair When consulting with FHA, their feedback was as follows:

- Housing rights, but most importantly, stand up for those who have been discriminated against.
- Build affordable housing by rehabilitation or new construction
- Assist people that are not coming from a shelter, but from someone's couch
- Fund a non-profit agency to create affordable housing
- Create scattered sites
- Rehab blighted buildings and have low mortgage payments
- More supportive services
- Education on how to be a homeowner
- Renter Programs

#### <u>Improved Dwellings for Altoona, Inc (IDA)</u> December 15, 2021 (Conference Call)

Michelle Peterson, Executive Director

IDA is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide safe, decent and affordable housing and services for households of low to moderate income who cannot secure housing through rental or purchase in the private market, and to address the needs of our tenants with dignity, respect and integrity. When consulting with IDA, their feedback was as follows:

- Persons need assistance with their rent and need of emergency funds
- Assistance from the Federal government to help pay rent
- Need for housing voucher programs

#### Veterans Leadership Program January 10, 2022 (Conference Call)

Hayley Miller, SSVF Supports Supervisor – Veterans Leadership Program Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) and CoC Coordinator

The vision of Veterans Leadership Program is that every Veteran of the United States Military reach their fullest potential as citizens of the Nation that they have so proudly served. We are proud to serve all who served, regardless of VA eligibility, discharge status or length of service. When consulting with Veterans Leadership Program, their feedback was as follows:

- Need affordable one-bedroom units for single males
- Assistance for veterans with mortgages and delinquent taxes
- Finding landlords that accept Section 8 Certificates and VASH Vouchers
- Need help with funds to buy furniture
- Assistance with security deposits, first month's rent and utility assistance
- Develop more affordable housing by rehabilitation or new construction

#### Summary of Results:

The results of the consultations revealed the top need for the City of Altoona is for more safe, decent and affordable housing units, especially for individuals and families leaving the homeless shelters. The suggestions were to build new or rehabilitate older or blighted properties. Also, there is a need for supportive services to assist persons leaving the shelters.

#### Public Participation

- Date(s) of public notice: 1/7/2022 Informing public of application process
- Date(s) of public hearing: 2/9/2022
- Deadline for application submissions March 18, 2022
- Awaiting project funding amount to build affordable housing
- Advertisement of selected projects: February 23, 2023
- Public comment period: start date -2/23/2023 end date -3/9/2023
- City Council acceptance of Plan: March 13, 2023

The City of Altoona advertised a public notice on January 7, 2022, informing the public of the 2021 HOME-American Rescue Plan Schedule. The City of Altoona held a community-wide public hearing on February 9, 2022 and the deadline for project submission was March 18, 2022. The projects were advertised in the local newspaper on February 23, 2023 for a 15-day comment period. Council approved the allocation plan as an amendment to the City's 2021 HOME Annual Plan at its March 13, 2023 meeting.

To broaden public participation, the City of Altoona reached out to all City Department Heads, elected and public officials, housing agencies and organizations, homeless agencies and providers, social service agencies, fair housing organizations, economic development agencies and local faith-based institutions. The City of Altoona also used the local newspaper, news media, City's website and local access television channel.

#### Summary of comments and recommendations received:

No written comments were received. Mr. William Kibler, *Altoona Mirror*, and Mr. Nate Germany of Sanctuary House attended the public hearing. Staff explained the primary purpose of the HOME-ARP Grant and funding available. No comments were received from the attendees.

#### Summary any comments or recommendations not accepted:

There were no comments from the public. Recommendations from interviews were incorporated into the Allocation Plan. Of project applications, the Family Services, Inc., shelter project was unfortunately deemed ineligible for funding because it was already in progress by the time the plan was being developed.

#### Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis:

Altoona is part of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care which includes thirty-three (33) counties in Eastern PA. Blair County is a member of the South Central Regional Homeless Advisory Board which includes nine (9) counties in central and south/central Pennsylvania. Data for the development of the needs for the homeless in the area have been obtained from the Eastern PA Continuum of Care.

#### **Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table:**

					H	lomeless							
		Curr	ent Inve	ntory		Н	omeless :	Populat	ion		Gap A	nalysis	
	Far	nily	Adults Only		Vets	Family	Adult			Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	HH (at least 1 child)	HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	16	1	10	1	2						1,30		
Transitional Housing	#	0	0	0	0								
Permanent Supportive Housing	0	0	9	9	0				The same				
Other Permanent Housing	#	#	#	#	#	1913		Type !	12.0				
Sheltered Homeless						1	11	0	2	A 74			
Unsheltered Homeless						59	160	0	65				
Current Gap										43	#	149	#

Suggested Data Sources: 1. Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation

The 16-bed shelter is being replaced with a 35-bed shelter for a net of 19 additional beds. The shelter will also include 8 affordable rental units, 2 of which will be ADA compliant and served with an elevator, on the second floor. The shelter is scheduled to open in the spring of 2023.

**Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table** 

	<b>Non-Homeless</b>		
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	7135		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	585		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	505		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		1850	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		895	
Current Gaps			1090

Suggested Data Sources: 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

#### Size and Demographic Composition of Qualifying Populations within the PJ's Boundaries:

Housing Problems (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

			Renter					Owner		
	0- 30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0- 30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four										
housing problems	1,385	290	50	_30	1,755	465	265	170	20	920
Having none of four										
housing problems	905	1,465	1,025	445	3,840	305	1,190	2,285	1,410	5,190
Household has negative										
income, but none of the										
other housing problems	140	0	0	0	140	30	0	0	0	30

#### Cost Burden > 30%

		Re	nter			Ov	vner	
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HO	JSEHOLDS							
Small Related	620	355	134	1,109	195	180	235	610
Large Related	75	29	15	119	24	75	35	134
Elderly	335	250	55	640	340	340	159	839
Other	720	310	100	1,130	145	175	140	460

		Re	nter			Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	
Total need by income	1,750	944	304	2,998	704	770	569	2,043	

#### Cost Burden > 50%

		Re	nter			Ov	vner	
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOU	JSEHOLDS							
Small Related	510	45	4	559	130	60	50	240
Large Related	60	25	0	85	4	0	25	29
Elderly	250	75	0	325	185	100	34	319
Other	515	70	30	615	120	75	45	240
Total need by	1,335	215	34	1,584	439	235	154	828
income								

Crowding (More than one person per room)

			Renter					Owner		
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOU	SEHOLD	S								
Single family										
households	20	0	15	24	59	30	10	0	0	40
Multiple, unrelated										
family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	15	0	19
Other, non-family										
households	10	25	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by	30	25	15	24	94	30	14	15	0	59
income										

The median value and cost to purchase and maintain a single-family home in Altoona that is decent, safe, and sound is \$87,600, which limits the choice of housing for lower income households. About 24.1% of homeowners and 65.7% of renters in the City are cost overburdened by more than 30% of their household income.

#### Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5:

The City of Altoona will provide access to all HOME-ARP projects and activities to the qualifying populations listed within the HOME-ARP Regulations. The population of Altoona, PA has been on a decline with a 2020 population of 43,491 persons. Due to the lack of safe, affordable housing in the city, families and individuals can be one missed paycheck away from losing their housing. The shelters within the city cannot accommodate the number of city residents that are in need. Households may end up street homeless, or couch surfing with friends and family members.

#### At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

HUD defines those at risk of homelessness as individuals and families who have an income below 30% of the area median income. Those who fall within this category do not have sufficient resources or support systems to prevent them from becoming homeless or live with housing instability. In Altoona, there are 2,790 Households that are at or below 30% AMI, and a majority of those with this income level are renters. These renters are likely to live on the financial edge and may be at risk of a housing crisis event or homelessness.

The largest housing problem in the City of Altoona is housing affordability. According to the 2011-2015 CHAS data, 65.8% of all renter households are cost overburdened by 30% or more, and 24.1% of all owner households are cost overburdened by 30% or more.

## Fleeing or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice:

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery that involves force, fraud, and coercion against individuals either into forced labor or to perform sexual acts, with sex slavery receiving significant attention over the past number of years. Human trafficking has been categorized as the third most profitable crime behind the drug and arms trades. The goal is to define methods and tools to mine opensource information that are effective at providing actionable intelligence to actively contribute to the understanding, characterization and ultimately to combat sex trafficking in the region. Based on the local crime statistics and social service agency responses to interviews and surveys, it is estimated that of the 1,427 9-1-1 calls for domestic violence, 365 required an incident report and victims were referred for services for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and/or housing assistance. The local shelters offer programs to assist those experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and serve approximately 4,000 people each year through shelter programs, peer to peer groups, confidential counseling, Civil Protection Orders, and legal assistance.

## Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice:

The City of Altoona's Veterans, based on the 2022 Point-In-Time data, sheltered six (6) females and one (1) female was unsheltered. Male veterans sheltered were three (3) males and zero (0) males unsheltered. With the assistance of homeless shelters and Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers yearly, 38 veterans have received these vouchers. Note that the 2023 PIT data have been collected by are not complete because of technical difficulties with the data collection equipment. The data will be available by Spring.

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):

The City of Altoona has been assisting the qualifying populations with mainly CDBG/HOME and CDBG-COVID-19 funds by way of serving meals prepared through the Nehemiah meal preparation program, assisting with the rehabilitation of a vacant building into a non-congregate homeless shelter, assisting the homeless with hotel stays and utility assistance through the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities and Blair County Community Action Agency, and through the renovation of rental units through the HOME Program.

#### Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

#### Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Blair County is seeing increasing evidences of homelessness, particularly since COVID. The majority of homeless are located within the City of Altoona, or seek service in the City. Various factors affect homelessness, including unstable family situations, lack of relevant education and training for jobs in the area, criminal backgrounds, drug and alcohol addiction, mental health problems and so on. The homeless are not always obvious. In winter, when PIT counts are taken, homeless are less visible given the fact that they are not pushed out onto the streets in the cold months.

In this area, people experiencing homelessness will go into rural areas hoping to find shelter in barns or help from churches. While churches do help the homeless in the County, many of the people are sent back into Altoona or to Pittsburgh for help. Area providers have witnessed growing wait lists for assistance which they expect to increase dramatically after Emergency Rapid Rehousing Assistance Program funds are fully expended. Providers have stopped taking applications for the program in order to not raise hopes given funding constraints.

In addition, the County is beginning to see an increase in immigration. These immigrants work in the agricultural industries and restaurants for the most part. At the present time, the population of immigrants is estimated at 500-600 people. Most do not have an easy path to citizenship and therefore accessing services is difficult. Goodwill Industries and ABCD Corporation are working on a welcome initiative but some will remain underground to prevent being returned to their places of origin. While immigrants from Europe built Altoona in the late 1800s and early 1900s, it is rare today. Agencies expect to witness an impact as these numbers grow, but exact numbers are hard to find.

There is a strong network of agencies and service providers in Altoona and Blair County that operate programs for homeless persons. These providers have relationships established with mainstream providers of health, mental health, and employment services and refer homeless persons to these providers on a regular basis as needed for services. Blair County Community

Action Agency is the CoC Coordinated entry point for the region and maintains the By Name List.

The area has an engaged community with a history of volunteerism which has helped to support those facing homelessness. Recently, the Hope Drop-In Center was opened to help those with mental illness find help in Downtown Altoona, which might include referrals to the CoC. Churches in the area have worked together to provide clothing and other necessities.

As the area's largest community, the City has a number of non-profit and government services for QPs. Mental health and drug and alcohol services are available through the Home Nursing Agency and UPMC Altoona. Utility assistance is available through by Blair County Community Action and Catholic Social Services. Counseling and advocacy for homeless persons is available through by Blair Senior Services, Family Services of Blair County and Blair County Community Action. Blair County Community Action has assembled a comprehensive list of services that is available for distribution and posted on its website:

https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:774034de-6ec9-40ff-8699-989e6739ba3c

Areas of weaknesses would include access to legal assistance in which services are limited because of reductions in funding; public transportation where bus routes and times of operation are limited, especially on weekends, and in shelter beds which cannot keep up with the demand; there is a current shortage of shelter beds in the community especially for homeless families with children; and the availability of safe, decent affordable permanent housing for those leaving shelters. Local providers have encountered significant issues with the 211 service, which is operated by the United Way and is not local. People seeking assistance had difficulty accessing phones to use the system, and relied on the local libraries for assistance. People were often put on hold for hours at a time given staffing issues at 211. Blair County Community Action has taken over all coordinated entry responsibilities for homeless in the area given these challenges.

#### At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Funding for affordable housing and supportive services is essential in assisting those at-risk homeless, as well as an improved coordinated entry system (as noted above) to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs. The City of Altoona has limited housing options for all levels of incomes. Given the "missing middle housing" (both for rent and for sale), pressure is placed on the market and higher income earners rent the safer and more desirable affordable units. This has also had the effect of increasing rents. Landlords can rent to better risk households such as traveling nurses, newly relocated professionals, etc., and are less open to assisting lower income families, for example, by accepting housing choice vouchers or renting to those leaving shelter. A housing study is currently underway through the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development

Commission to evaluate this problem in order to inform development. The consultations revealed that safe and affordable rental housing is a high need for the City of Altoona.

## Fleeing or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice:

The lack of availability of affordable rental housing increases the chance of those who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault stalking or human trafficking of staying in abusive and dangerous situations. Increasing options of affordable housing and access to services would be a priority for this population. With respect to human trafficking, the area victim assistance provider (Family Services, Inc.) has indicated that human trafficking in the area is primarily related to children being trafficked by a parent. Emergency shelter options, as well as improved access to mental health and addiction treatment services would help pull vulnerable populations out of untenable situations.

## Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice:

Increasing the housing vouchers/VASH vouchers for the City of Altoona would help immensely in this area. Limitations income lack of funding for this type of assistance.

# Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

Homelessness is a growing need within Blair County. Most qualifying populations receive services within the City of Altoona, although they may have started seeking services in other parts of the region. The City of Altoona has limited developable land. Most of the City is either developed, primarily with pre-1960 (and in affordable areas, pre-1939) housing, or it is occupied by commercial / industrial facilities such as the railroad shops, or it is too difficult to build because of topography. As is the case throughout Pennsylvania, the City's ability to annex developable land was greatly hampered by statutory changes made in the late 1960s that benefited surrounding townships. The City provides many of the County's services, but has a stagnant tax base and little room to grow.

In addition, the City has seen an increase in demand for housing for professionals such as traveling nurses and other workers in order to meet workforce shortages. These persons and households rent the best of the limited affordable housing units within the City, leaving the less desirable units to QPs and other lower income renters.

Agencies noted that in recent years, lower income households have fewer household management skills, especially with respect to housekeeping. This has had a detrimental affect on the willingness of landlords to rent to those receiving assistance or being referred by social service agencies. While community organizations such as Operation Our Town have done a

commendable job of reaching out to landlords to educate them on how to successfully manage rentals within the City, this outreach cannot address the need for more education and supportive services for vulnerable QPs.

The City also is home to a Penn State campus, which puts additional pressure on the existing rental market. While student rentals are controlled by the City, they tend to occupy more viable properties that may have been attractive to lower-income renters and they put upward pressure on rents in the City.

Finally, there has been a sharp increase in acquisition of affordable, older properties by out of town investors. These investors typically do not maintain properties, and therefore often offer more affordable, but unsafe housing options to vulnerable populations. This, as well as the steady aging of the housing stock, affects the ability of QP's to find viable housing options.

Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of "other populations" that are "At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability," as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

None Identified.

#### Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Affordable housing and supportive service needs of the qualifying populations overlap and are similar to the needs of the low-income population. All qualifying populations would benefit from an increased number of safe and affordable housing units. Increasing rents and limited inventory have increased instability among cost burdened and low-income renters and those at risk of homelessness. Among those who are experiencing homelessness, the lack of affordable rental units causes a blockage in the availability of permanent housing options, creating longer episodes of homelessness and leading to fewer households becoming stably house overall. In addition to the housing needs, transportation, physical health, mental health, training for individuals on how to manage and maintain a home and employment services are also needed.

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ's shelter and housing inventory service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

 After consulting with multiple service providers and agencies, the first priority need identified was the production or preservation of safe and affordable housing, especially for persons leaving the homeless shelters or hotels.

- The second priority need that was identified was for supportive services, especially for household management and mental health services.
- The third priority need identified was for emergency housing for people fleeing domestic violence. Family Services, Inc., will open a new 35-unit family shelter this spring, netting 19 new units for this population.

#### **HOME-ARP** Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

The City of Altoona emailed 43 individuals/agencies, advertised in the local newspaper, emailed 19 churches, City of Altoona's directors, Mayor and City Council, and also posted on the City's Website and the City's public access channel. The City received five (5) applications for funding. This included administration costs for the City of Altoona, Supportive services for Veterans and families, Construction of affordable housing units, Rehabilitation of a Homeless Shelter and Emergency Financial Assistance Program for One-time emergency rental assistance to prevent evictions of low to moderate income households. The Homeless Shelter application was ineligible due to this project already under construction using CDBG and CDBG-Covid-19 funds.

#### Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

The City of Altoona's Community Development staff and the subrecipients will, in combination, administer the eligible activities.

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program.

No Administrative funds will be expended prior to approval of the HOME-ARP by HUD.

In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

**Use of HOME-ARP Funding** 

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 30,000.00		
Acquisition and Development of Non- Congregate Shelters	\$ 0.00		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0.00		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 1,061,849.00		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 0.00	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 0.00	0 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 100,916.00	8 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 1,192,765.00		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

The highest priority need based on input gathered from the local providers consultations is the need to build affordable housing unit or the rehabilitation of a building into affordable housing units, assisting veterans to secure housing and finding affordable housing units for persons leaving the homeless shelters or hotels.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rational for the plan to fund eligible activities:

The consultations identified qualifying populations whose needs will be met with HOME-ARP funds. Most participating agencies identified affordable housing as their top priority. Participants explained that the lack of safe, affordable housing stock creates a barrier for those living in the city. The low housing stock and skyrocketed rent has created cost burdened renter and homeowners. This population is not well served through the existing housing and homeless shelter system. HOME-ARP funds will only be used for individuals or families who are part of a qualifying population. This includes veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria. Additionally, there is strong evidence that supplying supportive services to those who are homeless or reside in unstable housing will reduce eviction and homelessness in the long run. The qualifying populations will be connected to the long-term financial and social supports needed to prevent future housing instability and homelessness. Overall, Altoona's analysis of these needs supported the development of this plan and proposed eligible activities. The city hopes that this plan and targeted funding priorities will result in a sustained service delivery system and housing affordability.

#### **HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals**

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

The City of Altoona, Pennsylvania is proposing to build six (6) affordable housing units along Lexington Avenue between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goals that the PH hopes to achieve and describe how it will address the PJ's priority needs.

In the City of Altoona's Five-Year Consolidated Plan, based on input from the public and public agencies, the homeless strategy was a low-priority need. Since Covid-19, the City of Altoona is now in need of services and shelters for the homeless population. With the funding from the HOME-ARP the City has proposed to build six (6) affordable housing units with two (2) of these units being accessible to persons with disabilities.

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project.

The City of Altoona will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying populations or category of qualifying populations, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis.

The City of Altoona will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice.

If a preference was identified, describe how the PJ will use HOME-ARP funds to address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits for services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the preference.

The City of Altoona will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice.

If the PJ intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, the PJ must state its HOME-ARP refinancing guidelines in accordance with 24 CFR 92.206(b). The guidelines must describe the conditions under the PJ will refinance existing debt for a HOME-ARP rental project.

The City of Altoona does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitation with HOME-ARP funds.

## Coalport man held in vehicle theft | Crowsnest Broadband

Robison allegedly stole pickup, rammed gate parole and is not permitted to leave the facility without permission, got into a pick permission got into a pick permission got into a pick permission, got into a pick permission got into a pick permission, got into a pick permission got into a pick permission, got into a pick permission got into a p

## to lead Bedford project

from Mirror staff reports
Bedford County has
to selected Crowment Broadhand for a Bedford County Wireless Broadband
Expansion project.

Nearly \$1 million in
American Rescue Plan Act,
funding through the county to be used for the installation of fixed wireless
equipment on 21 existing
towers throughout Bedford County.

Crowsnest Broadband
has completed or the installation of fixed wireless
equipment on 21 existing
towers throughout Bedford County.

The effort is expected
to bring high-speed service to an estimated 3,900
residents and businesses

## Traffic stop results in drug charges

Police: Roaring
Spring man had
75 grams of meth
To grams

#### **LOOKING FOR A NEW PLACE TO LIVE?** Check out our home and apartment



#### **BLAZIER:** Maintains innocence

BLAZIER:

(Continued from Page A1)

Before the sentence was imposed, family members and friends of the student wristliers spoke of emotional and behavioral changes they've seen in the livowed ones. They spoke of suicide attempts, anger, inability to sleep, lack of trust, fear, depression and araxiety.

A teenage friend of both victims said the and his friends initially trusted filiater because he was their wreetling teacher and coach.

"I watched my friends crumble and fall into a state of depression," the teenager said.

One victim's mother said frame that accordinates to endure, in the courtroom, that mother turned to Bleater and said. The pain you have caused our whole family is unforgivable, and I really hope you get help."

Mother of victim, and the result of though the work of the berry San addressed Milliron before sentencing, told the judge that if he had done what he was accused of John, he would have taken responsibility and entered a guilty plea.

"The sorry you all had to go through this," Blazier said in response to the comments offered the curt. Twil I must still maintain my innocence because that is the truth."

Blize admant that he didn't do any of this, "Dicker said in response to the comments offered the curt. Twill I must still maintain my innocence because that is the truth."

Blize admant that he didn't do any of this, "Dicker said in response to the comments offered the curt. Twill I must still maintain my innocence because that is the truth."

Blize admant that he didn't do any of this, "Dicker said in response to the comments offered to court." But I must still maintain my innocence because that is the truth."

Blize admant that he didn't do any of this, "Dicker said in response to the comments offered to court. Twill in the proper to a server convictions.— as evidence of the jury having met its responsibilities.

The algeed offenses associated with the acquit-tail verdicts, Milliron as for convicted as offensed. The proper to a student of the proper to a student of the proper to a stude

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The City of Altona has established the following schedule for community participation in the development of the City's 2022 CDBGH10ME Annual Plan and review of the 2020-2024 5-Year HUD Consolidate Plan. The Annual Plan is the 1-year Housing and Community Development Program containing projects that will be funded by Community Development Block Gram (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The 5-Year Plan is a community planning document containing housing and community development needs that have been identified in Albona, a 5-year strategy for additionability development needs that have been identified in Albona, a 5-year strategy for additionability development and Flan. The 2022 Annual Plan will address funding for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 39, 2023

Review of the 20	r Preparing the 2022 Annual Plan 20-2024 5-year HUD Consolidated Plan
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 1301 12th Street, 4th Floor	1st Community-wide Public Hearing — To provide information on the 5-yr Consolidated Plan, and the 2022 CDBGHOME Annual Plan. Discussions on sligible activities and to accept comments on identified community needs, programs and projects.
Friday, March 18, 2022	Deadline for submission of applications for the 2022 CDBG and HOME projects
Monday, April 4, 2022	Anticipated date of City publication of proposed 2022 Annual Plan, Note: Date of publication begins mandatory 30-day public comment period before action can be taken
Wednesday, April 20, 2022, 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 1301 12th Street, 4th Floor	2nd Community-wide Public Hearing – To present and accept comment on the proposed 2022 Annual Plan, the review of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan,
Monday, May 9, 2022, 5:00 p.m. Altoona Training Facilities & Council Chambers 1320 Washington Avenue	Anticipated date for City Council to present the 2022 Annual Plan, accept final comments, and adopt Plan.
Tuesday, May 17, 2022	Submit 2022 Annual Plan to HUD.

The City of Atoons will also request community participation for the 2021 HOME-Americ Rescus Plen (HOME-ARP). These funds give jurisdictions significant new resources to action formulase assistance needs by residing or presenting affordate housing, or non-congress shallow units, growled tenant based rental assistance or supportive services. The City will accepting applications for funding that is to be used to provide individuals and familiar superinaring homelessness, al-risk of homelessness, fleeing or attempting to flee dome violence, detting violence, sexual assault, etalking or human trafficking and veterans and tentil that include a veteran family member.

L.L	2021 NOME	Antidiscent Meecon Liets (conscious)
II 3	Wednesday, February 9, 2022 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 1301 12th Street, 4th Floor	Community-wide Public Hearing — To provide information on the 2021 HOME-ARP, Discussions on eligible activities and to accept comments on community needs.
Ī	Friday, March 18, 2022	Deadline for submission of applications for the 2021 HOME-ARP
[	Monday, April, 4, 2022	Anticipated date of City publication of proposed 2021 HOME-ARP projects
	Monday, May 9, 2022 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p	Anticipated date for City Council to present 2021 HOME- ARP Plan.
ľ	Tuesday, May 17, 2022	Submit 2021 HOME-ARP Plan to HUD

The City encouraged participation on housing and community development meets prior to responsive on the 3-feet HUD Consolidated Pilan and Analysia of Importants to Fair Mousing Choles by a cliditions, organizations and other interested parties. Participation and movement were especially recommended for lower income readents and residents of community development and urban renewal areas. The City will provide, upon request, technical assistance to citizens and citizen organizations that represent persons of low and moderation income, Assistance may include preparing a project request and completing the application than which is review information obtained by the City will provide, when request persons of consolidated Pain or Annual Plan may do so by contacting the City. Neetings were previously had to develop the documents and were open to the public pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. Citizens may request a copy of the asummary of the meetings. If you are unable to attend the community public heatings and wish to comment, or if you wish to obtain a project to attend the community public heatings and wish to comment, or if you wish to obtain a project regulation. Once the property of the community public heatings and wish to comment, or if you wish to obtain a project regulation. Once the property of the community public heatings and wish to comment, or if you wish to obtain a project requests must be submitted in writing using the City's application form which can be obtained on the City's depicted of all the consequence of the property of the development and must be submitted by Fridgy, March 18, 2622.

must be submitted by Friday, March 18, 2022.

All meetings are held in locations that are accessible to persons with disabilities. Upon request, the City of Albona will accommodate the needs of participants with hearing or visual impairments are more contained by the control of the control

City of Attoona Community Development Dept. 1301 12th Street, Suite 400 Attoona, PA 16601



Put your business in SERVICE DIRECTORY the Altoona Mirror

## HOME Investment Partnership-American Rescue Plan Altoona City Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room 1301 12<sup>th</sup> Street Wednesday, February 9, 2022 6:00 P.M.

NAME	AGENCY	TESTIMONY
James Traxler	City of Altoo	ng
Bette Fischer	CITY of ALTO	
Mary Johnson	City of Alt	2 1 2/2/1
BIET KIBLER	MiRROR	
Nate Germany	Santvar	y House
J	•	
-		

Meeting Minutes
City of Altoona
1st Community Public Hearing
HOME Investment Partnership – American Rescue Plan
City Hall Conference Room
1301 12th Street, 4th Floor
Wednesday, February 9, 2022
6:00 P.M.

Public Attendance: William Kibler, Altoona Mirror and Mr. Nate Germany of Sanctuary House

Ms. Mary Johnson, Deputy Director of the Community Development Department began the hearing by introducing, Mr. James Trexler, Housing Program Manager, and Bette Fischer, Administrative Assistant. Ms. Johnson stated that the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers the HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME ARP) Program. The primary purpose of the HOME ARP funding is to give jurisdictions significant new resources to address their homeless assistance needs by creating affordable housing or non-congregate shelter units, providing tenant based rental assistance or supportive services. The primary objective of the HOME ARP Program must be used for individuals or families from the following qualifying populations. 1) Homelessness; 2) At-risk of homelessness; 3) Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking; and 4) Veterans and families that include a veteran family member.

The City of Altoona will be receiving \$1,192,765 in HOME ARP funding. All applicants and proposed activities must meet HUD HOME ARP eligibility guidelines to be considered for funding.

Ms. Johnson then turned the meeting over to Mr. Trexler who presented the program and the four eligible activities including: 1) The production of preservation of affordable housing; 2) Tenant based rental assistance; 3) Supportive Services, including homeless prevention services and housing counseling; 4) The purchase of development of non-congregate shelter for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Mr. Trexler reviewed the eligibility of applicants for HOME ARP funds must be a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) or any non-profit organizations that has the capacity to carryout activities with HOME-ARP funds. He then reviewed each of the eligible activities: 1) HOME-ARP Rental Housing – funds may be used to acquire, rehabilitate, or construct affordable rental housing primarily for occupancy by households or individuals and families that meet the definition of one or more of the qualifying populations. 2) Tenant Based Rental Assistance – funds may be used to provide tenant-based rental assistance (HOME-ARP TBRA) to individuals and families that meet one of the qualifying populations. 3) Supportive Services, including homeless prevention services and housing counseling – Provide a broad range of supportive services to individuals and families that meet one of the qualifying populations. 4) Non-Congregate Shelter – Funds may be used to acquire and develop non-congregate shelter for individuals and families that meet one of the qualifying populations. Provides private units or rooms as temporary shelter to individuals and families and do not require occupant to sign a lease or occupancy agreement. This may include the construction of new structures or the acquisition and/or rehabilitation of existing structures such as motels, nursing

homes, or other facilities to be for use as HOME-ARP Non-Congregate Shelter. Mr. Trexler pointed out that he and Ms. Johnson have met with agencies in the community to find out what they feel the actual needs are in the city. It has been established that the city does not have enough units to provide shelter. The city needs affordable housing after they come out of a shelter. Homelessness is a problem in the city. This program will pay the rent until they the get on their feet.

There is a timeline with this program. Mr. Trexler reviewed the 2021 HOME – American Rescue Plan (Schedule) 1) Community-wide Public Hearing Discussions on eligible activities and to accept comments on community needs. – February 9, 2022. 2) Deadline for submission of applications for the 2021 HOME-ARP is March 18, 2022. 3) Anticipated date of City publication of proposed 2021 HOME-ARP projects – April 4, 2022. 4) Anticipated date for City Council to present 2021 HOME-ARP Plan – May 9, 2022, and 5) Submit 2021 HOME-ARP Plan to HUD – May 17, 2022.

As there were no questions, meeting was adjourned @ 7:00 P.M.

# City hears request for CDBG funding

By WILLIAM KIBLER

bkibler@altoonamirror.com

Pastor Nate Germany would like to obtain money for a parking lot next to his small church on a busy, narrow street, so that older members of his congregation can get into and out of their cars safely.

Germany was the only public attendee at a recent meeting in which city officials explained how to apply for shares of \$3.28 million that Altoona is getting this year from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The revenue comprises \$1.74 million in Community Development Block Grant funding, \$345,000 in regular HOME Investment Partnership Program funds and \$1.19 million in special HOME funding through the American Rescue Plan.

ny's 18th Street Community Church could receive would individuals, the money can ing to Johnson. be from the Community be used within limitations Development Block Grant for slum and blight remedi- efit families with no higher allocation, which is for fis- ation, public service activical 2022, beginning July 1 of ties and administration this year.

to help those of low-to-mod-needs - include housing, borhood around the church senior centers; and support might qualify, based on of child care, after-school actual incomes in the cen- activities, crime prevention, sus tract, according to Mary job development and health Johnson, deputy director of care and substance abuse the city's Community Devel-services. opment Department.

bly because of households in that area not filling out income information on census surveys, Johnson said.

She could potentially rectify that difficulty with a mail survey of the census tract, and, if that didn't net enough response, a door-todoor survey, she said.

The neighborhood would qualify if at least 51 percent of individuals are in the low-to-moderate income category, she said.

Aside from the required The money that Germa- 70 percent that must help low- to moderate-income

Eligible activities - bene-

erate-income, and the neigh-parks, playgrounds and

The slate of CDBG proj-Technically, however, it ects and programs for the no longer qualifies, probacity has tended to look similar year-to-year.

Perennial projects and programs have included street repaving and single-family homeowner rehabilitation.

A couple of perennials, however, were not funded in recent years, including a police bike patrol and the city's blighted building demolition effort.

The city is likely to apply for CDBG money again this year for the demolition program, however, after paying for that work out of the general fund last year, accord-

HOME funding must benthan 80 percent of median income.

For the regular HOME March 18.

Seventy percent of the fiting income-qualified peofunding, 15 percent must go available funding must go ple and those with special to the local designated Community Housing Development Organization - which for the city is Improved Dwellings for Altoona, according to Jim Trexler, housing program manager.

Up to 10 percent of the money can go for administration.

The city's slate of HOME projects typically includes a significant allocation for rental property rehabilita-

The ARPA HOME money is designed mainly to help those who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, at risk of domestic or dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking; or veterans.

It can go toward production or maintenance of affordable housing, rental assistance for tenants, supportive services or shelter development.

The city will have eight years to spend the one-time ARPA HOME allocation.

The application deadline for all three programs is

## Altoona could hire RA manager

By William Kidler of the Altons, A member of the Altons, Redevelopment Authority recently suggested that the city hire a staffer to manage authority properties, helping to encourage development that would bolster the lax base. Perhaps the staffer could seek to create conditions to make unattractive or borderline properties dealer and the unattractive or borderline properties developed that are "not easy for the properties developed the proper

**NS:** Federal board praises railroads

## Altoona Police Dept. investigates burglary

The Altoona Police Third Street resulted in Department is investigating a burglary that occurred Friday and warning business owners to be on the lookout for suspicious activity.

According to the department's Facebook page, a burglary on Feb. 17 in the area of 21st Avenue and 1814-948-2524.

#### Ward to offer weekly Wednesday office hours

State Sen. Judy Ward,
R-Blair, will offer weekly
office hours from 10 am to
3 p.m. Wednesdays in the
3 p.m. Wednesdays in the
5 p.m. Wednesdays in the
5 p.m. Wednesdays in the
PACE and PACENET preShriley Township Municirepal Building, 15890 Croghan
Pike. Parking is available
in front of the building.
Ward and her district
office staff can help conwork and more.

(Continued from Page A1)
The railroads have been reaching these deals without demanding concossions from the unions. But none of the sick time agreements so far cover train crews that have schedules keeping them on call 24/7. But the railroads have said they are negotialing with all of their unions about this.
Norfolk Southern President and CEO Alan Shaw said the Atlanta-based railroad is committed to improving workers "quality of life in partnership with our union leaders."
Concerns about the lack of paid sick time and demanding so hechules pushed the industry to the brink of a strike last fall before Congress stepped in to block a walkout and force workers to accept a five-workers to accept a five-workers to accept a five-



A Norfolk Southern freight train passes passes through East Palestine, Ohio, on Peb. 9. Norfolk Southern on Wednesday became the third major freight railroad to offer some of its employees paid sick time, announcing a deal with one of its unions in response to workers' quality of life complaints that arose during contract negotiations.

to block a walkout and force workers to accept a five year contract that included 24% raises and \$5,000 in bonuses. But the contract didn't address many of their concerns about work fair conditions.

The federal Surface Transportation Board "these types of collaborative of our national residues the form properties."

## FOOD: 26 cents per skim milk pint for Blair

(Continued from Page A1) buying 2,040 gallons from Based on the bids Ritchey's buiry submitted, the county will pay 26 cents \$4,722.

All the institution of buying 8,255 pints during the six-month period, at a cost of \$41,747.

For a gallon of skim milk, the county will pay \$3,29, with the intention of







#### The Altoona Mirror's Annual Progress Publications March 20-24, 2023

- Business (Monday)
- Employment (Tuesday)
- Education, Dining & Attractions (Wednesday)
- · Community (Thursday)
- · Health (Friday)

This annual publication focuses on good news and incredible growth within our community. Take advantage of this opportunity to let over 28,000+ daily readers know about the products and



# Attoona Housing Authority 2700 Pleasant Valley, Altoona, PA 16602

This plan will be available for public inspection during normal business hours of operation. Written or oral comments will be accepted until March 9, 2023. Comments may be directed to Ms. Diana White, Director of Planning & Community Development, 1301 12th Street, Suite 400, Altoona, PA 16601.

NOTICE OF DISPLAY FOR HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME-ARP 2021) CITY OF ALTOONA, PA

Notice is hereby given that the City of Altoona, PA has prepared a 2021 HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME-ARP 2021). The purpose of the HOME-ARP funds is to provide affordable housing and related supportive services to qualifying vulnerable populations to prevent or address homelessness. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), this plan will be on public display for a pariod of 15 days, beginning Thursday, Fabruary 23, 2023 at the following locations:

Altoona Area Public Library Altoona City Hall 1600 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601

The plan will be presented for Altoona City Council's adoption at the March 13, 2023 City Council meeting, Altoona Training Facilities and Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue, Altoona PA 16601.

The following activities are proposed under the HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP 2021):

1. Affordable Housing – New Construction
Lexington Ave Alfordable Housing Building Construction
2. Supportive Services
Veterare Leadership Program
3. General Administration
HOME – ARP 2021 Administration
\$100,916.00

Total HOME-ARP 2021 Funds for Project Activities

\$1,192,765.00

What are you selling? Put it in the Alfanna Airror

#### 2021 HOME-American Rescue Plan

News Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023

CITY OF ALTOONA

**NOTICE OF DISPLAY** 

FOR HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME-ARP 2021)
CITY OF ALTOONA, PA

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The following activities are proposed under the HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP 2021):

1. Affordable Housing - New Construction

Lexington Ave Affordable Housing Building Construction \$1,061,849.00

2. Supportive Services

Veterans Leadership Program \$ 30,000.00

3. General Administration

HOME – ARP 2021 Administration \$ 100,916.00

Total HOME-ARP 2021 Funds for Project Activities \$ 1,192,765.00

Download 2021 HOME - ARP GRANT ALLOCATION PLAN

Back to previous page

T A	T	В	C	D	I E		F
1 CITY OF ALTOONA HOME AMERICAN RESCU	E PLA					A	
FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 1, 2022 THRO							
		,					
3	-					-	
4						-	
5						-	
6 2021 HOME-ARP Entitlement	\$	1,192,765.00				-	
7 Minus - Plan & Admin. 15%	\$	100,916.00				-	
8 CDBG Project Tota	1 \$	1,091,849.00					
9	_						
HOME-ARP PROGRAM	_			Toward Deced	Commonther	D	an & Admin
11.			Non-Congregate	Tenant Based	Supportive		
12	Affo	rdable Housing	Shelter	Rental Assistance	Services	_	x 15% of B6
13		No Max	No Max	No Max	No Max	\$	178,914.75
14							
Project Name							
16							400 040 00
Planning & Administration						\$	100,916.00
18						-	
9 Catholic Charities Emergency Financial					\$ -	-	
Assistance Program	ļ					-	
21							
Lexington Avenue Affordable Housing	\$	1,061,849.00				-	
Building Construction							
24							
25 Veterans Leadership Program					\$ 30,000.00	1	
26						-	
27							400.040.00
HOME-ARP Total	\$	1,061,849.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	\$	100,916.00
29						-	
30						-	
31							
32 GRAND TOTAL	\$	1,192,765.00					
93						-	
34							
35			Rent Limitations				
36			Rent may not exceed			-	
37			30 percent of the adjusted			-	
38			income of the HH				
39			whose annual income				
40			is equal to or less than				
41			50% of the median				
42			income for the area.				
43							
44			Medium Family Income				
45			is \$70,100				

**Proposed List of Projects** 

UOG Code:

PA420114 ALTOONA

IDIS Project #: 21-12

National Objective: ADM

**Project Name:** HOME-ARP Administration

#### **Description:**

Operational administrative budget for the staff for general management, monitoring, coordination, oversight and evaluation of projects within the HOME-ARP Grant Program and monitoring of activities necessary for effective project implementation.

Location: 1301 12th Street, Altoona, PA 16601

**Priority Need Category:** Administration, Planning and Management Priority – There is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of federal, state and local funded programs to address the housing & community and economic development needs.

**Specific Objective:** Provide sound and professional planning, administration, management and oversight of Federal, state and local funded programs and activities.

Specific Goal: AMS-1 Overall Coordination – Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five-year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports (CAPER), environmental reviews and clearances, fair housing and compliance with all Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

Objective category: Outcome category:	☐ Suitable Living Environ☐ Availability/Accessibilit		g
Matrix Code: 21A Ge	neral Program Administ	ration 570.206	
PROPOSED \$	AMOUNT		
HOME-ARP Admin	\$100,916.00		

**Accomplishment Type: Proposed Units:** N/A N/A

**Expected Completion Date:** September 30, 2030

The primary purpose of the project is to help: 🛛 the Homeless 🗌 Persons with HIV/AIDS 🗀 Persons with Disabilities 🗀 Public Housing Needs

#### TABLE 3C

## City of Altoona

#### **Program Year 2021**

**Proposed List of Projects** 

**UOG Code:** PA420114 ALTOONA IDIS Project #: National Objective: 21-13 **LMC** 570.208(a)(2)(A)

**Project Name:** Lexington Avenue Affordable Housing - Building Construction

**Description:** The project consists of the design, construction, and management for a new six-unit apartment building located at 113-19 Lexington Avenue, Altoona PA. It will consist of three accessible units on the first floor and three units on the second floor. All units will be 2-bedroom apartments. The site is currently owned by Blair Community Action Agency (BCAP) and is an underutilized playground (one playset on site). Durbin Companies is currently negotiating a sales agreement with BCAP.

Durbin Companies will provide the architectural drawings by DMA Architects and also provide structural, mechanical, and electrical design for the building utility services, basement apartment, and foundation system and foundation walls to support the manufactured building. The first and second floor will be designed and constructed by Modular Structures Incorporated, and the Civil Engineering Services will be provided by Penterra Engineering. The building units will be constructed with multiple exterior finishes, it is anticipated that the front of the building will be brick/stone cased and a new front porch and ramp system. The apartment building project will be designed to meet the local ordinances and building code requirements. The project requires professional sealed construction drawings be completed to meet the Pennsylvania International Family of Building Codes. The project will help meet the need for permanent, affordable housing for those leaving or at risk of becoming homeless. The units will be leased to individuals or families from HOME ARP qualifying populations; homeless, at risk of homeless fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking or veterans & families that include a veteran member at risk of homelessness. The rents will be at or below HUD fair market rent (currently \$971 for a 2 BR unit). Durbin Companies will accept Section 8 tenants, but the units will be available to the general public provided the tenants initially meet the qualifying populations.

Specific Objective Priority Need Category: Homeless Strategy: There is a need for services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.

**Specific Objective:** Improve the living conditions and support services available for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

**Specific Goal:** HMS-1 Housing – Support the Continuum of Care's efforts to provide emergency shelter,

transitional housing, p	ermanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing opportunities.
Objective category: Outcome category:	<ul> <li>☐ Suitable Living Environment ☑ Decent Housing ☐ Economic Opportunity</li> <li>☐ Availability/Accessibility ☑ Affordability ☐ Sustainability</li> </ul>
Matrix Code:	O3C Homeless Facilities (not operating costs) 24 CFR 570.201(c)
PROPO	SED \$ AMOUNT
HOME-ARP	\$1,061,849.00

**Accomplishment Type:** 01 Households **Proposed Units:** 6 units

**Expected Completion Date:** September 30, 2030

The primary purpose of the project is to help: 🛛 the Homeless 🗌 Persons with HIV/AIDS 🗌 Persons with Disabilities 🔲 Public Housing Needs

**Proposed List of Projects** 

UOG Code:

LMC

PA420114 ALTOONA

**IDIS Project #: 21-14** National Objective:

570.208(a)(2)(A)

**Project Name:** Veterans Leadership Program

#### **Description:**

Assist Veterans and families residing in the City of Altoona to prevent much needed supportive services. These supportive services include case management, budgeting, child care assistance, knowledge and basic education skill assistance, career development assistance, food assistance, housing assistance, legal assistance, critical life management assistance, and financial assistance to include rental arrears, application fees. Security deposits, and utility deposits. Funding will provide the necessary supports Veterans and families need to prevent homelessness and to empower them to reach financial stability and self-sufficiency.

Location: Altoona, Pennsylvania

**Specific Objective Priority Need Category:** Homeless Strategy: There is a need for services and housing opportunities for homeless persons and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.

**Specific Objective:** Improve the living conditions and support services available for homeless persons, families, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

**Specific Goal:** HMS-2 Operation/Support – Support providers who operate housing and/or provide support services for the homeless and persons or families at-risk of becoming homeless.

Objective category:	⊠ Suitable Living Environmen	nt 🗌 Decent Housing	g 🗌 Economic Opportunity
Outcome category:	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	⊠ Sustainability

Matrix Code: 05Q Subsistence Payments 570.207(b)(4)

PROPOSED S	\$ AMOUNT
HOME-ARP Admin	\$30,000.00

Accomplishment Type: 01 People Proposed Units: 65

**Expected Completion Date:** September 30, 2030

The primary purpose of the project is to help: 🛛 the Homeless 🗌 Persons with HIV/AIDS 🗀 Persons with Disabilities 🗀 Public Housing Needs

## Summary: Households/Persons Counted During the Annual Point-In-Time Count, 2020-2022 Blair County

		Total		Sheltered						Unsheltered			
	Perso	ns/Hous	eholds		Emergency Transitional								
	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021*	2022	
All Households & Persons													
Total # Households	32	24	65	11	16	31	6	8	8	15	*	26	
Total # Persons	34	37	85	12	29	41	6	8	8	16	*	36	
# Children < 18 years old	2	10	10	2	10	8	0	0	0	0	*	2	
# Young Adults 18-24 years old	1	3	7	0	2	6	0	1	0	1	*	1	
# Adults 25+ years old	31	24	68	10	17	27	6	7	8	15	*	33	
Households without Children				1	-			-					
# Households	30	21	58	9	13	26	6	8	8	15	*	24	
# Persons (Adult)	31	21	67	9	13	29	6	8	8	16	*	30	
# Young Adults (18-24)	1	1	5	0	0	4	0	1	0	1 1	*	1	
# Adults (25+)	30	20	62	9	13	25	6	7	8	15	*	29	
Households with at least one Adult &	30	20	- 02	H	13	23		<u> </u>		1			
one Child										П			
# Households	1	3	5	1	3	3	0	0	0	10	*	2	
# Persons (Adults & Children)	2	16	16	2	16	10	0	0	0	0	*	6	
	1	10	8	1	10	6	0	0	0	0	*	2	
# Children (<18)	1	6	8	+	6	4	0	0	0	0	*	4	
# Persons Adults		-	2	0	2	2	0	0	0		*	0	
# Young Adults 18-24 years old	0	2		<u> </u>			-	0	0	0	*	4	
# Adults 25+ years old	1	4	6	1	4	2	0	0	U	11 0	1	4	
Households with only Children (Age 17 or under)													
# Households	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	
# Children (<18)	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	
Unaccompanied Youth Households													
# Unaccompanied Youth Households	2	1	6	1	0	6	0	1	0	1	*	0	
# Unaccompanied Youth	2	1	6	1	0	6	0	1	0	1	*	0	
# Unaccompanied Youth <18	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	
# Unaccompanied Youth 18-24	1	1	4	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	*	0	
Parenting Youth Households	+	<u> </u>		H							-		
# Parenting Youth Households	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	*	0	
# Persons in Parenting Youth Households	0	5	4	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	*	0	
# Parenting Youth	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	
(youth parents only)			-		-	_	_	_	Δ.	1	*	0	
# Parenting Youth <18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	-	
# Parenting Youth 18-24	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	- "	0	
# Children w/ Parenting Youth	0	4	2	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	*	0	
(children < 18 w/ parents < 25)	-		_				_			<del> </del>			
Chronically Homeless	<u> </u>			-		-	-			<b> </b>	*	1	
# Chronically Homeless Individuals	5	1	5	1	1	1	-	-		4	*	4	
# Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0				0		0	
Other Homeless Subpopulations										-	*	- 44	
Severely Mentally III	9	8	23	6	7	10	2	1	2	1	*	11	
Chronic Substance Abuse	6	6	8	4	6	5	0	0	1	2	-	2	
Persons with HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	
Total unduplicated # of persons with a disability	15	14	31	8	9	12	2	5	3	5	*	16	
Veterans	1	7	9	0	2	2	0	5	6	1	*	1	
Victims of Domestic Violence	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	*	0	

<sup>\*</sup>The Eastern PA CoC did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2021, due to COVID-19. In addition, emergency shelters and transitional housing numbers in 2021 and 2022 may have been impacted by COVID-19 (e.g. changes in capacity). PIT numbers should be considered within this context.

# Summary: Households/Persons Counted During the Annual Point-In-Time Count, 2020-2022 Eastern Pennsylvania CoC

	Total			Sheitered						Unsheltered		
		ns/Hous		Emergency Transitional								
All Households & Persons	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021*	2022	2020	2021"	2022
	1 226	000	1 470	754	641	994	306	268	244	276	*	241
Total # Households	1,336	909	1,479		957	1,586	519	439	390	366	*	314
Total # Persons	2,032	1,396	2,290	1,147		468	192	158	130	37	*	24
# Children < 18 years old	570	420	622	341	262				41	18	*	9
# Young Adults 18-24 years old	172	135	174	97	91	124	57	44	219	311	*	281
# Adults 25+ years old	1,290	841	1,494	709	604	994	270	237	219	311		201
Households without Children	1.050	600	1 1 1 2	503	FOC	75.0	216	183	165	259	*	226
# Households	1,058	688	1,147	583	505	756			171	307	*	265
# Persons (Adult)	1,131	720	1,250	606	532	814	218	188	-		*	7
# Young Adults (18-24)	117	90	113	66	59	74	34	31	32	17	*	
# Adults (25+)	1,014	630	1,137	540	473	740	184	157	139	290	^	258
Households with at least one Adult & one Child												
# Households	266	215	323	163	131	231	90	84	78	13	*	14
# Persons (Adults & Children)	885	670	1,028	533	420	765	301	250	218	51	*	45
# Children (<18)	554	414	610	333	257	461	192	157	129	29	*	20
# Persons Adults	331	256	418	200	163	304	109	93	89	22	*	25
# Young Adults 18-24 years old	55	45	61	31	32	50	23	13	9	1	*	2
# Adults 25+ years old	276	211	357	169	131	254	86	80	80	21	*	23
Households with only Children (Age 17 or under)												
# Households	12	6	9	8	5	7	0	1	1	4	*	1
# Children (<18)	16	6	12	8	5	7	0	1	1	8	*	4
Unaccompanied Youth Households	1			1								
# Unaccompanied Youth Households	116	82	97	68	54	64	33	28	31	15	*	2
# Unaccompanied Youth	123	84	103	68	54	67	34	30	31	21	*	5
# Unaccompanied Youth <18	16	6	12	8	5	7	0	1	1	8	*	4
# Unaccompanied Youth 18-24	107	78	91	60	49	60	34	29	30	13	*	1
Parenting Youth Households												
# Parenting Youth Households	37	34	33	22	25	26	15	9	7	0	*	0
# Persons in Parenting Youth Households	99	89	85	61	70	71	38	19	14	0	*	0
# Parenting Youth (youth parents only)	43	37	36	24	27	29	19	10	7	0	*	0
# Parenting Youth <18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0
# Parenting Youth 18-24	43	37	36	24	27	29	19	10	7	0	*	0
# Children w/ Parenting Youth (children<18 w/ parents <25)	56	52	49	37	43	42	19	9	7	0	*	0
Chronically Homeless	1			1							-	
# Chronically Homeless Individuals	115	41	136	63	41	77				52	*	59
# Chronically Homeless Families	1	3	7	1	3	6				0	*	1
Other Homeless Subpopulations				1								
Severely Mentally III	280	171	290	156	118	194	76	53	43	48	*	53
Chronic Substance Abuse	138	58	117	65	41	84	50	17	8	23	*	25
Persons with HIV/AIDS	8	5	9	2	3	9	3	2	0	3	*	0
Total unduplicated # of persons with a disability	499	290	556	285	214	380	124	76	81	90	*	95
Veterans	94	72	128	49	36	78	37	36	35	8	*	15
Victims of Domestic Violence	203	262	245	152	204	200	33	58	26	18	*	19

<sup>\*</sup>The Eastern PA CoC did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2021, due to COVID-19. In addition, emergency shelters and transitional housing numbers in 2021 and 2022 may have been impacted by COVID-19 (e.g. changes in capacity). PIT numbers should be considered within this context.

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 12/31/2022

Application for	Federal Assista	nce SI	-424			
* 1. Type of Submiss  Preapplication  Application  Changed/Corr		⊠ No	ew [		Revision, select appropriate letter(s): ther (Specify):	
* 3. Date Received:		4. Appli	cant Identifier:			
5a. Federal Entity Id	entifier:			5t	5b. Federal Award Identifier:	
State Use Only:				_		
6. Date Received by	State:		7. State Application le	deni	entifier:	
8. APPLICANT INF	ORMATION:					
* a. Legal Name:	City of Altoona	, Penn	sylvania			
* b. Employer/Taxpa	ayer Identification Num	nber (Elf	N/TIN):		* c. UEI: YEQ8SQVGMK45	
d. Address:						
* Street1:	1301 12th Stre	eet				
Street2:	Suite 400					
* City:	Altoona					
County/Parish:	Blair					_
* State:	PA: Pennsylvan	nia				
Province:						_
* Country:	USA: UNITED S	TATES				_
* Zip / Postal Code:	16601-3458					
e. Organizational I	Unit:					
Department Name:				D	Division Name:	
Community Deve	elopment Dept.					
f. Name and conta	ect information of pe	erson to	be contacted on ma	tter	ers involving this application:	
Prefix: Ms			* First Name	:	Diana	
Middle Name:						
Last Name: Wh.	ite					
Suffix:						
Title: Director						
Organizational Affilia	ation:					
* Telephone Numbe	er: 814-949-2477				Fax Number: 814-949-0372	
* Email: dwhite@	altoonapa.gov					

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:
C: City or Township Government
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:
* Other (specify):
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:
14.239
CFDA Title:
HOME- Home Investment Partnership Program - American Rescue Plan
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:
M21-MP420507
* Title:
HOME-American Rescue Plan
13. Competition Identification Number:
Title:
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Countles, States, etc.):
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:
City of Altoona, PA HOME American Rescue Plan
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424							
16. Congressional Districts Of:							
* a. Applicant 9th * b. Program/Project 9th							
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.							
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment							
17. Proposed Project:							
* a. Start Date: 04/01/2023 * b. End Date: 04/01/2038							
18. Estimated Funding (\$):							
*a. Federal 1,192,765.00							
* b. Applicant							
* c. State							
* d. Local							
* e. Other							
* f. Program Income							
*g. TOTAL 1,192,765.00							
* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?							
a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on							
b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.							
C. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.							
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)							
☐ Yes No							
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach							
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment							
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)							
□ ** I AGREE							
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.							
Authorized Representative:							
Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Matthew							
Middle Name:							
* Last Name: Pacifico							
Suffix:							
*Title: Mayor, City of Altoona, PA							
* Telephone Number: 814-949-2475 Fax Number: 814-949-2411							
* Email: mpacifico@altoonapa.gov							
* Signature of Authorized Representative:  * Date Signed: 3/13/33							

## Applicant Assurances and Certifications

## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

OMB Approval No. 2501-0017 (expires 01/31/2016)

#### Instructions for the HUD-424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual must provide the following assurances and certifications. By submitting this form, you are stating that to the best of your knowledge and belief, all assertions are true and correct.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

Name: Matthew Pacifico \_\_\_\_\_, Title: Mayor \_\_\_\_\_.

Organization: City of Altoona, PA , Date: 3/13/23

- 1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the applicant to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.
- 2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR Part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).
- 3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 8, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.
- 4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin; except an applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

- Will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24 and 24 CFR 42, Subpart A.
- 6. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C.4321 et seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property acquisition and physical development activities subject to implementing regulations at 24 CFR parts 50 or 58.
- 7. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all sub awards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but Staterecognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

These certifications and assurances are material representations of the fact upon which HUD can rely when awarding a grant. If it is later determined that, I the applicant, knowingly made an erroneous certification or assurance, I may be subject to criminal prosecution. HUD may also terminate the grant and take other available remedies.

#### ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009 Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

# PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant:, I certify that the applicant:

- Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
- Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General
  of the United States and, if appropriate, the State,
  the right to examine all records, books, papers, or
  documents related to the assistance; and will establish
  a proper accounting system in accordance with
  generally accepted accounting standards or agency
  directives.
- 3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
- Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
- 5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
- Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.

- Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
- Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
- 10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29) U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statue(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made: and (i) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statue(s) which may apply to the application.

- 11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
- 12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
- 13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
- 14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
- 15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of

- Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
- Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
- 17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq).
- 18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
- Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
- 20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
nuo	Mayor, City of Altoona, PA
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
City ofAltoona Community Dev. Dept.	March 13, 2023

SF-424D (Rev. 7-97) Back

#### HOME-ARP CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing —The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing pursuant to 24 CFR 5.151 and 5.152.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan —It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements contained in the HOME-ARP Notice, including the revised one-for-one replacement requirements. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42, which incorporates the requirements of the HOME-ARP Notice. It will follow its residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the HOME-ARP program.

#### Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

- 1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
- 2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
- 3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction —The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and program requirements.

Section 3 --It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

**HOME-ARP Certification** --It will use HOME-ARP funds consistent with Section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) and the CPD Notice: *Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program*, as may be amended by HUD, for eligible activities and costs, including the HOME-ARP Notice requirements that activities are consistent with its accepted HOME-ARP allocation plan and that HOME-ARP funds will not be used for prohibited activities or costs, as described in the HOME-ARP Notice.

Signature of Authorize Official

03/13/2023

Date

Mayor, City of Altoona

Title

## RESOLUTION NO. 0036-23

WHEREAS, under the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to make grants to States and units of general local government to create the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME); and

WHEREAS, under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12721 et seq.), the City of Altoona has been designated as a Participating Jurisdiction receiving annual formula allocations of HOME funds; and

WHEREAS, under Section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, funds have been designated to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homeless and other vulnerable populations, to be allocated by formula to participating jurisdictions that qualified for HOME allocations in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona was notified in September 2021 that it would receive a formula allocation of \$1,192,765 in HOME-ARP funds for these purposes; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of funding, the City of Altoona has developed a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan in collaboration with local service providers that describes resources available in the community to address the needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness, identifies gaps in service, and prioritizes housing and service needs for qualifying populations; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of funding, the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan must be submitted as an amendment to its 2021 HOME Annual Plan for approval by HUD; and

WHEREAS, the City of Altoona furnished citizens with the required information concerning the HOME-ARP Program and has advertised the program in accordance with its Citizen Participation Plan for a 15-day comment period, has held one public hearing, and has taken into consideration all comments and views received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Altoona

THAT the attached submission, to be known as the 2021 HOME-ARP Grant Allocation Plan, is hereby in all respects approved and incorporated by reference into the City of Altoona's 2021 HOME Program Annual Plan; and

THAT the Community Development Department is hereby directed to submit said document, along with the accompanying certifications and any other necessary documentation to HUD; and

THAT the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said documents along with the accompanying certifications with the minutes of this meeting.

Roll Call	Yeas	Nays		Yeas	Nays
Beatty	V.		Ickes		V
Butterbaugh	V		Kelley	V	
Carper	V		Mayor Pacifico	V	
Ellis	V				
				6	

Adopted MAR 1 3 2023	
190 DO DO	MAR 1 3 2023
Mayor	Date Signed
Attest: Linda Ricken Sollhamun	MAR 1 4 2023
City Clerk	Date Recorded

#### RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Council of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania:

Adopting the 2021 HUD HOME Investment Partnerships Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) as an amendment to its 2021 HOME Annual Plan and authorizing, Matthew Pacifico, Mayor of the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania, to execute all documents and certifications and the City Clerk to file appropriate statements, certifications and meeting minutes to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.