

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.

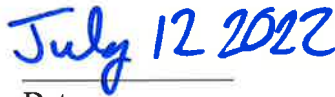
Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and program requirements.

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 Authorized Official



Date



Title

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

07/11/2022

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

M-21-UC-36-001

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

Erie County

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

16-60002558

*** c. UEI:**

E5NUNMMKAXM9

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

95 Franklin Street

Street2:

*** City:**

Buffalo

County/Parish:

*** State:**

NY: New York

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

14202-3967

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Environment and Planning

Division Name:

Community Development

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

*** First Name:**

Paul J.

Middle Name:

J.

*** Last Name:**

D'Orlando

Suffix:

Title:

Principal Contract Monitor

Organizational Affiliation:

*** Telephone Number:**

716-858-2194

Fax Number:

716-858-7248

*** Email:**

paul.d'orlando@erie.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

Home Investment Partnership Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Funds allocated through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), referred as HOME-ARP, provides homelessness assistance, supportive services, rental housing.

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 262728

* b. Program/Project HOME

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 06/01/2022

* b. End Date: 09/30/2028

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	3,442,399.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	3,442,399.00

*** 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 07/11/2022.☐ 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 218, 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:

Mark

Middle Name:

C.

* Last Name:

Poloncarz

Suffix:

* Title:

County Executive

* Telephone Number:

716-858-8500

Fax Number:

* Email:

mark.poloncarz@erie.gov

* Signature of Authorized Representative:



* Date Signed:

07/11/2022

ATTACHMENT to SF424 Form - SF424B HOME ARP

OMB Number: 4040-0007
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

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 (0348-0040), 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 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:

1. 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 cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. 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.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for 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).
6. 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 statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. 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 or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with 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.

9. 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.
10. Will comply, if applicable, 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.
11. 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).
12. 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.
13. 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.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. 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.
17. 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."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. 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 County Executive
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Erie County, New York	DATE SUBMITTED 07/11/2022

Attachment to SF-424 Form SF-424D HOME ARP

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.

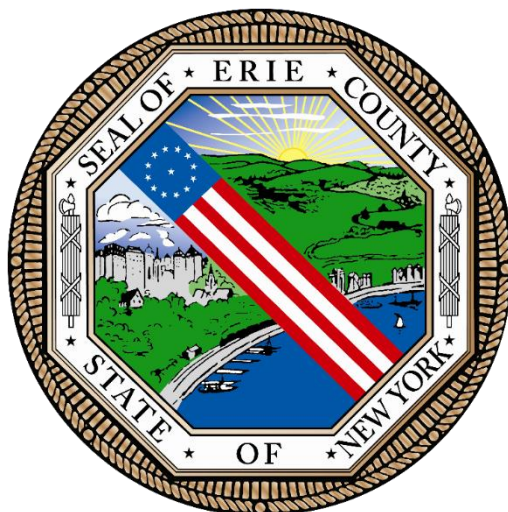
NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

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

1. 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.
2. 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.
4. 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.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. 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.
8. 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).
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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).
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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."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
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SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	County Executive
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
Erie County, New York	07/11/2022



HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN

Erie County & Town of Hamburg HOME Consortium

Erie County Department of Environment and
Planning
2022

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Introduction

This Allocation Plan describes how the County of Erie intends to utilize funds appropriated under section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) (“ARP”) for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). On September 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the allocation of \$3,442,399 million to Erie County, New York under the **Home Investment Partnerships Grant - American Relief Plan (HOME-ARP)**. The purpose of HOME-ARP funds is to provide affordable housing eligible services to benefit qualifying vulnerable populations.

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning administers the HOME program for Erie County HOME Consortium, also referred to as the Participating Jurisdiction (PJ). This PJ service boundary can be seen in ‘Figure 1’. This Plan describes how Erie County plans to utilize the HOME-ARP award to serve Qualifying Populations using the eligible activities described the HUD Notice CPD 21-10 to primarily benefit the residents within the PJ Boundary.

This Allocation Plan fulfills PJ funding requirements for the use HOME-ARP funds as described in this HUD Notice CPD 21-10 and includes description 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 to for projects that benefit all populations described through qualifying populations:

- 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)

Figure A: Participating Jurisdiction Boundary

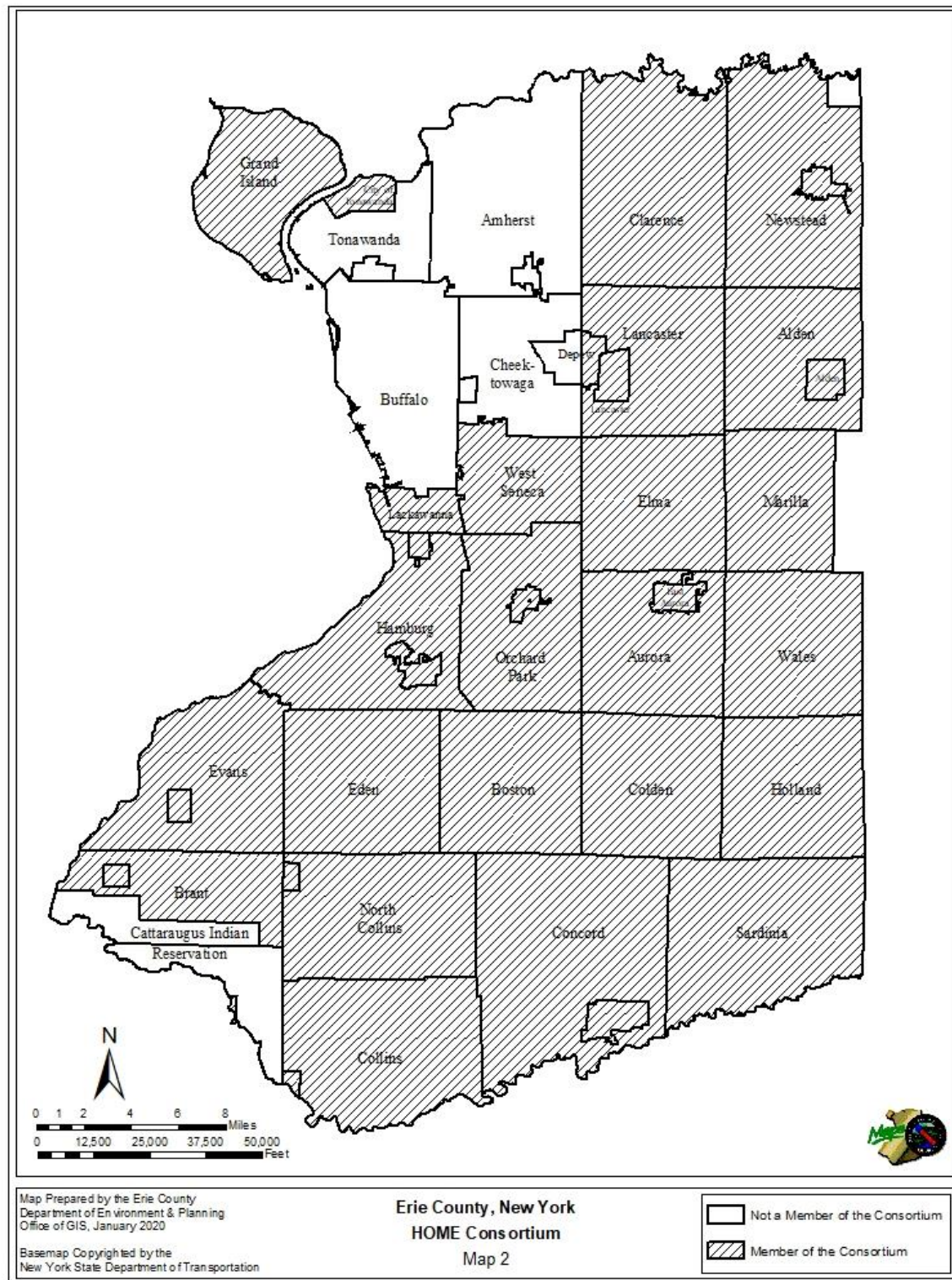
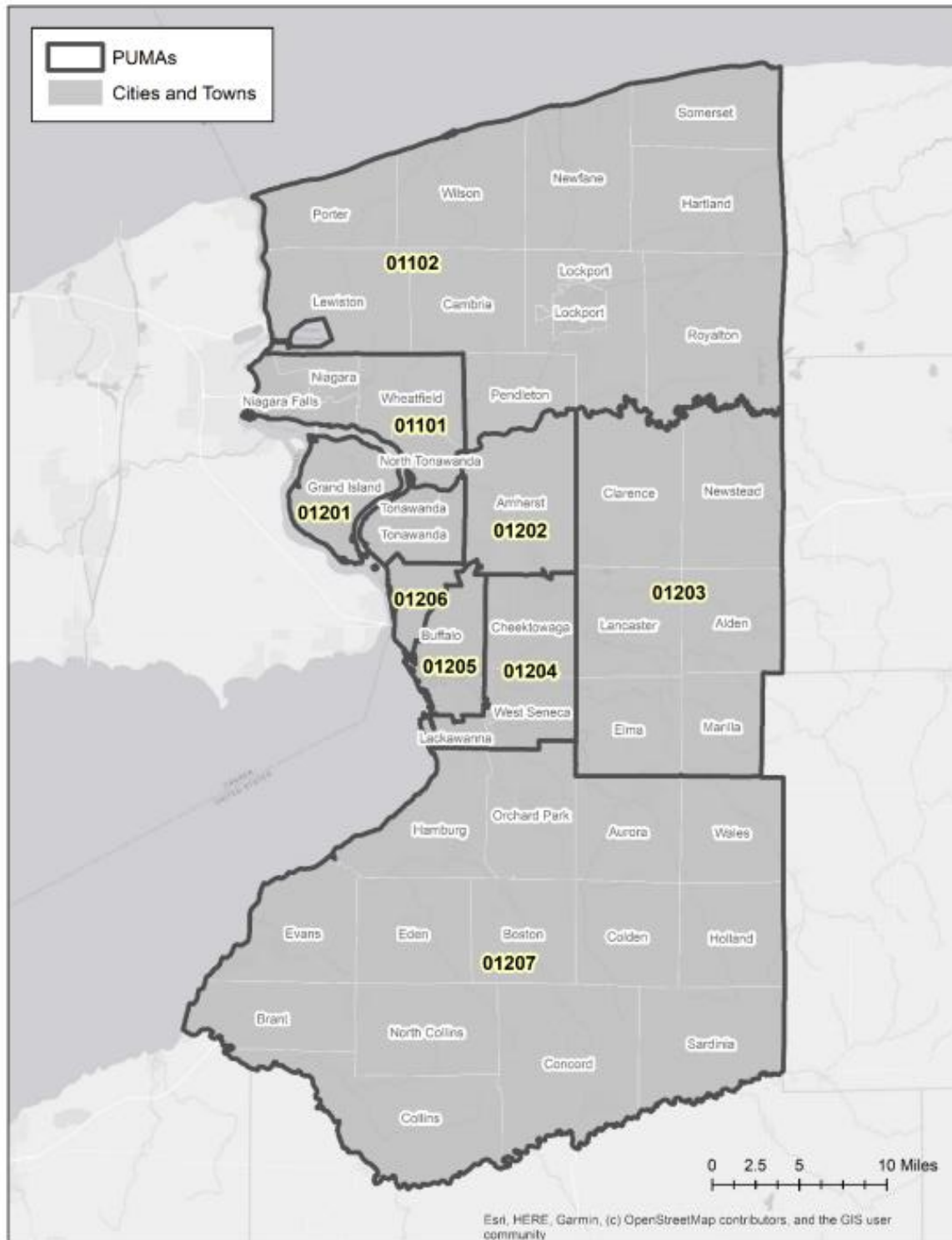


Figure B: Public Use Microdata Area in Buffalo-Niagara



Source: Engaging the 'Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead'(2021)

Consultation:***Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:***

The consultation process involved reviewing system-level data and surveying community stakeholders and elected officials regarding service needs and gaps in service for homeless, low income, and other qualifying populations throughout Erie County.

A survey regarding HOME-ARP eligible activities and qualifying population was sent to the mayors and supervisors representing in March 2022 to 37 communities located in the Erie County HOME Consortium. The survey requested feedback to prioritize eligible activities under HOME-ARP according to community need. Highest priority was given the score of '1' and lowest priority was given a '4'. Survey results are summarized in 'Table 1'. Some notable findings include:

- High land value drives high-cost of housing and high cost of redevelopment (Clarence).
- Clean, well-maintained, and affordable rental housing is disappearing. (West Seneca)
- Lack of Affordable Housing. High Cost Burden for seniors/low-income residents. (Depew, Aurora, Collins, East Aurora, City of Tonawanda, Eden, Hamburg, Concord)
- Supportive Service are limited. Communities rely on State/County services (Town of Lancaster, Aurora, Evans)
- Need for increases Domestic Violence Services (Hamburg, Evans, Grand Island)
- Need for renovation of old housing stock (Holland, Depew)
- 356 households have income that fell below the poverty level in the last 12 months. (Village of Lancaster)
- Seeing growth in population and higher-end home sales, the median household income is <\$40K, per capita \$22.2K, and 25.4% or residents are at the poverty level. Thus, there is a significant need for rental assistance and affordable housing. (City of Lackawanna)

Twenty (20) municipalities responded with the majority prioritizing the development of Rental Housing referring to the general lack of affordable housing in second and third ring suburbs of Erie County. Second was Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), referring to increase cost burden for low-income residents, and then Supportive Services, referring to difficulty related to transportation. The production of non-congregate shelter was prioritized last with no municipality having the capacity to maintain. All survey responses can be found in Attachment A.

Table 1: Mayors and Supervisors HOME-ARP Survey

Mayor and Supervisor HOME-ARP Survey				
City/Town/Village	TBRA	Rental Housing	Supportive Services	NCS
City of Lackawanna	1	2	3	4
City of Tonawanda	1	1	1	1
Town of Aurora	2	1	3	4
Town of Clarence	1	2	3	na
Town of Collins	2	1	3	4
Town of Concord	2	1	3	4

Town of Eden	2	1	3	4
Town of Evans	4	1	2	3
Town of Grand Island	2	3	4	1
Town of Hamburg	na	1	1	na
Town of Holland	na	1	2	na
Town of Lancaster	3	2	1	4
Town of Marilla	1	3	2	na
Town of West Seneca	1	3	2	4
Village of Akron	4	4	4	4
Village of Alden	na	2	na	na
Village of Depew	1	2	3	4
Village of East Aurora	2	1	na	na
Village of Lancaster	1	2	3	4
Village of Springville	2	1	3	4
Average score (Low = high priority)	1.9	1.8	2.6	3.5

Three virtual consultation meetings were held with community stakeholders on March 17th, 21st, and 31st, 2022. Meetings were conducted in partnership with a neighboring PJ (ACT Consortium) to increase community collaboration. Attendees included direct service providers, government representatives, fair housing agencies, public housing authorities, and low-income developers familiar with the Erie County HOME Consortium Area. Participants were given a summary of HOME-ARP funding being made available and discussed recommended eligible uses, shelter and housing priority needs, gaps in current system, and barriers to providing services. Notes from these meetings can be found in Attachments B. All organizations providing consultation were given a follow up survey to provide narrative context to this Allocation Plan. 17 surveys were completed and can be found in Attachment C.

Additional phone call consultations were conducted, if specific feedback was needed and is noted in Table 2. HOME-ARP funding was also presented on April 12th, 2022 during a ‘Southtown Coalition’ monthly meeting of healthcare providers, affordable housing agencies, along with disability and low-income service agencies representing the southern region of the PJ Boundary.

A total of over 37 participants attended consultations meetings, representing 19 different agencies.

A complete list of engaged agencies and feedback can be found in Table 2 of this plan.

Table 2: Erie County Consortium HOME-ARP Consultation

Agency/ Org Consulted	Type of Agency/ Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Belmont Housing Resources of WNY, Inc.	Public Housing Authority; Housing Development	3/17/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>Supportive Services are essential for keeping people housed.</p> <p>TBRA would be a good eligible activity but it would end after 10 year, compared to a lifetime subsidy.</p> <p>Region has a general lack of quality affordable housing for those 50%-80% AMI and below.</p> <p>This need will grow if pending foreclosure crisis due to the pandemic.</p> <p>Regional Rental prices have increased 20% in the past 2 years. Even people with vouchers are having trouble finding apartments due to increasing prices and discrimination against people with vouchers.</p>
Erie County Department of Mental Health	Local Government Unit, Disability	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>Additional risk of homelessness due to disability discrimination is still happening</p> <p>Their department receives more phone calls as an alternative to Section 8.</p> <p>Receive 800-1000 applications a year for housing, while only placing a small percent.</p>
Erie County Department of Social Services	Local Government Unit, Homeless Service Provider	3/17/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>Difficult to find shelter and permanent housing for single white men, especially those with SSI, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health.</p> <p>Rental subsidies would help increase high demand for affordable housing throughout Erie County.</p> <p>There is no suitable shelter with service on staff for those with mental health and substance abuse needs.</p> <p>There are limited shelter placements and state funding is soon going to limit available fund to shelter's not in state compliance.</p> <p>County relies on the additional beds from RSI's Code Blue Winter Shelter</p>

Family Promise	Service Provider, shelter	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>6 family shelter in Buffalo</p> <p>Larger low income families face unique challenges where certain landlord screen application for housing out, due to children</p> <p>Supportive Services are needed for families looking for affordable housing</p> <p>Limited housing opportunities even with vouchers</p> <p>Barrier to affordable housing: family size, bad credit, inconsistent income, application fees</p> <p>There is an overall lack of affordable housing</p>
Haven Housing-Child and Family Services	Domestic Violence Service Provider	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting	<p>Lack of safe affordable housing is a challenge for victims of DV to reach housing stability</p> <p>There is an increased risk for those with substance use disorders</p>
Homeless Alliance of Western New York	CoC Lead/ HMIS	3/25/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>CoC Lead Agency, Management area's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) With ESG-CV funds ending,</p> <p>HOME-ARP TBRA could extend the life of some of those rental assistance programs.</p> <p>Increase of affordable housing with support services attached</p> <p>Those most vulnerable should be prioritized Supports the creation of a damage fund agencies can utilize for landlord mediation strategy</p>
Housing Options Made Easy (HOME)	Fair Housing	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting	<p>#1 issue is the lack of affordable housing</p> <p>HOME sees increasing cases of income discrimination, including section 8 vouchers</p> <p>Local landlords create additional barriers to housing including background/credit checks and proof of income.</p> <p>As affordable housing goes down, Complaints of housing discrimination goes up.</p>

Lackawanna Municipal Housing Authority (LMHA)	Public Housing Authority	4/5/2022 - phone call	<p>LMHA manages 396 family units and 94 senior citizen units</p> <p>Tenant are a mixture of incomes, employment, and even previously homeless</p> <p>1 bedroom units are the most sought after</p> <p>There is currently a 6 month waitlist for housing with the list ranging from 60-100 people.</p> <p>Anticipating a surge in homelessness due to private landlords evicting due to nonpayment of rent</p> <p>TBRA would be LMHAs highest priority to cover about 150 residents who fell behind on rent due to eviction moratorium.</p> <p>LMHA did apply for state eviction prevention funds (ERAP) with very lite success rate (4 of 70 applications)</p>
People Inc.	Intellectual Disability Service Provider, Housing Developer	3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting; digital survey	<p>Provides supportive services and housing to WNY residents with development disabilities.</p> <p>516 person waitlist for their tax credit housing (50%-80% AMI)799 person waitlist 50% AMI for HUD housingFrom market studies done on all their affordable housing project, they never have a capture rate more than 4% indicating the incredible need for affordable housing in the region.</p> <p>TBRA98% of current tenants were able to obtain rental assistance from the state who fell behind on rent during the pandemic.</p> <p>Those that didn't, People Inc. has gone into payment plan with them.</p> <p>TBRA could potentially benefit this population for back rent.</p> <p>There remains a high need for supervised apartments through OPWDD for Intellectual disability population.</p> <p>360 people with did are currently on the emergency need list.</p> <p>Many are living with parents or in substandard housing.</p>

Rental Assistance Corporation (RAC)	Public Housing Authority	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>RAC manages 5200 housing choice vouchers for Buffalo and Erie County</p> <p>Difficult to find housing even with housing choice voucher due to lack of affordable housing.</p> <p>Would also prioritize housing counseling, housing search programs, and landlord outreach project</p> <p>RAC will be opening their waitlist shortly but will close the list for another 4-5 years.</p> <p>No specific population should be prioritized</p>
Restoration Society Inc.	Mental Health and Homeless Service Provider	3/17/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>RSI manages 14 housing contract between the City of Buffalo and Erie County, Provided mental health services, and operates the season extreme weather shelter, Code Blue.</p> <p>There is a clear struggle to find available units in the region.</p> <p>Moratorium put a strain on available units, landlords, and tenants.</p> <p>There is currently a 27 person list of individuals hard to house due to mental illness and substance abuse</p> <p>Not enough shelter sites and too many shelter not compliant with state regulations</p>
Rural Outreach Center (ROC)	Rural low-income Services	4/21/2022 - Phone call	<p>ROC provides extreme weather shelter, organizes a backpack/boots program for children, and provide case management services for low income families and individuals.</p> <p>Provide an estimates 200 families and adults on an annual basis</p> <p>Estimated 45-50 thousand people living in poverty in southern WNY;</p>

			<p>8500 are estimated to have no access to transportation; Claims domestic violence occurs at high rate in rural areas due to isolation and lack of support network</p> <p>Unmet housing and service needs include transportation, development of affordable housing and services and mental health services.</p> <p>Old housing stock in rural area creates gaps in housing and substandard housing options.</p> <p>Affordable housing in rural community mostly consists of mobile home parksROC, DSS, and local food pantries are the primary resources for low income individuals and families in rural areas of WNYPoverty in rural areas is considered ‘invisible’ compared to poverty in urban areas.</p> <p>Characteristics of housing insecurity in rural areas include single parents, multiple children, unemployed, and may be suffering from a disability such as mental health or drug addiction.</p> <p>Priority should focus on development of affordable housing, then supportive services, then TBRA, the development of shelterMajor health disparities, lack of transportation, aging mobile home parks, and mental health serve desert continues to be a concern in rural WNY communities.</p>
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Salvation Army	Service Provider	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; 3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting;	<p>Salvation Army of Buffalo serves everyone within the County.</p> <p>Operate a 76 bed shelter for families and have been at full capacity for 6 months</p> <p>Shelter has been at full capacity since state eviction moratoriums have lifted.</p> <p>Stays in shelter have become longer due to lack of affordable housing.</p> <p>Barriers to obtaining stable housing for families staying in shelter including mental health, no income, substance abuse</p> <p>Salvation Army also operates a rapid rehousing program but lack of affordable housing creates the location of affordable rental housing for a time limited voucher difficult.</p> <p>Salvation army is currently developing 160 units of affordable housing at their Buffalo location.</p> <p>Supportive Service are needed to overcome mental health and substance abuse related barriers.</p> <p>Salvation Army also has a 'Pathways of Hope' program that provides case management services to those in shelter but needs to be expanded. Currently has a 20-25 person waitlist.</p>
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Tonawanda Housing Authority (THA)	Public Housing Authority	3/24/2022 - Virtual Meeting; Digital Survey	<p>THA serves the City of Tonawanda and oversees 214 family units and 50 senior affordable units. THA doesn't not receive federal funding.</p> <p>They never have enough 1 bedroom units with people calling everyday.</p> <p>Currently there is a 6-12 month waitlist for 2-bedroom units and a 3 year waitlist for 1-bedroom units.</p> <p>There is a need for senior housing (1 bedroom units) in the City of Tonawanda that is ADA compliant. Many of the senior units THA offer are not ADA compliant, due to being grandfathered in.</p>
Western New York Veterans Housing Corporation (WNYVHC)	Service Provider, Veterans	3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting; digital survey	<p>Issue with local veteran population isn't finding housing for Veterans but keeping them house, due to various challenges from substance, mental health and other. Veteran population mostly consists of single men but the amount of women and families is increasing.</p>
Feedmore WNY	Service Provider; Food Bank	4/14/2022 - Email	<p>Local food pantries household utilization has fluctuated since the beginning of the pandemic. There was a large 22% jump in utilization during the 2020 year. Here are household utilization numbers for pantry located within Erie County Consortium boundaries:</p> <p>2017: 52,360 2018: 51,277 (-2%) 2019: 52,412 (+2%) 2020: 64,072 (+22%) 2021: 54,165 (-15%)</p>
Visually Impaired Advancement WNY	Disability Service Provider	4/12/2022 – South town Coalition Meeting	<p>More affordable housing choice vouchers are needed. Lack of affordable housing options for those who are disabled.</p>

Developmental Disabilities of WNY	Disability Service Provider	3/31/2022 - Virtual Meeting; digital survey	Development of affordable housing for those with disabilities.
Family Justice Center of Erie County	Service Provider, Domestic Violence	5/19/2022 – Phone Call	<p>Provides supportive services to victims of domestic violence throughout Erie County.</p> <p>Serves approximately 4000 people annually. DV victims seeking services and related homicides have increased since the beginning of the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>Availability of affordable Housing stock is the biggest challenge for victims of DV to overcome and begin a new life. This is especially true in rural areas where housing stock is already limited.</p>

Public Participation

Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:

- *Date(s) of public notice: 6/18/2022*
- *Public comment period: start date - 6/20/2022 end date - 7/6/2022*
- *Date(s) of public hearing: 6/30/2022*

Describe the public participation process:

Public Notice of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, 15 day comment period, and public hearing was published on 6/17/2022 in the local newspaper (The Buffalo News), as well as the regions oldest Black-owned newspaper (The Criterion) on 6/18/2022. A copy of the Public Notice and draft HOME-ARP allocation plan was posted on the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning website on 6/20/2022.

The Plan's public comment period went from 6/20/22 till 7/6/22 where residents were given the opportunity to submit comments in writing to the Department of Environment and Planning via letter or email. A public hearing was held on 6/30/22 via conference call to address any questions and public comments about the Plan and funding. Any comments received during the 15-day comment period and public hearing are included in the final version of this Plan. Full Text from the Public Notice can be found below:

*ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
(HOME-ARP) ALLOCATION PLAN – FIRST SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE
2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN*

*ERIE COUNTY/TOWN OF HAMBURG
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT*

The Erie County/Town of Hamburg Allocation Plan for the HOME - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) will be available for public review and comment from June 20 through July 6th, 2022 at the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Erie County Office Building, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York, 14202.

The County of Erie was awarded \$3,442,399 in HOME-ARP funds in a one-time allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to primarily benefit the thirty-seven (37) communities within the Erie County/Town of Hamburg HOME Consortium.

The Allocation Plan is required by HUD for the County to receive federal HOME-ARP grant funds. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is a strategic plan detailing the allocation of funding to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing affordable housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and/or non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. The Allocation Plan defines the use of federal HOME-ARP grant funds to address these needs.

A call-in public hearing on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. The call-in number is 858-2468- Meeting Number 6409 Attendee Access Code 3690. The draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan can be viewed on the Erie County web site at www.erie.gov.

Written comments on the report should be received by the Department by 4:00 p.m. July 6, 2022. Comments should be submitted to the attention of Erie County Senior Housing Specialist, Andrew Dearing, Erie County Department of Environment & Planning, Room 1063, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York 14202 (716) 858-6927 or andrew.dearing@erie.gov

Non-English-speaking persons, persons with Limited English Proficiency, or persons needing reasonable accommodation should contact Mariely Ortiz at (716) 858-1916 or mariely.ortiz@erie.gov for further assistance or to access documents in another language.

Para asistencia en Español, puede contactar a Mariely Ortiz (716) 858-1916 o mariely.ortiz@erie.gov

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

Erie County has adopted a language assistance plan to assist anyone with limited English proficiency to further access County documents. Contact information for County staff who assist with language access and reasonable accommodation was included in the public notice. Translation and reasonable accommodation services were also included in the Public Notice and addressed as needed.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

No comments or recommendations were received during the public participation process.

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

No comments or recommendations were received during the public participation process.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

Table 3: Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Homeless & Previously Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless & Previously Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	5	2	5	5	0								
Transitional Housing	0	0	0	0	0								
Sheltered Homeless						4	45	0	8				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	15	0	3				
Current Gaps										3	2	55	55

Sources: 2021 Point in Time (PIT); 2021 CoC Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

Table 4: Household Income by Geography

PUMA #	Municipality	Extremely Low Income (<30 AMI)	Very Low Income (30% AMI)	Low Income (50% AMI)	TOTAL % (≤50% AMI)
01201	City of Tonawanda, Grand Island, Town of Tonawanda	12.09%	10.60%	17.89%	40.58%
01203	Clarence, Newstead, Lancaster, Alden, Elma, Marilla	6.55%	10.22%	14.26%	31.01%
01204	West Seneca, Lackawanna, Cheektowaga	14.49%	13.78%	21.11%	49.38%
01207	Hamburg, Orchard Park, Eat Aurora, Wales, Remaining Southtown Municipalities	9.73%	10.50%	16.88%	37.11%

Source: American Community Survey (2015-19), (2021) Engaging the ‘Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead’

Table 5: Cost-burden of Renter-occupied Housing

Cost Burden and Severe Cost Burden for Households by Geography					
PUMA #	Municipality	# of Renters	% Cost Burden (30%-50% of income)	% Severe Cost Burden (50% + of income)	% of Renters with rent Burden (30%+)
01201	City of Tonawanda, Grand Island, Town of Tonawanda	11,618	19.6%	27.2%	46.8%
01203	Clarence, Newstead, Lancaster, Alden, Elma, Marilla	8,429	22.5%	21.5%	44%
01204	West Seneca, Lackawanna, Cheektowaga	19,294	23.4%	26%	49.9%
01207	Hamburg, Orchard Park, Eat Aurora, Wales, Remaining Southtown Municipalities	14,912	22.6%	21.5%	44.1%

Source: American Community Survey (2015-2019); (2021)Engaging the ‘Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead’

Table 6: Breakdown of HUD Subsidized Units by Program (2020)

Rental Burden by Household Income and Geography							
PUMA #	Municipality	Extremely Low Income (<30 AMI)	Very Low Income (30% AMI)	Low Income (50% AMI)	Moderate Income	Medium Income	High Income
1201	City of Tonawanda, Grand Island, Town of Tonawanda	49.40%	31.50%	16.70%	2.4%		
1203	Clarence, Newstead, Lancaster, Alden, Elma, Marilla	34.60%	38.00%	16.30%	9.5%		.4%
1204	West Seneca, Lackawanna, Cheektowaga	50.80%	33.60%	13.50%	2%		

1207	<i>Hamburg, Orchard Park, Eat Aurora, Wales, Remaining Southtown Municipalities</i>	43.60%	36.00%	17.20%	2.2%	1%	
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Source: American Community Survey (2015-2019); (2021)Engaging the ‘Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead’

Table 7: Breakdown of HUD Subsidized Units by Program (2020)

PUMA #	Cost-Burdened ELI and VLI Households, Combined	HUD Subsidized Units	Estimated # of Cost Burdened ELI and VLI Households in Subsidized Units	% of Area’s Cost-Burdened ELI and VLI Households	Excess Demand/ Subsidized Unit Shortfall
01201	7,880	1,542	1,379	17.5%	6,501
01203	5,542	553	495	8.9%	5,047
01204	13,708	2,647	2,363	17.2%	11,345
01207	10,228	1,303	1,206	11.8%	9,022
TOTAL					31,915

Source: American Community Survey (2015-2019); Engaging the ‘Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead’(2021)

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:

- ***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The Erie County HOME Consortium's PJ boundary consists of 37 urban, suburban, and rural communities. According to the Homeless Alliance of WNY, the area's Continuum of Care lead agency and HMIS administrator, approximately 1500-2000 people experience homelessness on an annual basis throughout the City of Buffalo and Erie County (mostly outside the PJ Boundary in the City of Buffalo). According to the 2021 Point-In-Time County (Table 3), it is estimated that on any given night there are approximately 64 households with recorded cases of homelessness with their last known address residing from the PJ Boundary. 45 sheltered individuals, and 4 sheltered families utilizing City shelters outside the PJ Boundary or utilizing temporary shelter vouchers in hotels/motels provided by Erie County Department of Social Services. Additionally, during the 2021 PIT, there were 15 unsheltered homeless living on the streets of WNY. PIT data utilized self-reported 'last known addresses' within HMIS to determine relation to the PJ Boundary. A majority of the overall recorded homeless population consist of single adults without children and primarily consisted adult men.

The County utilizes the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program to assist individuals and families residing in the PJ boundary experiencing homelessness through a Rapid Rehousing program. During the 2020-2021 program year, the ESG Rapid Rehousing program served 18 homeless individuals, 7 men and 11 females without children. All households served through rapid rehousing self-reported a combination of physical, mental health related conditions.

- ***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The County ESG Program also provides rental assistance for individuals and families residing in the PJ boundary earning no more than 30% of the area median income and also experiencing an imminent risk of homelessness. During the 2020-2021 Program Year, the ESG Homeless Prevention program prevented 9 single individuals from becoming homeless. All were single white men. During the previous program year (2019-2020), the same prevention program served 23 households, 4 single white men and 19 single white women. The recent decrease in ESG utilization can be attributed to the COVID pandemic and state eviction moratorium that prioritized more flexible emergency state rental forgiveness with stricter spending deadlines.

Erie County Department of Social Services also provides financial assistance and services for at-risk populations to prevent homelessness. The Department's Emergency Service Team assists individuals and families at risk of homelessness with financial assistance for rent and utilities arrears and helping families remain housed. From March 2020 to March 2021, Erie County Social services assisted 48 individuals from the PJ boundary from becoming homeless with rental assistance. 18 were male and 30 were female. Almost all assistance was provided to individuals without children and 79% of individuals assisted were ages 25 to 61.

The County received additional supplemental pandemic funding for ESG. These funds are essential in preventing the spread of disease by placing clients in non-congregate shelter, and rapidly rehousing them into their own housing. The region also dedicated \$10 Million Cares Act funds to assist residents who are suffered from rent or mortgage burden and at risk of homelessness. The program assisted 2,190 households and spent a total of \$5.9 million.

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

Child and Family Services serves domestic violence victims throughout Erie County and manages the region's only 36-bed emergency shelter program located in the City of Buffalo. They serve about 1500 unique individuals annually consisting primarily of women and children primarily in the City of Buffalo.

The Family Justice Center of Erie County provides free supportive services to the residents of Erie County who fall victim to qualifying types of Domestic Violence. They serve an estimated 4000 individuals annually throughout Erie County.

According to the 2021 PIT, there were 8 Domestic Violence victims in shelter linked to the PJ Boundary.

- ***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***

According to 2010 HUD's Comprehensive Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, there are approximately 36,525 renter occupied units within the PJ boundary. Households with income no greater than 30% AMI and at least 1 identified housing problem account for 5,239 renter units. Households with income no greater than 50% AMI and at least 1 identified housing problem account for 5,202 renter units. In summary, about 39.2% of all rental occupied units within the PJ boundary have identified housing problems. High rate of rental burden could be alleviated through the use of rental assistance housing vouchers and the increased production of affordable housing within the PJ boundary.

Household income can also be used to identify potentially eligible populations within the PJ Boundary. According to American Community Survey (2015-2019) and based on Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs), households earning 50% AMI and below account for 31.01% to 49.38% of households as seen in Table 4. Many of these residents may benefit, qualify, or currently be utilizing for subsidies to ease rental burden. Evaluating ACS data by PUMAs allows access to housing data not available at the census tract geographic level. This is a good method to evaluate a large geographic area, such as the PJ Boundary. Relevant PUMA Boundaries include two municipalities not within the PJ Boundary (Town of Tonawanda and Cheektowaga). Geographic Boundaries of PUMAs can be found on Figure B.

Describe the Unmet Housing and service needs of qualifying populations, including but not limited to:

- ***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

There are no homeless shelters that operate year-round located within the Erie County Consortium. Consortium communities rely heavily on City shelters and Erie County Social Services to provide temporary housing and financial assistance. County Department of Social Services work with local hotels/and motels to temporarily shelter individuals and families when City shelters are at capacity. Local hotel/motels also have a very limited capacity. Additionally, the lack of transportation and large geography greatly impacts access to social services in rural and suburban communities of the Consortium, especially for homeless and low-income housed populations.

The surplus of federal funding from annual ESG and supplemental funding related to the COVID pandemic produces multiple rental assistance programs available to resident from the PJ Boundary. Consultations often reflected the need for affordable housing to utilize these programs, rather than more programs being created.

- ***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

Federal funding from annual ESG and supplemental funding related to the COVID pandemic produced multiple rental assistance programs available to residents from the PJ Boundary. Consultation supported the need of additional affordable housing stock to support rental assistance programs available in the community.

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

There is only 1 shelter in the County that caters to Domestic Violence victims throughout the County. If the DV shelter is at capacity, referred victims are then placed in a women's homeless shelter, Cornerstone Manor in the City of Buffalo. After consultations, the operator of this shelter (Child and Family Service) affirmed that access to affordable housing throughout the region is the biggest need for this population and the City shelters are able to accommodate client's coming from the PJ Boundary.

- ***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 need for affordable housing throughout the County was a common topic discussed during consultations. All public housing authorities engaged through consultation cited long waitlists for housing and voucher programs, some waitlist being temporarily closed and some being as long as 10 years. Public housing authorities and supportive housing providers involved in consultation described difficulty locating affordable housing even for households that utilize vouchers programs that can subsidize private rental units within the community by stating there are not enough eligible units in the area.

According to the 2021 study, Engaging the 'Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead', rental housing continues to be unaffordable for many tenants within the Consortium. Assuming spending 30%-50% of one's gross family income on housing creates financial hardship, almost half of renters within the Consortium's geography are experiencing some level of Cost Burden associated with housing ranging from 44% to 49.9% (Table 7). A further analysis, shows that cost burden disproportionately effects renting very low and extremely low-income households earning 50% AMI and below.

High rental burden, especially for low income and extremely low income, creates a need for more affordable housing within the PJ Boundary.

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:

Current resources related to eligible activities within the PJ Boundary include:

Congregate and Non-Congregate Shelter Units:

- The PJ boundary has a seasonal emergency winter shelter for residents run by the Rural Outreach Center located in the southern region of the PJ boundary. However, Consortium communities still rely on the shelters and services outside the PJ boundary in the City of Buffalo and emergency services provided by the County. Erie County Department of Social Services provides temporary non-congregate shelter placement for HOME Consortium residents experiencing housing instability to City of Buffalo shelters or contract temporary stays at local hotels/motels.
- Child and Family services operates the region's only domestic violence shelter for women and children in the region. If this shelter fills to capacity, clients are then referred to Cornerstone, the City of Buffalo shelter for women.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA):

- Erie County's ESG programs that serve the PJ boundary offer Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention services for homeless and at-risk household earning no greater than 30% AMI. ESG programs work with the local HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) and Coordinated Entry system to identify eligible residents and those most in need. The County also administers CDBG funds to operate housing counseling, fair housing, tenant/landlord mediation services, fair housing investigations, foreclosure counseling, and referral services to HOME Consortium residents.
- The local CoC administers a variety of Rapid Rehousing and scatter-site Permanent Supportive Housing programs for those with disabling conditions. While these programs serve all of Erie County, the majority of clients associated are outside the PJ Boundary within the City Buffalo. The Majority of scatter site Supportive Housing is contracted through the Erie County Department of Mental Health (DMH) and is eligible for any Erie County resident with a severe mental illness. Many residents within the PJ boundary who utilize CoC programs end up relocating outside the PJ boundary due to lack of rental housing options.
- During the pandemic, Erie County received an unprecedented amount of rental assistance from the state and federal governments to alleviate unpaid rents. \$35 Million from the state through NYS Emergency Rental Assistance Program provide eligible households experience in financial hardship due the pandemic up to 12 months of unpaid rental assistance.

- **Affordable and Permanent Supportive Rental Housing**

- Public Housing Authorities operating through Erie County as well as communities specific to the PJ geography offer affordable housing options to low income residents, as well as voucher program to subsidize local rent. However, consultations with these agencies reveal that long waitlists and limited appropriate rental stock create challenges to low income residents to find stable housing, even for those linked with rental assistance.
- Belmont Housing Resources of WNY and Rental Assistance Corporation oversee the region's HUD Section 8 rental vouchers for low income residents of Buffalo and Erie County. RAC manages approximately 5200 housing choice vouchers and Belmont manages approximately 5,612 housing choice vouchers throughout Buffalo and Erie County. The RAC waitlist for vouchers opens for applications periodically but closes for

4-5 years at a time. Belmont operates a 10 year long waitlist that is closed to new applicants.

- Tonawanda Housing Authority (THA) and Lackawanna Municipal Housing Authority (LMHA) operate state and federally funded affordable housing specific to geographies located within the PJ boundary. LMHA manages 396 affordable family units and 94 affordable senior citizen units. THA manages 214 affordable multifamily units and 50 affordable senior units. LMHA waitlist is about 6 month long with the list ranging from 60-100 individuals. THA manages a 6-12 month waitlist for 2-bedroom units and a 3-year waitlist for 1-bedroom units. One-bedroom units are the most desirable rental units.
- People Inc. provide supportive service for developmentally disabled but also develop and operate affordable housing for individuals and families with disabilities. Across their properties they maintain significant waitlist from 516 to 799 people applying for housing dedicated for households earning 50% to 80% AMI. Further market studies done on all their affordable housing projects show a capture rate no more than 4% indicating the incredible need for affordable housing in the region.
- **Supportive Services:**
 - 211 call line is the primary resource to connect residents to supportive services, especially for those living in rural areas. Erie County also works with Belmont Housing Resources, Housing Opportunities Made Equal, and the Center for Elder Law and Justice to provide housing counseling, and Fair Housing services to resident within the PJ Boundary. The Rural Outreach Center also provide case management services to the southern region of the PJ boundary and estimates serving 200 families annually.
 - The majority of supportive services for Consortium residents are located outside the Consortium's geography in the City of Buffalo. The lack of transportation creates additional barriers for residents residing in isolated rural communities.

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

Due to no ongoing shelter in the PJ Boundary, there is an identified gap of about 55 beds of shelter for the Consortium population according to the above Table 3. However, most of these cases are accommodated through City of Buffalo shelters and temporary placements to local hotels and motels by Erie Department of Social Services. Elected officials within the PJ Boundary also assigned a low priority to ongoing shelter services as seen in Attachment A.

As stated previously, service delivery within the PJ boundary presents barriers unique to rural and suburban communities. Through the consultation process, agencies operating directly in these communities, such as the Rural Outreach Center, state that poverty in rural areas is overlooked or considered and invisible problem, compared to urban counterparts. This can be attributed isolated communities with little access to transportation, affordable housing, and supportive services.

According to the analysis of the 2021 study, Engaging the 'Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead' and expressed in Table 7, there are 6,045 HUD subsidized units located within the PJ boundary and an estimated 37,358 households of very low income and extremely low income residing in this area experiencing rental cost burden. Based on the estimates of this study, HUD reported data and census data, only 5,443 very low and extremely low-income households utilize HUD subsidized units. If everyone experiences cost burden (30%+ of gross income) due to housing is eligible for some type of subsidized housing, there would need to be an

additional 31,915 units of affordable housing in the Erie County Consortium to meet the need, including those earning 50% AMI and below in the area.

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning administers the County's Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program incentivizing housing projects that reserve at least 60% of developed units for 60% AMI or below by providing County and municipality tax breaks. The County partners with municipalities where the development is located. Almost all PILOT applications received by the County since 2017 have been for projects in the City of Buffalo or a neighboring community, outside the PJ Boundary. This can be due to the limited resources in second and third ring suburbs, lack of nonprofit developers in the region, or the lack of funding programs to support affordable housing development in an appropriate scale for rural areas.

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:

Community consultation surveys revealed characteristics of housing instability as households with severe rental burden, connection to substance abuse, untreated mental illness and other disabilities, unemployment, couch surfing, frequently moving, single parent households, limited education, and little access to childcare, transportation and healthy food.

High housing cost burden can be identified as spending more than 30% of gross household income on housing expenses. Severe housing cost burden occurs when this housing expenditure to income ratio exceeds 50%. According to the 2021 study, Engaging the ‘Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead’ that uses US Census data, we can determine that the percent of cost burden households within the Erie HOME Consortium. Rental housing continues to be unaffordable for many tenants within the Consortium, assuming spending 30%-50% of one's gross family income on housing creates financial hardship. Almost half of renters within the Consortium are experiencing Cost Burden associated with housing ranging from 44% to 49.9%.

‘Other Populations’ included with eligible qualifying populations will include households earning no greater than 50% AMI and exhibits characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, such as previous history of homelessness, imminent risk of eviction,

- Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
- Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
- Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance;
- Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
- Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
- Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution
- High to severe rental housing cost burden (30% -50% of gross household income on housing expenses)

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

- ***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***
While there are no shelters located within the Erie County HOME Consortium (Figure A), the volume of homeless individuals and families originating from the PJ Boundary would not justify funding ongoing shelter operations. Additionally, consultations with community stakeholders expressed priority need for homeless individuals includes an increase of affordable housing stock throughout the area and services to maintain housing in the community. The lack of affordable housing creates additional challenges for rental assistance programs focused on getting people out of shelters and into long term housing, such as the County's ESG Rapid Rehousing program.
- ***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***
Rental assistance to prevent homelessness is a concern for service providers and stakeholder within the community. However, due to the COVID pandemic and state moratoriums that postponed what would be evictions, the community received an unprecedented amount of emergency rental assistance to combat impending evictions. Additional federal funds received by the community left conventional rental assistance programs through ESG programs underutilized. So rather than providing additional rental assistance programs, community stakeholders expressed the need of additional affordable rental housing that would lessen the cost burden of housing for low and extremely low income.
- ***Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice***
Victims of Domestic Violence pose an increase risk in isolated rural communities. It was identified through consultations that the lack of access to affordable rental housing can increase the chance of staying in an abusive and dangerous situation. Increasing options of affordable housing and access to services would be a priority for this population.
- ***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***
According to the analysis of the 2021 study, Engaging the 'Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead', there are 6,045 HUD subsidized units located within the PJ boundary and an estimated 37,358 households of very low income and extremely low income residing in this area experiencing rental cost burden. Based on the estimates of this study, HUD reported data and census data, only 5,443 very low and extremely low-income households utilize HUD subsidized units. If everyone experiences cost burden (30%+ of gross income) due to housing is eligible for some type of subsidized housing, there would need to be an additional 31,915 units of affordable housing in the Erie County Consortium to meet the need, including those earning 50% AMI and below in the area.

Explain how the level of need and gaps in its shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems bases on the data presented in the plan were determined:

The level of need and gaps in shelter and housing inventory and services delivery systems is based on consultation with the geography's CoC lead/HMIS provider and the area's primary homeless services

providers. Data was collected using HMIS, PIT counts utilizing resident 'last known zip code, HIC reports, and CAPER reports to quantify existing housing and homeless inventory.

This plan also utilizes American Community Survey Data and Comprehensive Housing Affordable Strategy data to identify available affordable rental stock and the level of need.

The need for more affordable housing was determined by looking at housing cost burden and HUD housing utilization from the 2021 study, "Engaging the Future of Housing in the Buffalo-Niagara Region: A Preliminary Exploration of Challenges that Lie Ahead". It uses 2019 census data targeting Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) in order to focus on trend within the PJ Boundary. Evaluating ACS data by PUMAs allows access to housing data not available at the census tract geographic level. This is a good method to evaluate a large geographic area, such as the PJ Boundary. Relevant PUMA Boundaries include two municipalities not within the PJ Boundary (Town of Tonawanda and Cheektowaga). Geographic Boundaries of PUMAs can be found on Figure B.

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 PJ will not administer eligible activities directly. Once HOME-ARP funds are received, the PJ will release a Request for Proposals to solicit applications related to the development of Rental Housing and consulting. The PJ will then recruit community stakeholder to function as a selection committee to review applications and award funding to applicants who meet the need described in the RFP.

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 HOME-ARP funds were provided to subrecipients prior to HUD acceptance.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services			
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters			
Tenant Based Rental Assistance			
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$3,095,279		
Non-Profit Operating	\$75,000	2.2%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$172,119	5%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$100,000	2.9%	15%
Total HOME-ARP Allocation	\$3,442,399		

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

The needs assessment and gaps analysis demonstrated a strong desire for increased affordable housing options throughout the region for all qualifying populations. Analysis of Rental Cost burden in Table 5 shows that over 44% of all renters are experiencing high cost burden of rising rents and Table 6 demonstrates that this impacts low income and very low-income resident on a larger scale, showing the need for additional affordable housing options for this population, especially for households $\leq 30\%$ AMI. Agencies through consultation noted that the root of housing instability in these communities is the overall lack of affordable housing options for qualifying population.

The County seeks to provide Non-profit Operating and Capacity Building to enhance the development expertise of existing nonprofit agencies serving qualifying population in the PJ Boundary with the goal of creating multiple housing projects to serve the needs of the Consortium Area. Capacity building funds would offset the lack of expertise existing in second and third ring suburbs of the PJ Boundary and create a culture of affordable and accessible communities for residents of the Erie HOME Consortium.

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

There is currently no dedication to the development of Affordable Housing within the Erie County Consortium Area, which was identified as a top priority from the HOME-ARP survey of community leaders and stakeholders found in Table 1. Additionally, the majority of affordable rental housing developments made feasible through state and local programs focus primarily in city centers, outside the PJ boundary. We aim to provide an opportunity for communities in second and third ring suburbs to develop affordable rental housing and allow nonprofit partners to align with the needs of these communities by providing safe and affordable housing for qualifying populations.

Although analysis showed a gap in shelter services, the volume coming from the PJ Boundary would not warrant the funding of an ongoing shelter operation and was prioritized low among community leaders in the HOME-ARP survey found in Table 1 of this plan. Also, the availability of current rental assistance programs available through the County's ESG programs is underutilized, making it difficult to justify a TBRA program. Consultation also revealed that locating affordable housing even with a rental assistance vouchers has become difficult due to rising rental prices. This can be attributed to the overall lack of affordable housing options throughout the region.

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:

Once funds are received, approximately \$3,095,279.05 will be allocated to the development of affordable rental housing with an approximate development cost per unit of \$175,000, therefore we anticipate approximately 20 units of affordable housing for qualifying population through this plan.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

We hope to fund a portion of affordable units in a larger development of affordable housing using HOME-ARP funds with the goal in mind of assisting many more units of affordable housing projects in the future. This will address the need of low-income housing for communities within the PJ boundary and establish a process for communities to create and sustain more affordable housing projects in the future. We plan on working with municipalities and established organizations within the region to identify potential projects and provide affordable housing to qualifying populations that cater to the needs of the community.

Preferences

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:

HOME-ARP project will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice and ‘Other Populations’ identified in this Allocation Plan.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ’s needs assessment and gap analysis:

HOME-ARP project will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice and ‘Other Populations’ identified in this Allocation Plan.

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

HOME-ARP project will not have any preference beside qualifying populations included in the CPD-21-10 Notice and ‘Other Populations’ identified in this Allocation Plan.

Referral Methods

Identify the referral methods that the PJ intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. PJ’s may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):

Erie County Consortium intends to utilize HOME-ARP funds for the development of rental housing units to serve Qualifying Populations (QP’s) as defined in HUD Notice CPD-21-10, including ‘other populations’ as defined in this Allocation Plan. These units will be made available to all QP’s and accept referrals through various sources, including the local Coordinated Entry system to identify eligible homeless residents and direct referrals from local nonprofits, municipalities and private sources throughout the County to locate other qualifying populations.

Each project awarded HOME-ARP funds will be required to have a Tenant Selection Plan that describes how the developer will work with the local nonprofit networks and public agencies to identify appropriate QP households. Each project will need to develop a referral tool that outlines and describes all qualifying populations eligible under HOME-ARP guidelines.

If the PJ intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):

The PJ intends to utilize referrals from the local CE process to identify eligible Homeless Populations. Additional referrals will be accepted to identify other qualifying populations from various public/private sources. HOME-ARP project grantees will maintain a referral list open to the community and all qualification and eligible applicants will be accepted in chronological order.

If the PJ intends to use the CE process established by the CoC, describe the method of prioritization to be used by the CE. (Optional):

Referrals accepted from the accepted CE process established by the CoC will prioritize eligibility according to the utilized vulnerability index survey referred to as the VI-SPDAT. This survey measures vulnerability and prioritizes those with the greatest risk from living on the street. Those determined to have the highest vulnerability, and need for permanent housing, and interested in applying will be identified as an eligible and offered the opportunity to apply for housing through the HOME-ARP project.

If the PJ intends to use both a CE process established by the CoC and another referral method for a project or activity, describe any method of prioritization between the two referral methods, if any. (Optional):

Referrals will be coming from multiple sources throughout the community. Since no preferences are identified, HOME-ARP project grantees will maintain a referral list, screen for eligibility, and accept qualifying populations based on chronological order.

Limitations

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

The PJ does not intend to utilize any project limitation or preference.

If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

The PJ does not intend to utilize any project limitation or preference.

If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):

The PJ does not intend to utilize any project limitation or preference.

Attachment

A

COUNTY OF ERIE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

IMPORTANT

ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

The Erie County Community Development Consortium has been allocated \$3,442,399 in federal funds through HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Grant American Relief Plan Grant (HOME-ARP), to provide homeless assistance, supportive services and funding for affordable rental housing construction.

This survey below is intended to get local input from each of our CD Consortium communities on your priorities for this HOME-ARP funding. Please fill out the following needs survey to help prioritize eligible activities for the County Consortium. Feel free to coordinate your response with input from other local officials in your Community.

Eligible projects must be used to benefit individuals and families in the following specified "qualifying populations", which are listed below:

- Homeless
- At-risk of homelessness
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria.

Please return your completed survey to the address below by March 18, 2022, or E-Mail to Andrew Dearing at Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov

**Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
ATTN: Andrew Dearing
Edward A. Rath County Office Building, 10th Floor
95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202**

Your feedback will be used in the preparation of an Allocation Plan to set the direction of the HOME-ARP program within Erie County Consortium communities.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Dearing at 858-6927.

Thank you for your cooperation!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Rising cost of existing housing.	1st
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	High land value drives high-cost housing, and high-cost redevelopment.	2nd
Provision of Supportive Services		3rd
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		No answer
Other (specify:)		No answer

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Jonathan Bleuer

Position: Director of Community Development

Municipality: Town of Clarence

Phone: 716-741-8933

E-Mail: jbleuer@clarence.ny.us

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	As rents skyrocket, low-income renters are forced into less desirable locations	1
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Clean, well-maintained, and affordable rental housing is disappearing.	3
Provision of Supportive Services	Supportive purposes are important to all residents.	2
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Gary Dickson

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: West Seneca

Phone: 716-558-3203

E-Mail: gdickson@twсны.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	I would think that our neighborhoods in the area bounded by the Norfolk -Southern RR tracks and the Main Street row of apartments and small homes could take advantage of this program	1
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	There a few parcels on Main Street that I would like to persue having them demolished and then replaced with new builds much like the work that has been done in the City of Buffalo recently.	2
Provision of Supportive Services	Supportive services are services such as transportation, child care or dependent care. These are all areas that might be needed in our Main Street area and could be supplied by Dom Polski	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	Again, could I use this funding to improve the housing structures that currently are in need of some \$\$ to improve the appearance of the apartments or living structures.	4
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Kevin J. Peterson

Position: Mayor

Municipality: Village of Depew

Phone: 716.683.7451 ext. 130

E-Mail: kpeterson@villageofdepew.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	not needed	Low
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	There is a lack of low income housing in the village	2
Provision of Supportive Services	Not needed	Low
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	Not needed	Low
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Michael Manicki

Position: Mayor

Municipality: Village of Alder

Phone: 716-937-~~624~~ 9216 x112

E-Mail: aldermayor@rochester.rr.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	There is a need for funding in this area	3
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	We do currently have developments but are limited to senior housing	2
Provision of Supportive Services	Services are limited	1
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Ronald Ruffino, Sr.

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Lancaster

Phone: 716-683-1610

E-Mail: rruffino@lancasterny.gov

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)		
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	HIGH RENTS HAVE IMPACTED LOW INCOME RENTERS. HAMBURG IS WORKING WITH 2 DEVELOPERS LOOKING TO	1
Provision of Supportive Services	UTILIZE HOME ARP FUNDS. NEED FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACILITIES FOR ABUSE VICTIMS	1
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Municipality: TOWN OF HAMBURG

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Important To Help People with FIRST Months Rent, SECURITY Deposit FOR Low Income, Veterans, Seniors, Single Parents, Fixed Income AND Any other people who qualify	2
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	MOST Jobs In our Community ARE Lower paying with A Large Part-time work force, Growing Retail Base offers Full time jobs with A slightly Higher pay we need Affordable Housing	1
Provision of Supportive Services	SUPPORT Services ARE offered Daily In Towns NORTH of US, Concord + Springville Residents Need Mobile Services - Motor Vehicle, Court Clerk	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	We Do NOT Have The Town Buildings To provide Shelters	5
Other (specify:)	Although Promised Years Ago, NO MTA Bus Service is Provided Here, Rural Transit Cannot provide Volunteers To staff A Van Here	4

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Philip Drozd

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Concord

Phone: 716-592-4946

E-Mail: CONCORD Town SUPERVISOR@gmail.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	NOT SURE OF THE NEED STATUS - BUT EVERYONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE WITH OR WITHOUT RENTAL ASSISTANCE	2
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	AFFORDABLE RENTALS - ESPECIALLY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS - IS LACKING IN THE TOWN	1
Provision of Supportive Services	TOWN RELIES ON COUNTY, STATE + PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THESE SERVICES	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	BUFFALO SHELTERS + RURAL OUTREACH ARE UTILIZED	4
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: MARTHA LIBROCK

Position: TOWN CLERK

Municipality: TOWN OF AURORA

Phone: 716-652-3280

E-Mail: TOWNCLERK@TOWNOF AURORA.COM

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Over the past 20 years the town has seen a shift from single family owned homes to more rental properties. Overall town residents' salaries are lower than averages. Being able to afford living expenses is more difficult due to inflation.	2 nd
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	The Town of Collins is very rural in nature outside of the Village of Gowanda. The wages of many Town Residents is quite low and home ownership is not viable for them. Preservation of affordable rent is essential.	1 st
Provision of Supportive Services	Town residents, on lower incomes, who are now being pressured with high inflation, are in need of additional assistance which in the past they did not need.	3 rd
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	NCS would be a good idea in the Village of Gowanda where there is a higher concentration of residents.	4 th
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Kenneth E. Martin

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Collins

Phone: (716) 597-8554

E-Mail: ken.martin@townofcollins.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Mobile Home Parks A larger Low-Income Family Base, Seniors, single family	1st
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Does not impact the Town	3RD
Provision of Supportive Services	Possibly more need for supportive services for low income residents	2ND
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	N/A	
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Earl Gingrich, Jr

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Macilla

Phone: 716-652-7293 ext 403 (716-310-7907 cell)

E-Mail: egingrich@townofmacilla.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Out of 4,713 Total occupied housing units within the Village of Lancaster, 1,382 of those are renter-occupied. This represents about 1/3 of the population of the Village of Lancaster. 1,369 households pay rent within the village, with the median being \$761.00. Renters make up a huge portion of Lancaster Village's population.	1
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	356 households have income that fell below the poverty level within the last 12 months. This also includes 13 senior households, and 177 family households.	2
Provision of Supportive Services	With 4,713 Total households within the Village of Lancaster; 20.6% of households have an income between \$35,000 and \$49,000. Within that, 447 family households only earned \$35,000-\$49,000 This is below the local median average income, which falls at \$54,875. 18.3% of those family households received SNAP benefits in 2019.	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	No data currently available to correctly asses this issue at the present time.	4

Other (specify:)		
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Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Lynne Ruda

Position: Mayor

Municipality: Village of Lancaster

Phone: 716-909-0082

E-Mail: lruda@lancatservillage.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	While Lackawanna is seeing growth in population and higher-end home sales, the media HH income is <\$40K, per capital \$22.2K, and 25.4% of residents are at the poverty level. Thus, there is a significant vulnerable population.	1
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	See above under TBA – same data points apply here also. As home sale prices continue to rise, so too are rents; often beyond the means of the most vulnerable. There need to be options for all.	2
Provision of Supportive Services	Preventive /coaching supportive services would be most desired – those which teach the most vulnerable how to improve budgeting, rental payment history, proactively seeking assistance, etc.	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	The Lackawanna Senior Center, nearly 2+ miles east of where the city's most vulnerable populations are located, is the only municipal facility available. Another option, perhaps adjacent to a fire hall or other community/parish facility could prove beneficial.	4
Other (specify:)	N/A	N/A

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Charles D. Clark

Position: Public Information Officer

Municipality: City of Lackawanna

Phone: 716-827-6475

E-Mail: chuck.clark@lackny.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
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4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)		
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Although we seem to have enough privately owned affordable housing, perhaps funds for renovations could help maintain these properties better.	moderate
Provision of Supportive Services	Supportive services for some of our low income residents, for example disabled veterans, that are being monitored appropriately from social service organizations.	moderate
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Geoffrey Hack

Position: Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Holland

Phone: 716-537-9443 ext 1

E-Mail: ghack@townofhollandny.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Important to provide the first month's rent, security deposit and electric account deposit for low income, veterans, seniors on a fixed income, single parent families and any others that qualify by the requirements.	3
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Affordable housing is lacking in our area. We are largely a 4 bedroom community; most island residents work off the island.	4
Provision of Supportive Services	Supportive services are offered daily in towns north & south of us. Grand Island residents can receive services on a very limited basis locally.	5
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	In emergency situations including rising water levels in the river, our Community Center, Golden Age Center and Welcome Center can serve as shelters. <u>Repairs are needed to Community Center & GAC.</u>	1
Other (specify): Family Justice Center: Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, sexual assault and dating violence	The need to service domestic violence in our area has continued to grow resulting in the recent opening of a satellite location for FJC in Buffalo. <u>There continues to be a need for services and staff.</u>	2

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: John C. Whitney, P.E.

Position: Town Supervisor

Municipality: Grand Island

Phone: 716-773-9600 EXT. 616

E-Mail: jwhitney@grand-island.ny.us

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households. Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS) laterals funding for foundations

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	While TBRA programs are important to providing families with subsidized income, there is a stronger need in the Town for the actual production of affordable housing (particularly for seniors) and preservation of our aging housing stock for families.	4
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Numerous affordable and aging homes and apartments in need of repairs throughout the Town, such as the LMI district of Lake Erie Beach where footings and foundations are the biggest issue.	1
Provision of Supportive Services	As a Southtowns community, the majority of supportive services, such as those for domestic abuse victims, are located in downtown Buffalo. There is a need for satellite locations in southern Erie County.	2
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	The Town of Evans has been more frequently experiencing flooding issues along shoreline, creeks and streams, at times displacing residents and bringing a greater need for temporary non-congregate emergency shelters.	3
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name:	William Smith
Position:	Director of Planning and Community Development
Municipality:	Town of Evans
Phone:	716-549-0945
E-Mail:	wsmith@townofevans.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	This would be important for low-income families who need assistance. Particularly ones with children who want to remain in the school district.	2
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Eden has a need for senior and low-income family housing/apartments.	1
Provision of Supportive Services	N/A	3
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	N/A	4
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Melissa Hartman

Position: Eden Town Supervisor

Municipality: Town of Eden

Phone: 716-992-3408 Ext. 121

E-Mail: mhartman@edenny.gov

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

HOME-ARP funds may be used to finance housing for very low-income households.

Examples of eligible housing activities include:

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Only if we can't get cheaper housing	2
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Desperately need Affordable middle class senior housing	1
Provision of Supportive Services	Unclear what this means	?
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	No need	Low
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Maureen Jerackas (for Mayor Peter Mercurio)

Position: Clerk - Treasurer

Municipality: Village of East Aurora

Phone: 716.652.6000 ext.218

E-Mail: Maureen.jerackas@east-aurora.ny.us (mayor@east-aurora.ny.us please send to both)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

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2. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
3. Provision of Supportive Services
4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)		1
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing		1
Provision of Supportive Services		1
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)		1
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Dale Kokanovich

Position: Executive Secretary / Director

Municipality: City of Tonawanda/ Tonawanda Housing Authority

Phone: 716-692-3555

E-Mail: dkokanovich@tonha.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

For the following eligible activities listed below, please describe why there is a need in your community and please indicate the level of priority for each activity listed by number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

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Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	No Need in Village	5
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	No Need in Village	5
Provision of Supportive Services	No Need in Village	5
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	No Need in Village – no facilities available.	5
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Jayne DeTine

Position: Village Clerk

Municipality: Village of Akron

Phone: 716-542-9636 ext. 200

E-Mail: jdetine@akronvillage.us

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

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4. Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter Units (NCS)

Eligible Activity	Description of need – Why Important?	Level of priority
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Mobile Home Parks A larger Low-Income Family Base, Seniors, single family	1st
Productions or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing	Does not impact the Town	3RD
Provision of Supportive Services	Possibly more need for supportive services for low income Residents	2ND
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS)	N/A	
Other (specify:)		

Thank you for completing this survey!

Please provide your information below in case we have any questions about your response.

Name: Earl Gingenich, Jr
Position: Town Supervisor
Municipality: Town of Macilla
Phone: 716-652-7293 ext 403 (716-310-7907 cell)
E-Mail: egingenich@townofmacilla.com

Attachment B

HOME-ARP Consultation Summary
Erie County HOME Consortium
May 6, 2022

To receive Erie County's \$3,413,700 HOME-ARP allocation from HUD, the County engaged in consultation activities with required organizations outlined in the HOME-ARP Notice (CPD-21-10), as well as sought feedback from Community Stakeholders and elected officials for insights towards serving the qualifying population within Erie County Consortium's geographic region.

Three Consultation meetings with Community Stakeholders were organized in partnership with the ACT Consortium, an adjacent HOME participating jurisdiction. The meetings were held virtually on March 17th, March 24th, and March 31st to garner feedback on how Erie County Consortium should use its allocation of funding. Attendees were presented with details regarding HOME-ARP qualifying populations, eligible activities, and the County's planning process. Then a follow up discussion regarding known gaps within the housing and shelter system and priorities for eligible activities. Attendees were then asked to complete a follow up survey. Additional Consultation interviews were also conducted with additional agencies to meet requirement of the Consultation Plan and to garner valuable feedback and insight to the population served.

Consultation Meeting #1 – March 17th, 2022

Notes from attending agencies:

- Erie County Department of Social Services –
 - Erie DSS provides emergency assistance and shelter placements to homeless and low-income residents presenting to the County.
 - The majority of homeless population within the region is for single white males.
 - There is currently a shortage of shelter and affordable housing options for low income people in the County, especially for those with mental health and substance use barriers.
 - Matt Urban Hope House was referenced as a good model for low barrier shelter for women and families.
 - Homeless Individuals with severe mental illness not appropriate for conventional shelters and often return to homelessness.
 - Limited shelter space requires DSS to rely on hotel/motel vouchers as a temporary shelter placement. These locations are often far away and do not offer case management.
 - Seasonal Winter shelters offer a much-needed increase of regional shelter capacity that is needed.
 - The State is requiring local shelters to adhere to operation and building certifications that will limit funding to existing shelter who do not meet certifications.
 - Lack of transitional housing in the region has left a gap in shelter services.
 - Approximately provide 350 unique individuals shelter services a year
 - Large shelter need for singles and large families

- Belmont Housing Resources
 - Belmont provides housing counseling, develops affordable housing, and provides Housing Choice Vouchers for the County.
 - Belmont voucher waitlist is currently closed with a 10-year waitlist.
 - Increasing rent throughout the region is creating additional barrier to affordable housing in the region.
 - Supportive Services are essential for keeping people housed.
 - TBRA would be a good eligible activity but it would end after 10 year, compared to a lifetime subsidy.
 - Highest need should focus on single white males with severe mental illness and at-risk of homelessness. Families should also be prioritized for supportive services to prevent homelessness.
- WNY Veterans Housing Coalition
 - WNYVHC provides supportive housing for homeless and low-income veterans throughout the region.
 - Majority of veterans they work with are male but female veterans are increase for needed services.
 - Veterans have access many housing and supportive services in the region.
 - Biggest challenge is keeping people housing due to substance abuse issues and mental health.

Consultation Meeting #2 – March 24th, 2022

Notes from attending agencies:

- Tonawanda Housing Authority
 - THA serves the City of Tonawanda and oversees 214 family units and 50 senior affordable units. THA doesn't not receive federal funding.
 - They never have enough 1 bedroom units with people calling everyday.
 - Currently there is a 6-12 month waitlist for 2-bedroom units and a 3 year waitlist for 1-bedroom units.
 - There is a need for senior housing (1 bedroom units) in the City of Tonawanda that is ADA compliant. Many of the senior units THA offer are not ADA compliant, due to being grandfathered in.
- Rental Assistance Corporation
 - RAC manages 5200 housing choice vouchers for Buffalo and Erie County
 - Difficult to find housing even with housing choice voucher due to lack of affordable housing.
 - Would also prioritize housing counseling, housing search programs, and landlord outreach project
 - RAC will be opening their waitlist shortly but will close the list for another 4-5 years.
 - No specific population should be prioritized
- Belmont Housing

- Regional Rental prices have increased 20% in the past 2 years. Even people with vouchers are having trouble finding apartments due to increasing prices and discrimination against people with vouchers.
- Larger families are hard to house due to discrimination and finding appropriately sized apartments
- In the outer-ring suburbs, challenges housing those who are couch surfing, and have poor rental histories
- Would like to see rehab/loan program for small landlord to increase quality of affordable housing.
- Housing Opportunities Made Equal
 - HOME provides advocacy on housing issues, investigates cases of housing discrimination in the County, and provides housing search assistance.
 - #1 issue is the lack of affordable housing
 - HOME sees increasing cases of income discrimination, including section 8 vouchers
 - Local landlords create additional barriers to housing including background/credit checks and proof of income.
 - As affordable housing goes down, Complaints of housing discrimination goes up.
- Erie County Department of Mental Health
 - DMH provides mental health housing and supportive housing vouchers for those with severe mental illness in the community.
 - Justice involved individuals present and additional obstacle to obtain housing.
 - Additional risk of homelessness due to disability discrimination is still happening
 - Their department receives more phone calls as an alternative to Section 8.
 - Receive 800-1000 applications a year for housing, while only placing a small percent.
- Homeless Alliance of WNY
 - CoC Lead Agency, Management area's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
 - With ESG-CV funds ending, HOME-ARP TBRA could extend the life of some of those rental assistance programs.
 - Increase of affordable housing with support services attached
 - Those most vulnerable should be prioritized
 - Supports the creation of a damage fund agencies can utilize for landlord mediation strategy
- Child and Family Service
 - Manage a 36 bed domestic violence shelter, Rapid Rehousing Programs and Transition Housing
 - Serves about 1500 unique individuals a year
 - Lack of safe affordable housing is a challenge for victims of DV to reach housing stability
 - There is an increase risk for those with substance use disorders
- Family Promise
 - 6 family shelter in Buffalo

- Larger low income families face unique challenges where certain landlord screen application for housing out, due to children
- Supportive Services are needed for families looking for affordable housing
- Landlord engagement assistance is needed
- Limited housing opportunities even with vouchers
- Barrier to affordable housing: family size, bad credit, inconsistent income, application fees
- There is an overall lack of affordable housing
- Restoration Society Inc.
 - RSI manages 14 housing contract between the City of Buffalo and Erie County, Provided mental health services, and operates the season extreme weather shelter, Code Blue.
 - There is a clear struggle to find available units in the region.
 - Moratorium put a strain on available units, landlords, and tenants.
 - There is currently a 27 person list of individuals hard to house due to mental illness and substance abuse
 - Not enough shelter sites and too many shelter not compliant with state regulations
- Salvation Army
 - Salvation Army manages family shelter and rapid rehousing program.
 - There is a need for more supportive housing
 - Salvation Army is currently developing additional shelter and apartment space at their downtown town Buffalo location

Consultation Meeting #3 – March 31st, 2022

Notes from Attending Agencies:

- Salvation Army
 - Salvation Army of Buffalo serves everyone within the County.
 - Operate a 76 bed shelter for families and have been at full capacity for 6 months
 - Shelter has been at full capacity since state eviction moratoriums have lifted.
 - Stays in shelter have become longer due to lack of affordable housing.
 - Barriers to obtaining stable housing for families staying in shelter including mental health, no income, substance abuse
 - Salvation Army also operates a rapid rehousing program but lack of affordable housing creates the location of affordable rental housing for a time limited voucher difficult.
 - Salvation army is currently developing 160 units of affordable housing at their Buffalo location.
 - Supportive Service are needed to overcome mental health and substance abuse related barriers.
 - Salvation Army also has a 'Pathways of Hope' program that provides case management services to those in shelter but needs to be expanded. Currently has a 20-25 person waitlist.
- People Inc.

- Provides supportive services and housing to WNY residents with development disabilities.
- 516 person waitlist for their tax credit housing (50%-80% AMI)
- 799 person waitlist 50% AMI for HUD housing
- From market studies done on all their affordable housing project, they never have a capture rate more than 4% indicating the incredible need for affordable housing in the region.
- TBRA
- 98% of current tenants were able to obtain rental assistance from the state who fell behind on rent during the pandemic. Those that didn't, People Inc. has gone into payment plan with them. TBRA could potentially benefit this population for back rent.
- There remains a high need for supervised apartments through OPWDD for Intellectual disability population. 360 people with idd are currently on the emergency need list. Many are living with parents or in substandard housing.
- Belmont Housing Inc.
 - Belmont provide Housing Counseling, Local vendor for housing choice vouchers in WNY and develops affordable housing in WNY.
 - Region has a general lack of quality affordable housing for those 50%-80% AMI and below.
 - Characteristics of housing instability and greatest risk of homelessness coincides with high rental burden that should be considered when defining eligible 'Other Populations'.
 - This need will grow if pending foreclosure crisis due to the pandemic.
 - 1200 person waiting list to get into a section 8 run housing program.
 - Transitioning homeless to more stable situations is a continuous barrier.

Additional Consultation

- Lackawanna Municipal Housing Authority -phone call – April 7th, 2022
 - LMHA manages 396 family units and 94 senior citizen units
 - Tenant are a mixture of incomes, employment, and even previously homeless
 - 1 bedroom units are the most sought after
 - There is currently a 6 month waitlist for housing with the list ranging from 60-100 people.
 - Anticipating a surge in homelessness due to private landlords evicting due to nonpayment of rent
 - TBRA would be LMHAs highest priority to cover about 150 residents who fell behind on rent due to eviction moratorium.
 - LMHA did apply for state eviction prevention funds (ERAP) with very lite success rate (4 of 70 applications)
- Rural Outreach Center (ROC) – April 14th, 2022

- ROC provides extreme weather shelter, organizes a backpack/boots program for children, and provide case management services for low income families and individuals. Provide an estimates 200 families and adults on an annual basis
- Estimated 45-50 thousand people living in poverty in southern WNY; 8500 are estimated to have no access to transportation; Claims domestic violence occurs at high rate in rural areas due to isolation and lack of support network
- Unmet housing and service needs include transportation, development of affordable housing and services and mental health services.
- Old housing stock in rural area creates gaps in housing and substandard housing options
- Affordable housing in rural community mostly consists of mobile home parks
- ROC, DSS, and local food pantries are the primary resources for low income individuals and families in rural areas of WNY
- Poverty in rural areas is considered 'invisible' compared to poverty in urban areas. Characteristics of housing insecurity in rural areas include single parents, multiple children, unemployed, and may be suffering
- from a disability such as mental health or drug addiction.
- Priority should focus on development of affordable housing, then supportive services, then TBRA, the development of shelter
- Major health disparities, lack of transportation, aging mobile home parks, and mental health serve desert continues to be a concern in rural WNY communities.
- Feedmore WNY – April 19th, 2022
 - Local food pantries household utilization has fluctuated since the beginning of the pandemic. There was a large 22% jump in utilization during the 2020 year. Since 2017 there has been a net 7% increase in local food pantry utilization located in Erie County Consortium geography. Here are household utilization numbers for pantry located within Erie County Consortium boundaries:
 - 2017: 52,360
 - 2018: 51,277 (-2%)
 - 2019: 52,412 (+2%)
 - 2020: 64,072 (+22%)
 - 2021: 54,165 (-15%)

Mayors & Supervisors – Survey

A survey regarding HOME-ARP eligible activities and qualifying population was sent to 37 mayors and supervisors within the Erie County Consortium, requesting feedback and to prioritize activities according to community. 19 municipalities responded with a majority prioritizing the development of Rental Housing stating the general lack of affordable housing in the second and

third ring suburbs of Erie County. Second was TBRA, then Supportive Services, and the creation of Non-Congregate shelter was prioritized last. A summary of the survey results is below.

City/Town/Village	TBRA	Rental Housing	Supportive Services	NCS
City of Lackawanna	1	2	3	4
City of Tonawanda	1	1	1	1
Town of Aurora	2	1	3	4
Town of Clarence	1	2	3	na
Town of Collins	2	1	3	4
Town of Concord	2	1	3	4
Town of Eden	2	1	3	4
Town of Evans	4	1	2	3
Town of Grand Island	2	3	4	1
Town of Hamburg	na	1	1	na
Town of Holland	na	1	2	na
Town of Lancaster	3	2	1	4
Town of Marilla	1	3	2	na
Town of West Seneca	1	3	2	4
Village of Akron	4	4	4	4
Village of Alden	na	2	na	na
Village of Depew	1	2	3	4
Village of East Aurora	2	1	na	na
Village of Lancaster	1	2	3	4
Village of Springville	2	1	3	4
Average score (Low = high priority)	1.9	1.8	2.6	3.5

Overall, there is a demonstrated desire for the development of affordable housing from leaders within the Erie County Consortium. Many responses did not see the benefit or have the facilities in mind to start a new homeless shelter. TBRA was also ranked highly as a method to relieve concentration of poverty struggling to keep up with rising rental prices.

Andrew Dearing
Senior Housing Specialist

Attachment C

Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARP") appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. These funds were allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the "HOME-ARP" program.

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Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include:

- (1) development and support of affordable housing;
- (2) tenant-based rental assistance;
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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

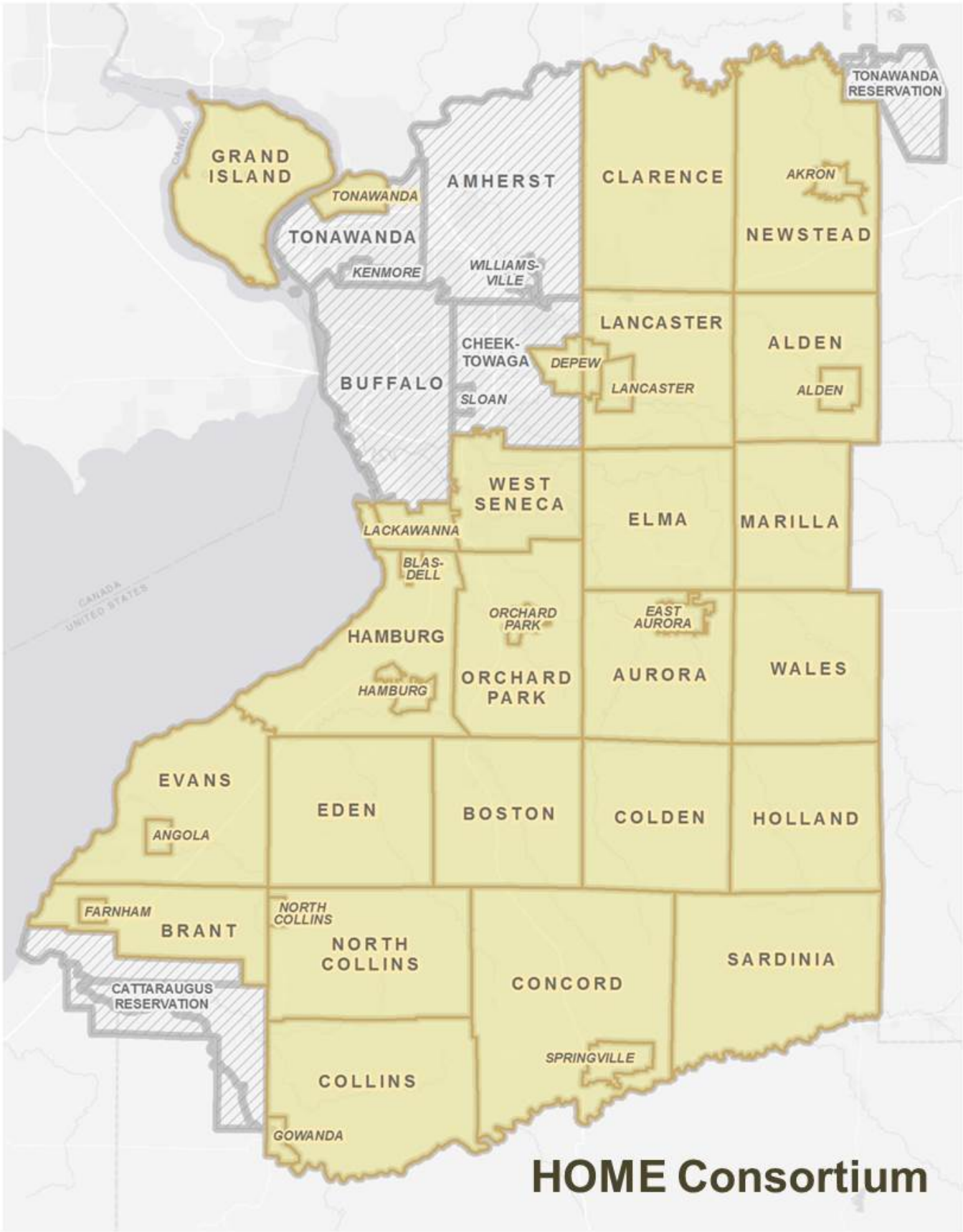
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P:+1(716)858-6927 | F:+1(716)858-1732

Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Christine Slocum

What agency do you represent? *

Erie County Department of Mental Health Single Point of Access

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☒ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

christine.slocum@erie.gov

What is your work phone number? *

17168588539

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

	1 (Highest Priority)	2	3	4 (Lowest Priority)
Acquisition and Development of non-congregate shelter units.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development and Support of Affordable Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

People experiencing serious mental illness and homelessness or housing instability and seeking residential services. Approximately 1500-2000 people per year seek services.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Insufficient number of appropriately sized units of adequate housing quality standards, in particular: studios, one bedroom apartments, and single residency occupancy. Many units in the city of Buffalo are categorically excluded from Fair Housing protections; many units that are not excluded do not experience consequences for violations of legal income inclusion ordinances.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Insufficient number of units eligible for subsidies; insufficient number of subsidies for people who require rental stipend assistance in order to have housing stability.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Office of Mental Health Supportive Housing, Continuum of Care supportive housing, Section 8, BMHA, Tonawanda Housing Authority. Despite large numbers of agencies, there are still far more people who need assistance than the capacity of these organizations to assist.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Rents that exceed salaries, lack of childcare impacting ability to take on paid work, disabilities that impact ability to take on paid work, social security income insufficient to pay rent.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Housing.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

Homeless Alliance publishes an annual report, and LISC published a report fairly recently.

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Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

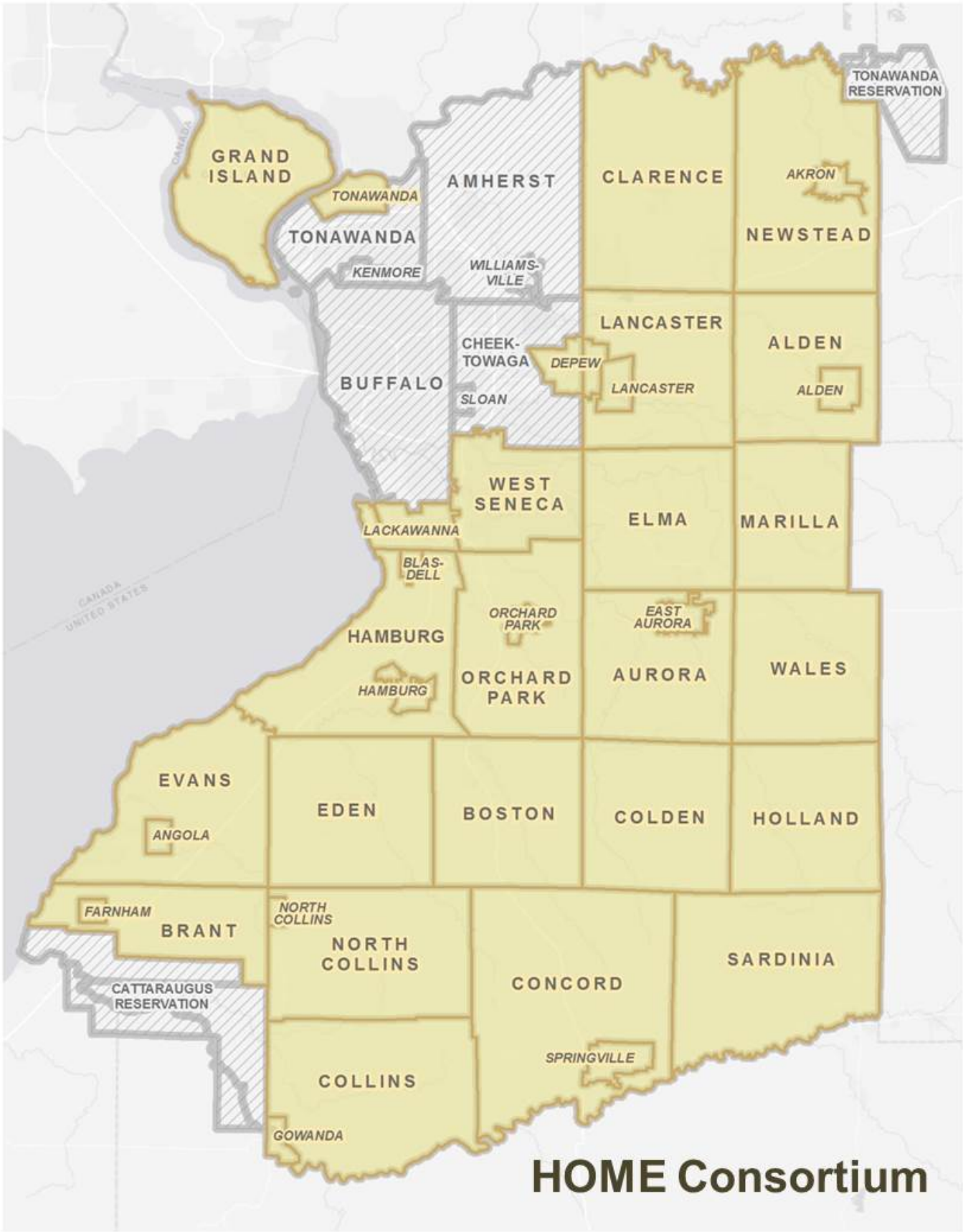
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Ryan Trubits

What agency do you represent? *

Homeless Alliance of WNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

☒ CoC/HMIS Lead

☐ Public Housing Authority

☐ Fair Housing Agency

☐ Domestic Violence Agency

☐ Homeless Service Provider

☐ Veterans Service Provider

☐ Disability Service Provider

☐ Local Government

☐ Other:

What is your email? *

trubits@wnyhomeless.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-970-4631

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

HAWNY serves all people experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness in Erie County. This includes youth, adults, individuals, and families experiencing or fleeing domestic violence.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

There is a lack of affordable housing for low-income people. As a result, it is taking Rapid Rehousing agencies more time to search for properties. In addition, the properties that we are housing our clients are poor quality. It is in the best interest of the Consortium to work with landlords on rehabbing homes and renting these units to low income people. Another solution to this problem, is to promote shared housing as an option. The Consortium could incentivize landlords to work with rapid rehousing programs to move in several people experiencing homelessness into one unit.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Landlords are asking clients to pay application fees, complete background checks, credit reports, and put down several months of rent. This is shrinking the eligibility pool and it is a discriminatory practice. Many agencies are struggling to place people because their income is limited and it is not sustainable for them to move into a unit without employment. This contradicts the housing first approach.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

211, emergency shelters (Buffalo City Mission, Harbor House), coordinated entry, and prevention funds

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Many of our clients struggle with chronic health, substance use, and mental health. These struggles impact their ability to pay their utilities and rent while also maintaining employment.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Providing subsidized housing in a short period of time. Most individuals reside in a shelter for over a month before they are placed. Rapid Rehousing can only help so many people in a month and they must give priority to the most vulnerable and chronically homeless.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

The HAWNY website has our HMIS data readily available

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

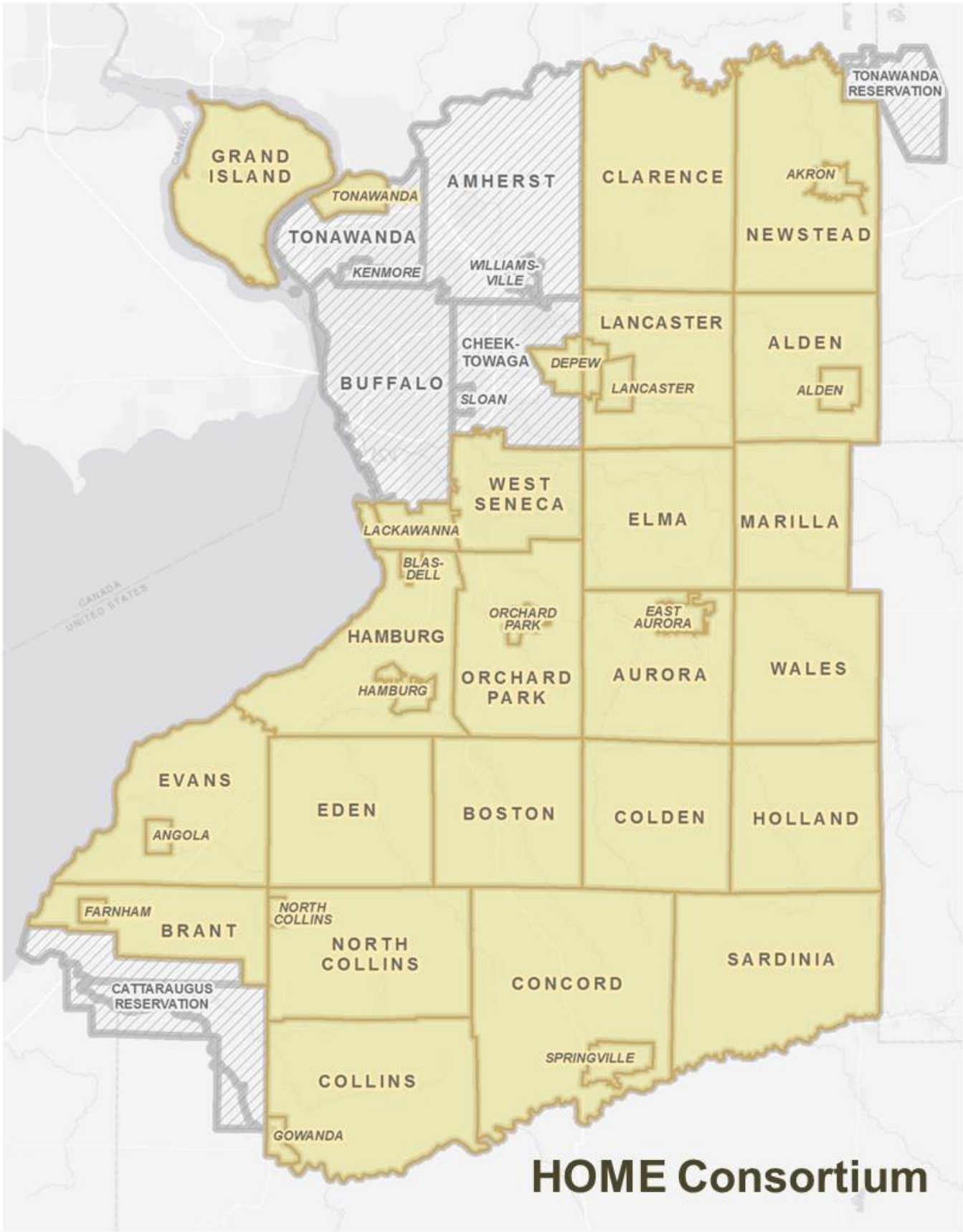
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Dale Kokanovich

What agency do you represent? *

Tonawanda Housing Authority (City) NYSDHCR

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☒ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

dkokanovich@tonha.org

What is your work phone number? *

7166923555

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

City of Tonawanda, but we get applicants from all over Erie and Niagara Counties.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Simply not enough units in to offer for rent.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

The gap between emergency shelter and income-based housing. There seems to not be enough resources (\$\$) to move someone from homelessness to income based housing

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

211 is used by our office every day.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Lack of consistent income.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Knowledge of what is currently available. Financial support post covid for unpaid rent (ERAP)

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

Not aware of any

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

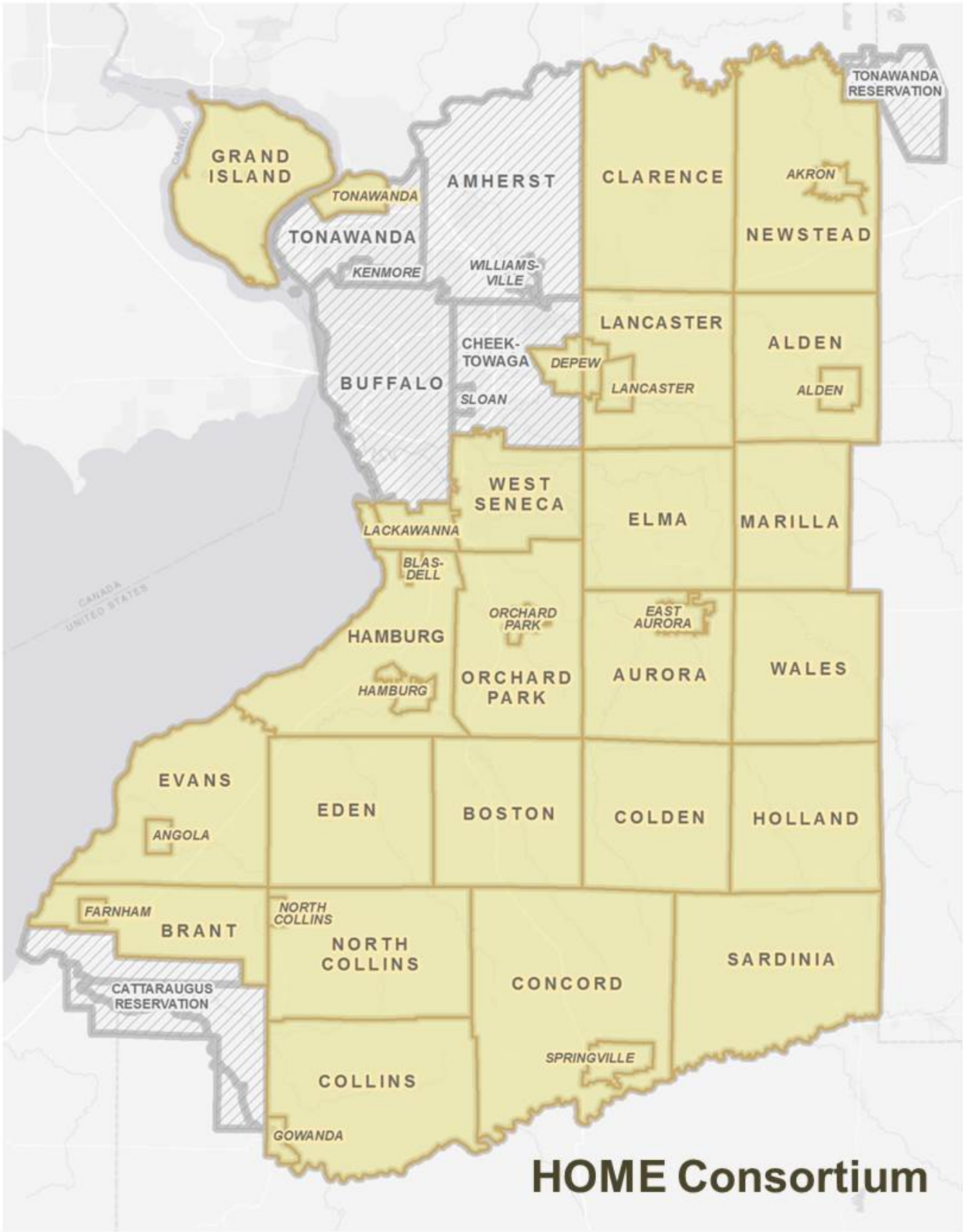
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Kexin Ma

What agency do you represent? *

Homeless Alliance of WNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☒ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

kexinma@wnyhomeless.org

What is your work phone number? *

7168531101*107

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

	1 (Highest Priority)	2	3	4 (Lowest Priority)
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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

There are approx. 4000-5000 people in Erie county experienced homeless a year. In the consortium area, around 160 people recorded in HMIS experienced homeless last year.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

I would estimate at least 100 people in the consortium experienced homelessness could be benefit from subsidized affordable housing. Majority of people experiencing homelessness are singles. Shared Housing Model has been proven to work in some other community. It increase the affordability as well as meeting clients' social needs, avoiding isolation. It will be interesting to test that out in Erie. Supportive Services are valuable no matter what models is being used if we are prioritizing the people who are most in need.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

What people need is housing, not shelter. But housing resources are limited and it created the temporary need for shelter. The best solution to this is increase housing affordability and numbers. There are situational homeless clients, those are who needed the shelters. Majority of the clients in shelters are not just situational. They need at minimum short term assistance to get back on their feet. Shallow subsidy like the State Rental Supplement program will work very well with majority of the population. On the other hand, shelter is not just a site. All the services and operation cost need to be considered as well as its long term stability.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

please refer to Housing Inventory Chart.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Affordable, safe housing is the #1 priority. We are facing extreme challenge of placing people in housing. Other things are a lot cheaper and without housing, there is no where to use the voucher or services. But if there could be a small set of funding to provide people services, that would ensure clients are more stable and connected to resources/treatments that are needed.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

Point in time and annual report is coming out soon(maybe April). Note yet available.

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

--

Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

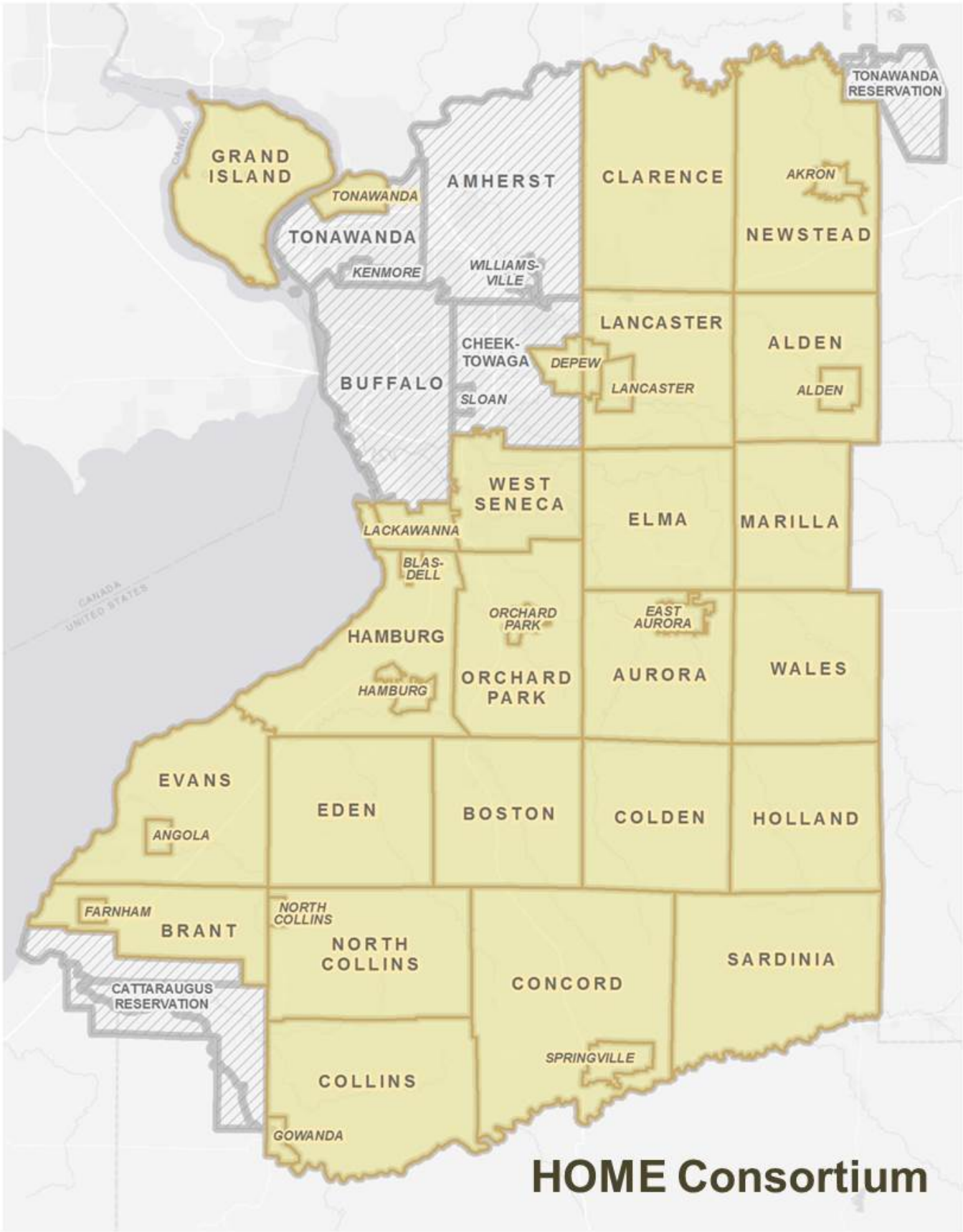
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Luanne Firestone

What agency do you represent? *

Family Promise of WNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

luanne.firestone@fpwny.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-771-3007

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

We serve around 40 homeless families/year. Some of them in the past resided and wish to go back to the Erie County Consortium regional zones.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Our shelter is totally full, all the time. We need to get families out of shelter. We have a backlog because families WITH jobs, WITH Section 8, WITH Rapid Rehousing just cannot find affordable housing. So families who are ready to leave are stuck in shelter and there are a lot of other families that we need to get in here to serve. I think the number one priority is working with landlords to offer incentives and insurance for taking a risk on homeless families.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Not enough affordable housing! Number one. I have heard there is not enough shelter, but this year will be a homeless pandemic following the lifting of the moratorium on evictions. I would be strategic about building up shelters which, one this pandemic subsides, cannot stay full. For example, ECDSS has recommended to us personally that they do not need another family shelter in Erie County, although on our call they said they need all kinds of shelter.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Rapid Rehousing and Section 8 are the two most helpful programs for our clients right now.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Lots of back-rent owed and no way to catch up.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Rental and employment support.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

I cannot think of any right now.

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- Experiencing homelessness
- At risk of homelessness
- Fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Other populations with high risk of housing instability (including households that are low-income and highly cost-burdened; that have moved two or more times in the last 60 days; and that are living in a hotel/motel)

The purpose of this survey is to garner feedback from stakeholders and community members on how Erie County and Amherst should use its allocation of HOME-ARP funds.

If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

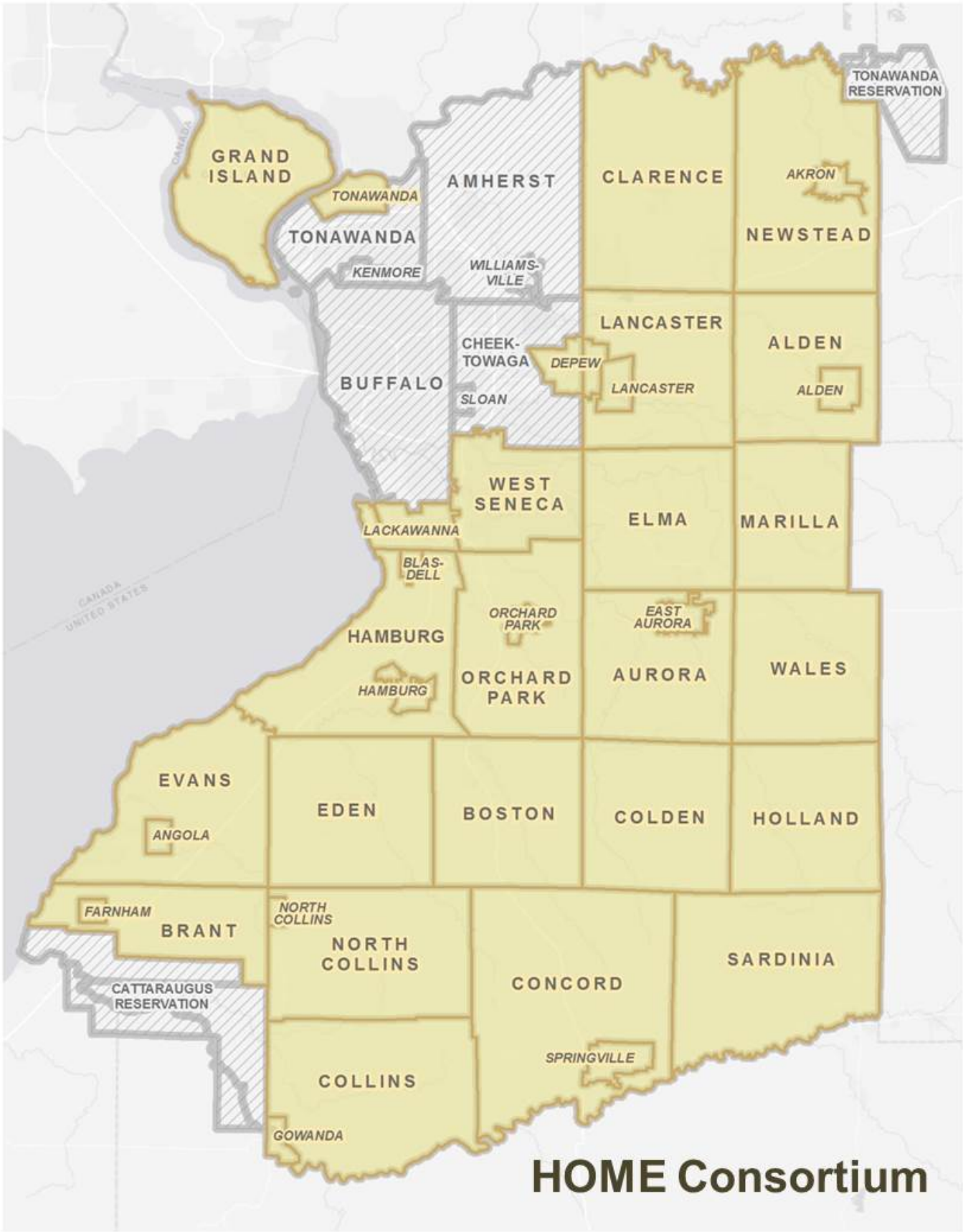
Erie County | Environment & Planning

95 Franklin St., 1063 | Buffalo, NY 14202

P:+1(716)858-6927 | F:+1(716)858-1732

Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

John McMahon

What agency do you represent? *

Rental Assistance Corp. of Buffalo

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☒ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

jmc@racbny.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-882-0063 ext. 122

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

	1(Highest Priority)	2	3	4 (Lowest Priority)
Acquisition and Development of non-congregate shelter units.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development and Support of Affordable Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

Providing Section 8 HCV rental assistance to over 5,000 families in Erie County

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

lack of safe, decent affordable housing, funds for security deposits, application fees

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

lack of safe decent affordable housing units

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARP") appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. These funds were allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the "HOME-ARP" program.

Local HOME-ARP Allocation:

Erie County Consortium – \$3,442,399 (Akron, Alden, Angola, Aurora, Boston, Brant, Clarence, Colden, Collins, Concord, East Aurora, Eden, Elma, Evans, Farnham, Gowanda, Grand Island, Holland, Lackawanna, Lancaster (incl. half of Depew), Marilla, Newstead, North Collins, Orchard Park, Sardinia, Springville, Tonawanda (City), Wales, West Seneca, Hamburg)

Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include:

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- (3) provision of supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, child care, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental applications, and rent assistance); and
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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

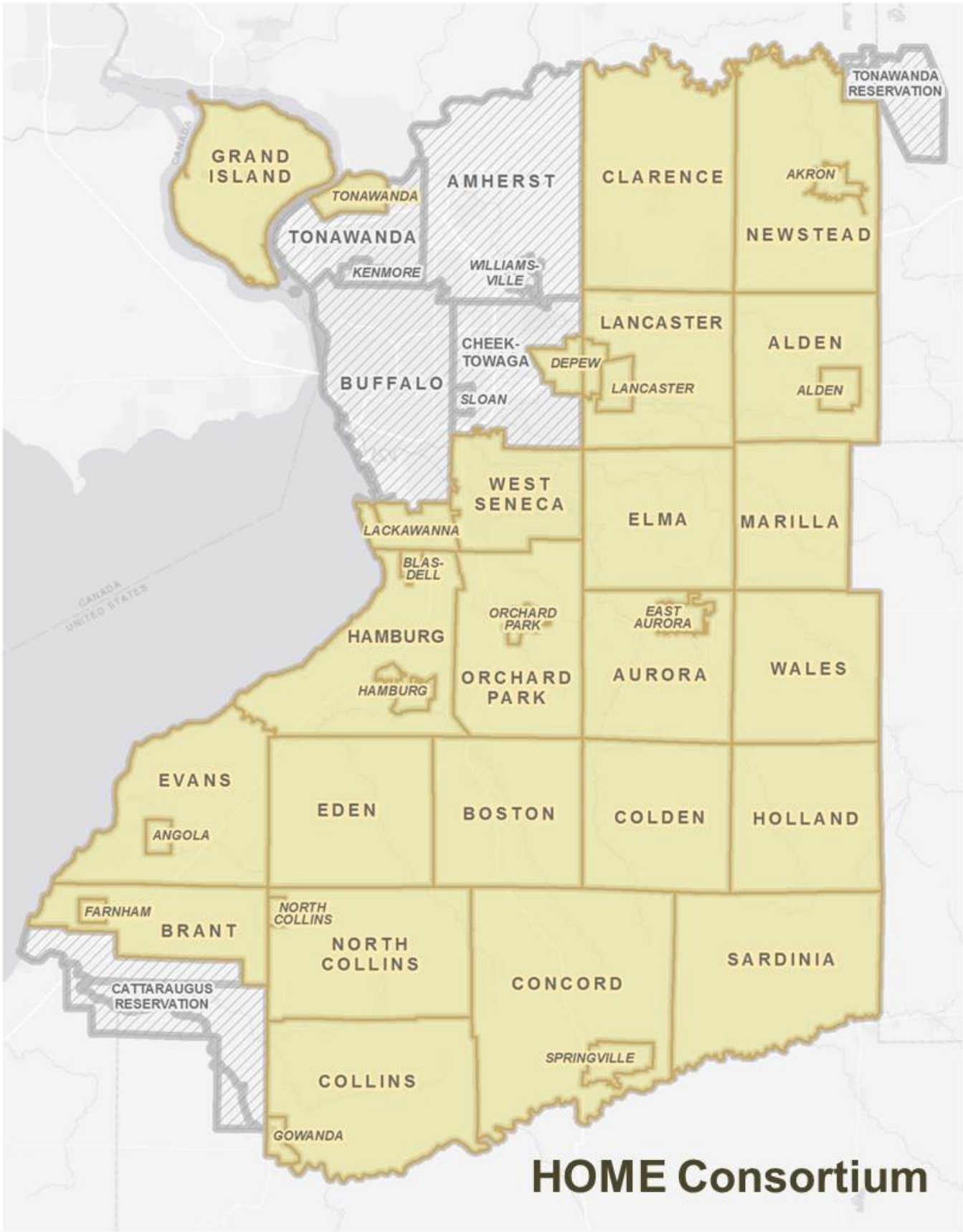
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Dan Szewc

What agency do you represent? *

DSS

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☒ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☒ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

daniel.szewc@erie.gov

What is your work phone number? *

7168588720

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

All of Erie County

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Affordable permanent housing for both singles and families

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Single men and women in shelter placements

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Many small agencies doing similar work but lack of coordinated network and effort to know what services are provided by whom.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Affordable housing and/or lack of programs to assist with rent.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

affordable rent/ subsidy programs and mental health programs

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

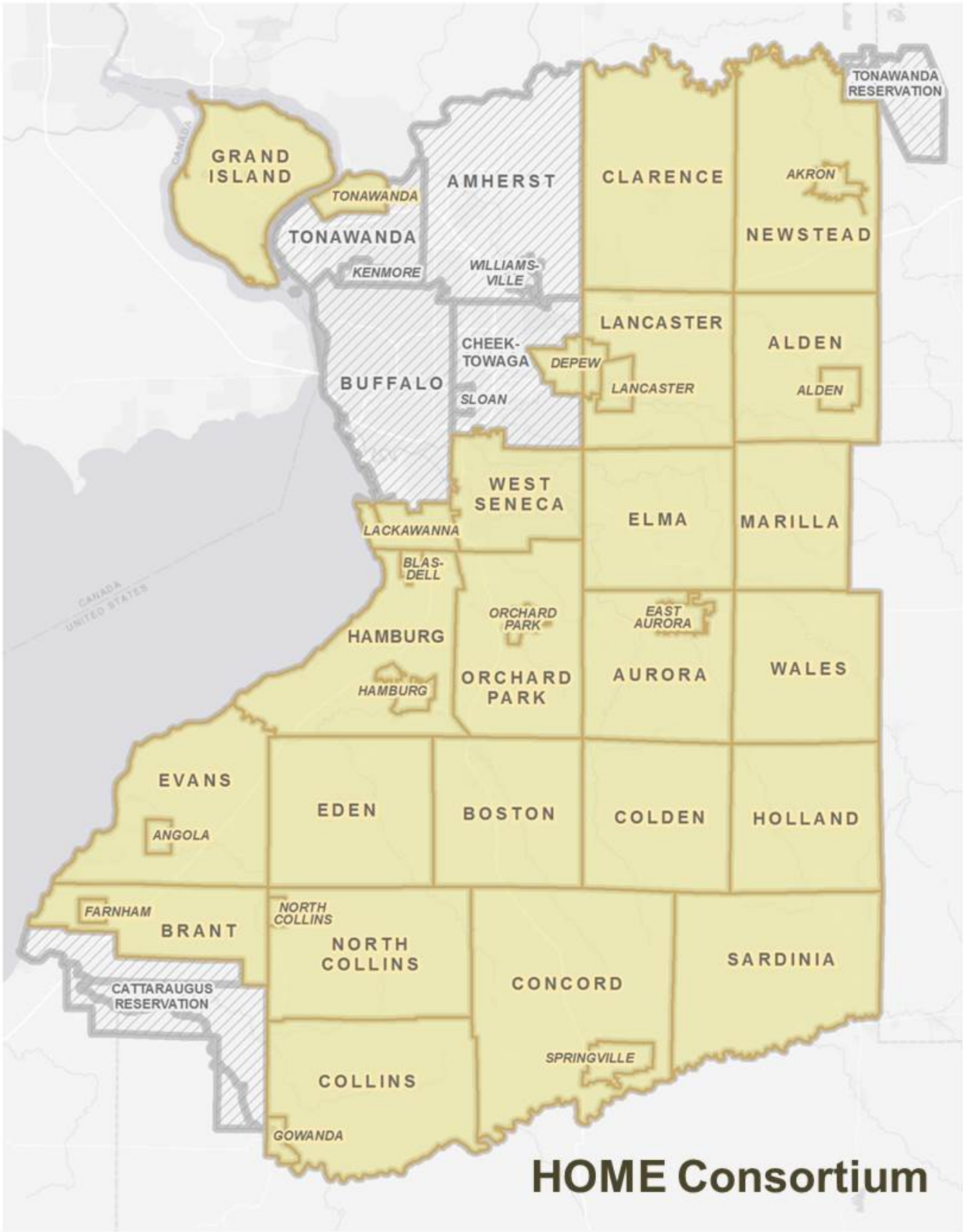
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Rhonda Frederick

What agency do you represent? *

Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☒ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

Rfrederick@people-inc.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-817-7426

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

Approximately 30,000 individuals with an intellectual/developmental disability

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Very long wait list for certified group homes and lack of affordable accessible units

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Accessible and affordable

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Individual I/DD agencies supported by OPWDD

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Affordable rental units, certified (24/7) support, on bus routes

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Safe affordable independent living, certified housing

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

OPWDD has a substantial amount of information available

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

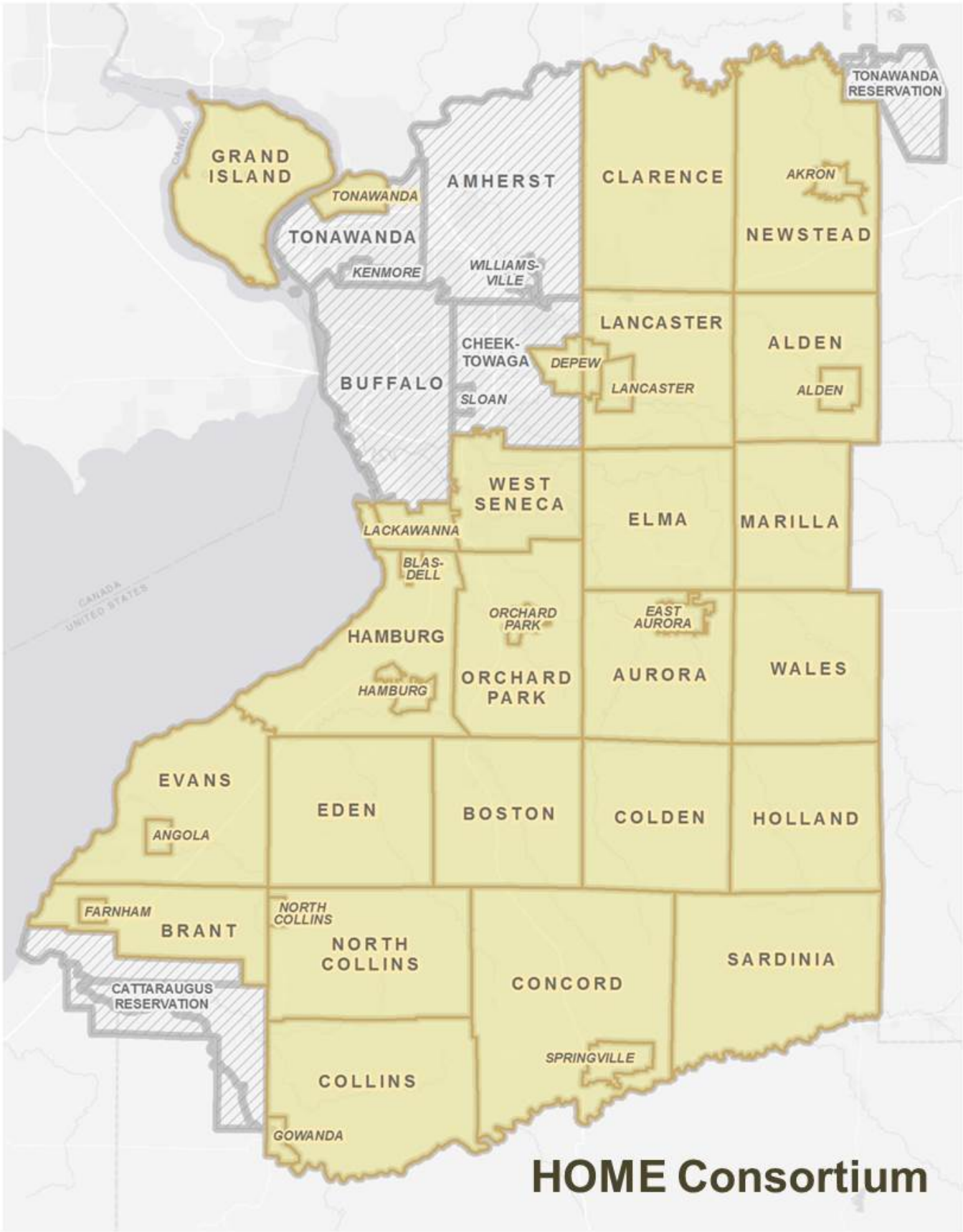
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Jean Bennett

What agency do you represent? *

Restoration Society Inc.

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

jbenett@rsiwny.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-832-2141 ext. 219

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

Serve all of Erie County, over 2000 unique individuals annually through Housing & Homeless Services

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Affordable Housing and support services

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Not enough permanent shelter space. Unable to get licensed, approved shelters.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Code Blue/Code 19 Shelters are serving a large number of people and trying to provide resources and coordinated entry.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Unable to pay increasing rents.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Shelter Space that is able to provide Resources. Affordable, low barrier housing. Housing for the difficult to serve.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

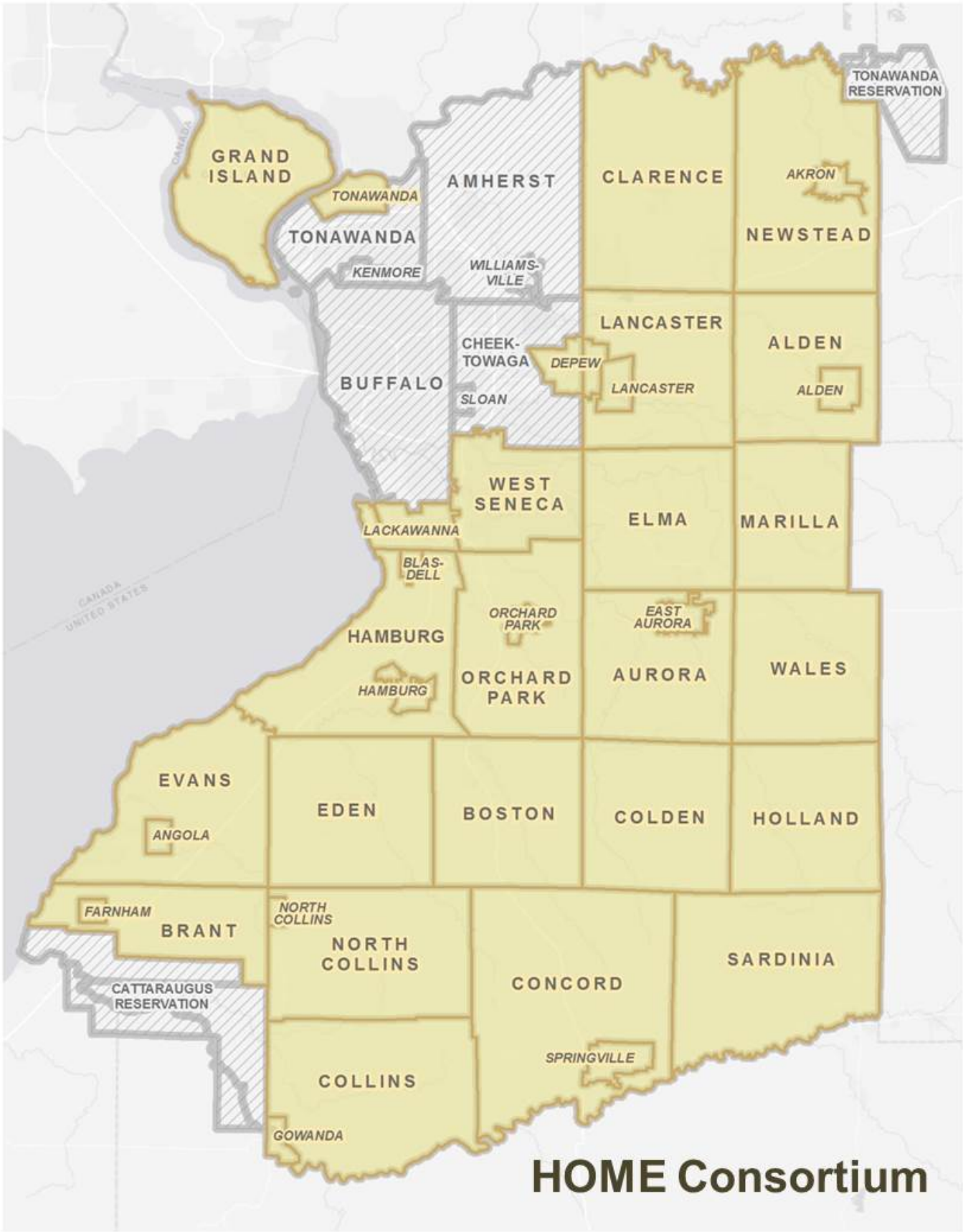
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Meg Honan

What agency do you represent? *

HAWNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *



CoC/HMIS Lead



Public Housing Authority



Fair Housing Agency



Domestic Violence Agency



Homeless Service Provider



Veterans Service Provider



Disability Service Provider



Local Government



Other:

What is your email? *

honan@wnyhomeless.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-919-4289

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

CoC lead agency-works with all service providers in erie county

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

We need a place for the hard to house population to live-a small stand alone program with 24 hour supports and security. A place for those with histories of arson, sexual offenses.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

well besides the lack of affordable housing and shelters, we need the above

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

There is Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Transitional Housing, and several area shelters. The problem is the lack of affordable housing as well as limited resources for this population.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

trouble paying rent, overcrowding, moving frequently, couch surfing, lack of utilities

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

wrap around support services, especially in the initial housing phase. People that experience homelessness may have a hard time adjusting to that housing placement or may feel isolated.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

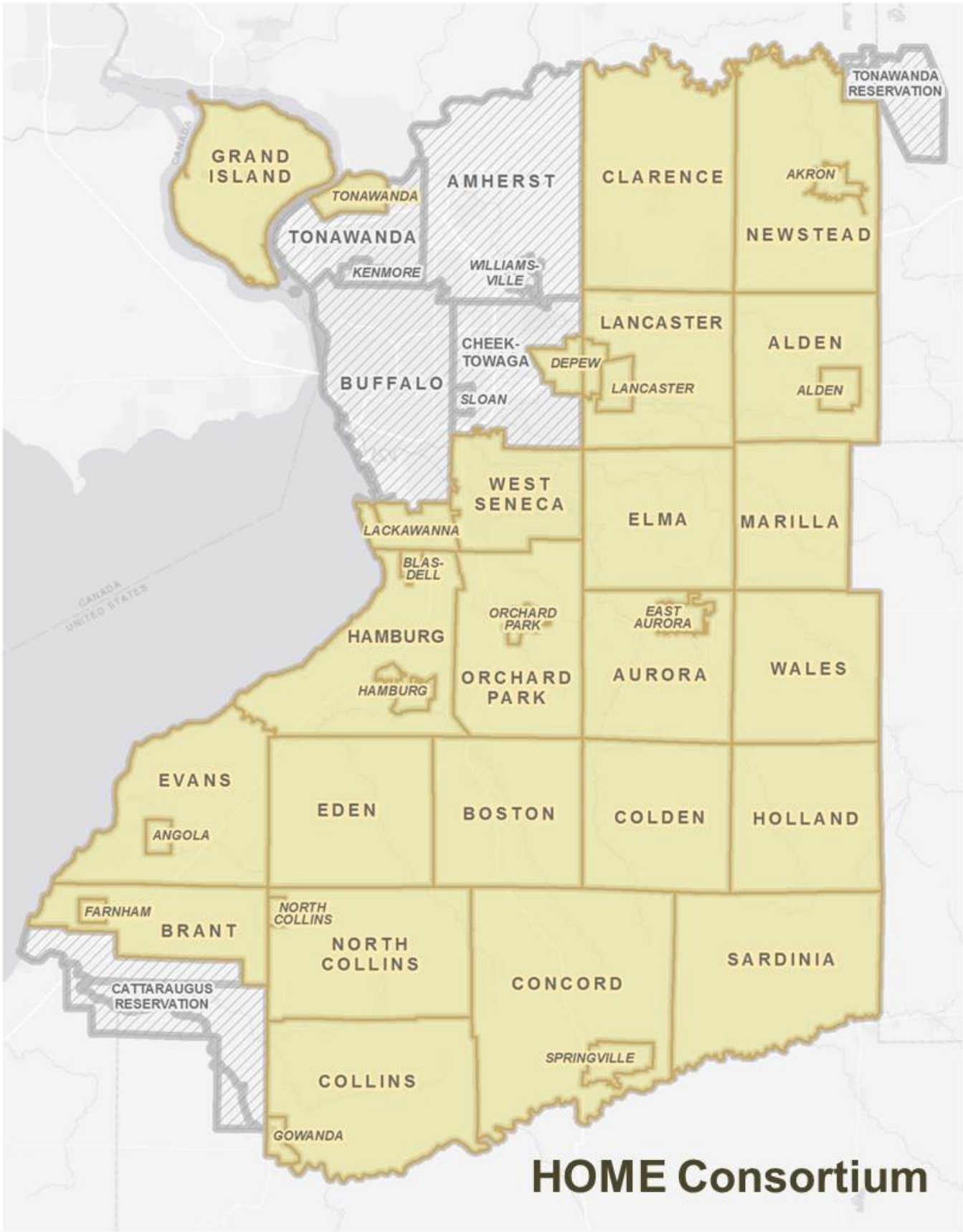
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Virginia Eddy

What agency do you represent? *

Erie County DSS

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☒ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

virginia.eddy@erie.gov

What is your work phone number? *

716-858-2912

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

All eligible homeless individuals and families within Erie County (THA)

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Not enough shelter space; the current rate of intake is beyond what our shelter capacity can handle and there are many individuals and families in the motels, which are often at capacity themselves. Doubling up in motels is not ideal for many reasons. There are no adequate facilities to address individuals with severe mental health issues, our current shelter network is not equipped for appropriately serving this population.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

There are not enough shelter spaces; not enough affordable housing (especially for single individuals relying on a TA grant- this is often not enough for even a rooming house). For individuals who do identify available housing that falls within the TA guidelines, there are real concerns about the safety and habitability of these houses/rooms.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

THA (DSS), RSI, Belmont, etc.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Rents are not affordable, resulting in longer shelter placements.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Affordable housing (within TA and SSI guidelines) for both individuals and larger families; increased shelter capacity that will adhere to OTDA's stringent certification requirements.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

DSS maintains intake/placements data reports on a regular basis.

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- Fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
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The purpose of this survey is to garner feedback from stakeholders and community members on how Erie County and Amherst should use its allocation of HOME-ARP funds.

If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

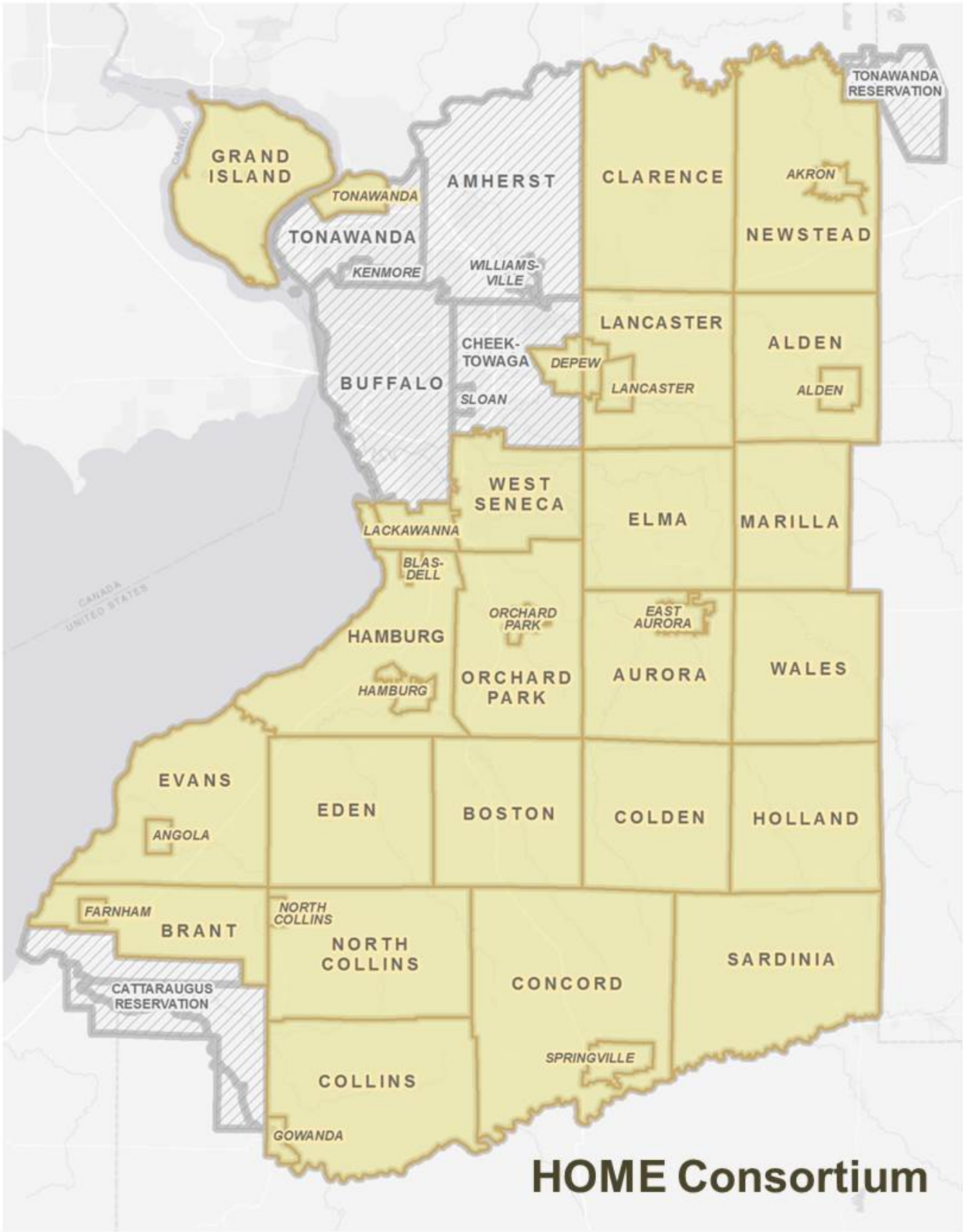
Erie County | Environment & Planning

95 Franklin St., 1063 | Buffalo, NY 14202

P:+1(716)858-6927 | F:+1(716)858-1732

Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Concetta Ferguson

What agency do you represent? *

People Inc

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☒ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☒ Other: Senior Housing

What is your email? *

Cferguson@people-inc.org

What is your work phone number? *

17168177488

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

	1 (Highest Priority)	2	3	4 (Lowest Priority)
Acquisition and Development of non-congregate shelter units.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development and Support of Affordable Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of Supportive Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

800 + Seniors 62 and older

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

based on our waitlist-safe and affordable housing, access to public transportation

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

RAC, Section 8. HUD 202 housing programs that have existing vacancies

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

homelessness and lack of support services resources

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

to meet income requirements

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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Google Forms

Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARP") appropriated \$5 billion to communities across the U.S. to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. These funds were allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the "HOME-ARP" program.

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Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include:

- (1) development and support of affordable housing;
- (2) tenant-based rental assistance;
- (3) provision of supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, child care, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental applications, and rent assistance); and
- (4) acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

Funds must primarily benefit individuals and households in the following qualifying populations:

- Experiencing homelessness
- At risk of homelessness
- Fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Other populations with high risk of housing instability (including households that are low-income and highly cost-burdened; that have moved two or more times in the last 60 days; and that are living in a hotel/motel)

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

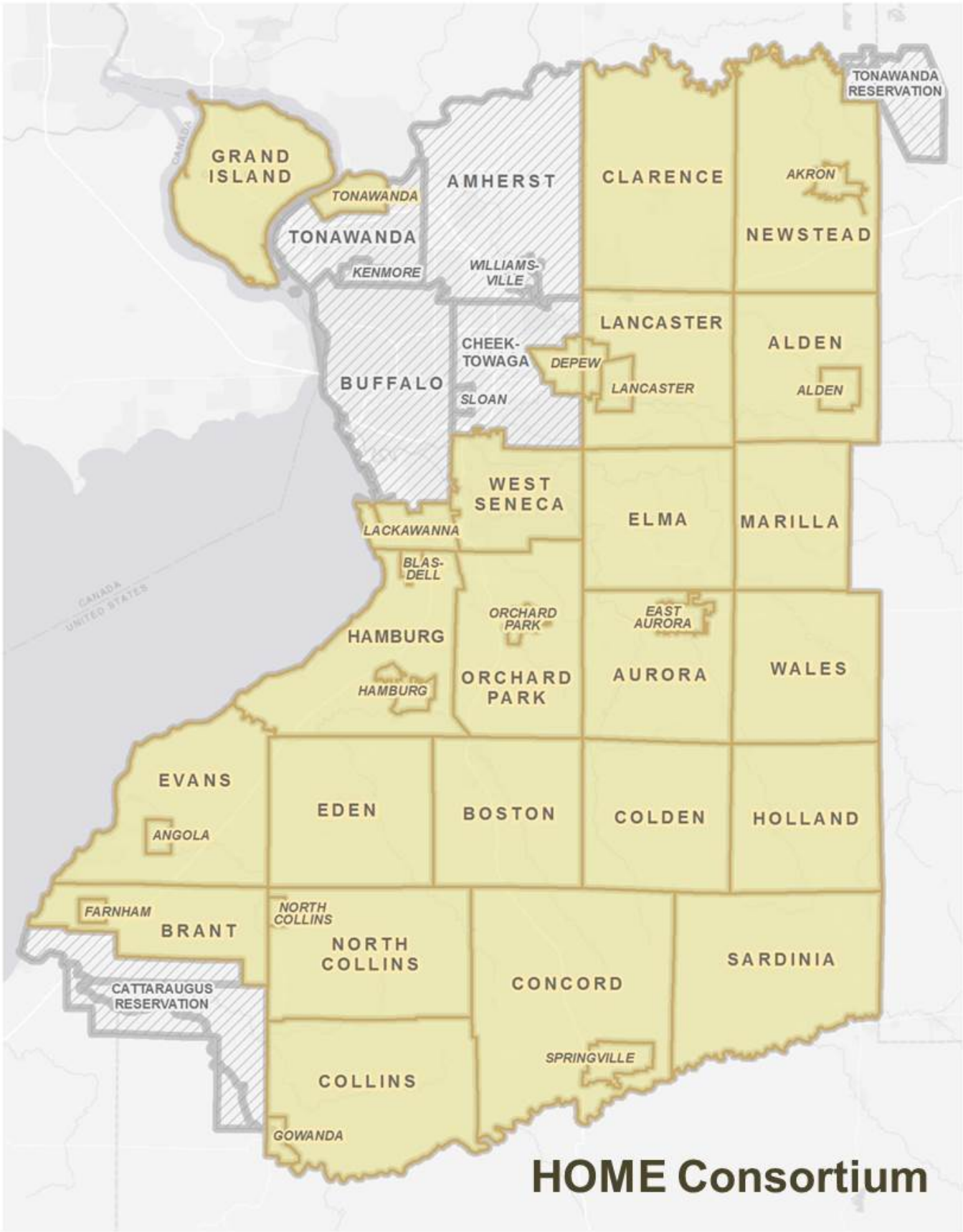
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Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Sarah Aless

What agency do you represent? *

People Inc

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☒ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☒ Other: Affordable Housing

What is your email? *

salessi@people-inc.org

What is your work phone number? *

17168803893

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

300+ Low-Mixed Income Tenants

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Safe and affordable housing with access to public transportation.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Rental Assistance, case management

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

rental assistance, child care, job training, moving assistance

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

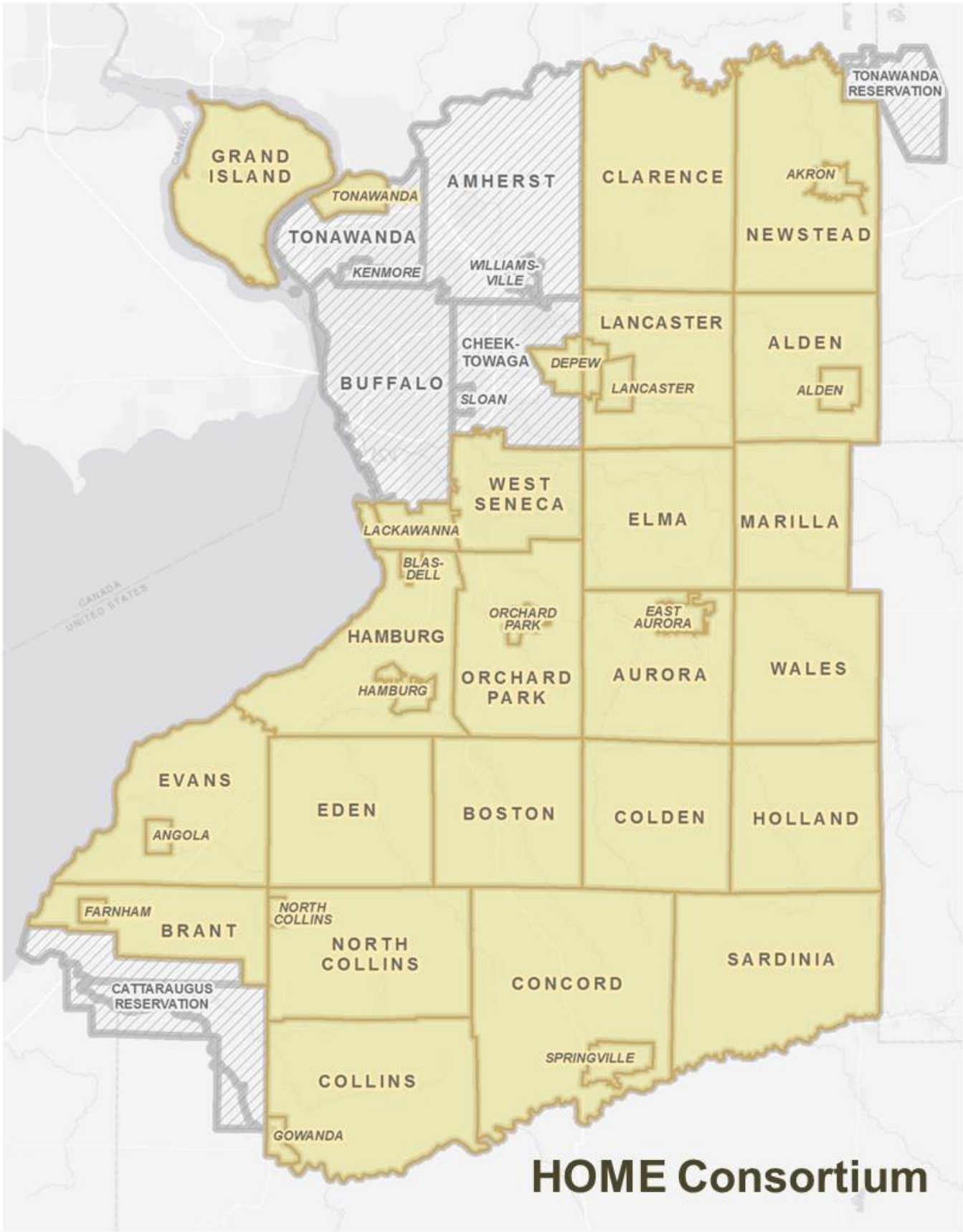
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Annette Lock

What agency do you represent? *

The Salvation Army - Erie County

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

annette.lock@use.salvationarmy.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-888-6201

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

We serve all segments of the population, roughly 20,000 individuals annually. Approx. 400 families (single and 2-parent households with children) enter/exit our shelter. Shelter has been at full occupancy since June. Provide rapid re-housing services and intensive long-term case management through the Pathway of Hope Program.

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Families are placed in motels by DSS when the shelter is full and no placement elsewhere is available. Waiting list for other programs is around 50 families. Additional case managers are needed to assist families with locating housing and supports to maintain housing. Largest need is for more affordable housing.

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

The length of stay in our shelter has doubled as there are so few options for housing. Units are not available or are uninhabitable or far too expensive for our population to afford. Additional gaps include employment assistance, childcare, transportation and mental health supports.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

Our programs partner with other organizations continuously to link individuals to supports including counseling, rental assistance, and housing counselors.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Typical households are single parents with limited education, few supports, no- or little income, transportation barriers, and limited work history. If housed, many are living in sub-par units with lead, mold, heat issues.

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Focus on creating affordable and supportive housing particularly in areas where jobs are located and transportation is accessible. Childcare subsidies. Shelter support so that additional case management can be provided to help families find and enter stable housing and remove barriers to maintain housing.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

HMIS. Families need affordable safe housing that can be supported within the Public Assistance range of benefits as well as through employment that is within the current average wages.

A study published on April 5th, 2021, by The Center for Economic and Policy Research stated: "housing insecurity causes toxic stress, which derails normal child growth and development and predisposes children to poor health outcomes in adulthood." Therefore a 360 model of built-in supports that offer wraparound services, childcare, and a safe community will provide the necessary resources for families to thrive.

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Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

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Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include:

- (1) development and support of affordable housing;
- (2) tenant-based rental assistance;
- (3) provision of supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, child care, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental applications, and rent assistance); and
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The purpose of this survey is to garner feedback from stakeholders and community members on how Erie County and Amherst should use its allocation of HOME-ARP funds.

If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

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Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

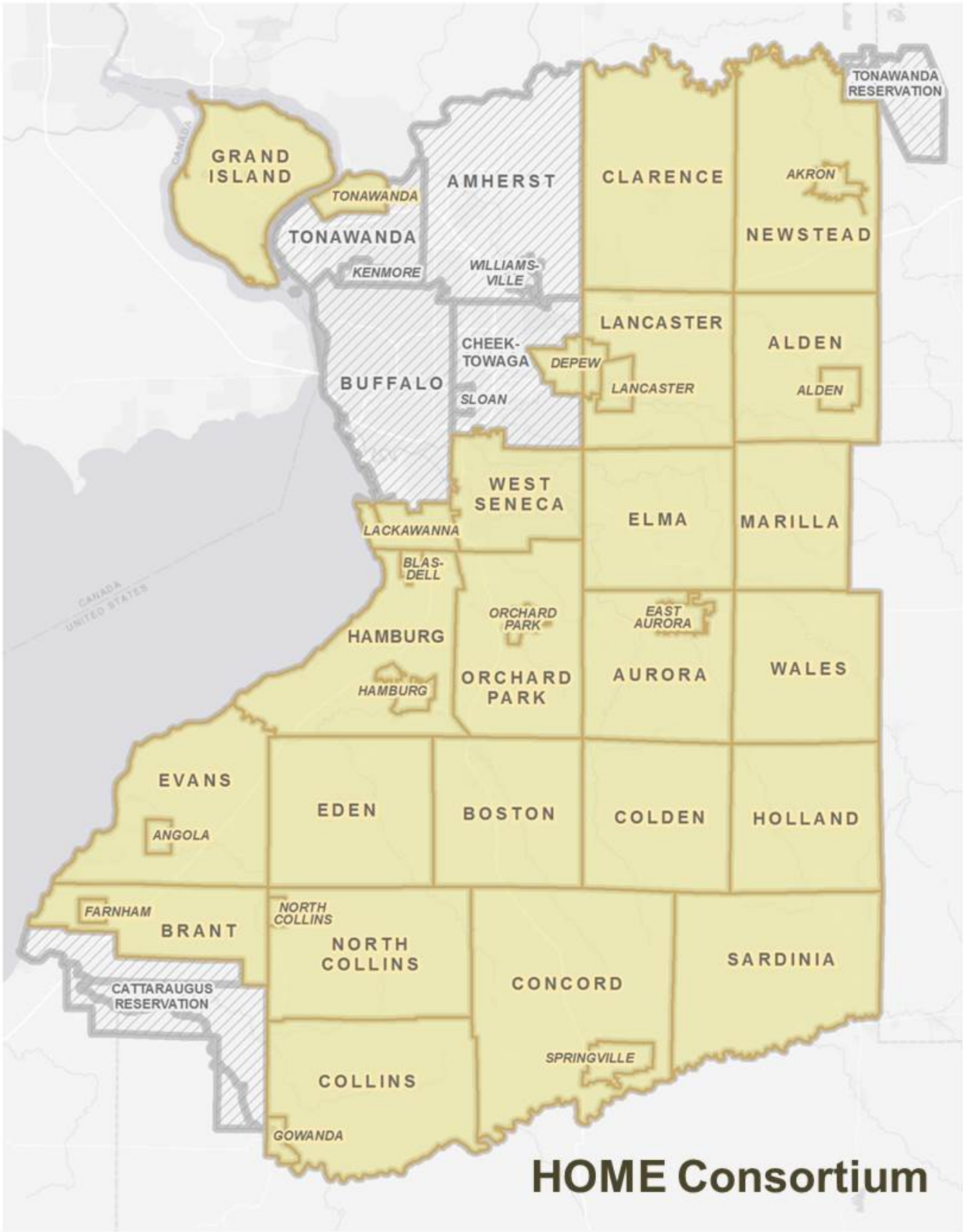
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Lauren Petrocelli

What agency do you represent? *

VIA

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☒ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

Lpetrocelli@viawny.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-888-4561

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

	1 (Highest Priority)	2	3	4 (Lowest Priority)
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Development and Support of Affordable Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

Our agency serves people of all ages who are blind/visually impaired

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Lack of affordable and accessible housing near public transportation

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

Not all shelters are accessible to people with disabilities. The existing shelters are often full and the motels are far from dss where individuals are required to visit to maintain shelter

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

ECDSS homeless outreach team, 211 for after hours placement, local affordable housing and section 8 programs (housing programs have long waiting lists)

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Renters are noticing increased costs and some tenants need to move due to landlord selling the property due to the hot market

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

More affordable housing and section 8 vouchers

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

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Erie County Consortium (NY) HOME-ARP Survey

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The purpose of this survey is to garner feedback from stakeholders and community members on how Erie County and Amherst should use its allocation of HOME-ARP funds.

If you have any question, please contact Andrew Dearing.

--

Andrew Dearing | Senior Housing Specialist

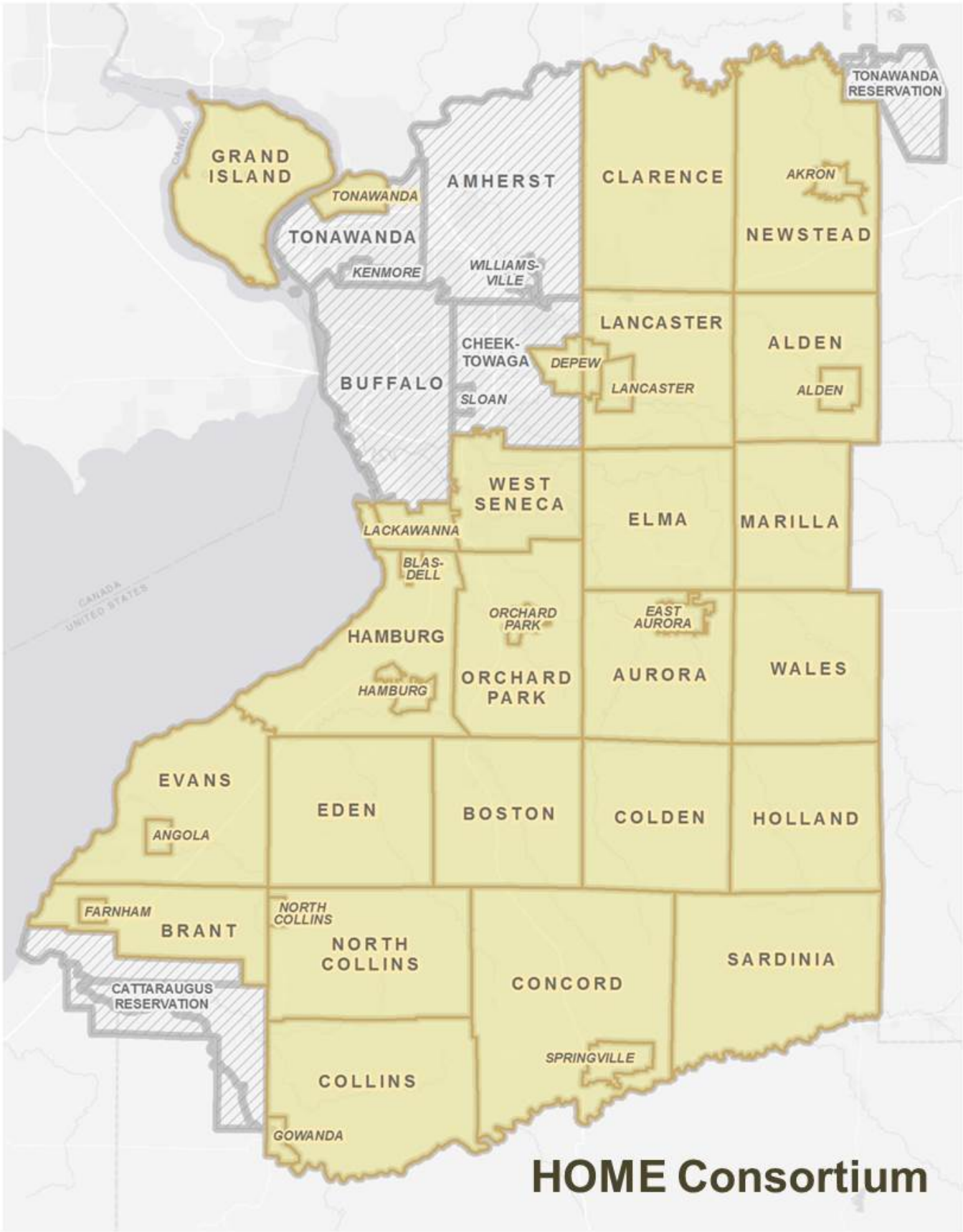
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Gigi

What agency do you represent? *

WNYVHC

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☒ Homeless Service Provider
- ☒ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Other:

What is your email? *

ggrizanti@wnyvhc.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-882-5935

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

Please complete the following survey questions related to HOME-ARP in the Erie County Consortium

Rank eligible HOME-ARP activities from highest to lowest (choose only one for each rank)

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Development and Support of Affordable Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

At least 40 beds dedicated to homeless Veterans or those at risk of homelessness

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

Across the board of populations

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

The costs of rentals. The Covid moratorium had much to do with that.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

The CoC and grants through them

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

Not sure

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Support for landlords who have had apartments trashed by some of our clients we are losing landlords because of this and our options on housing clients are narrowing.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

PIT or By Name lists

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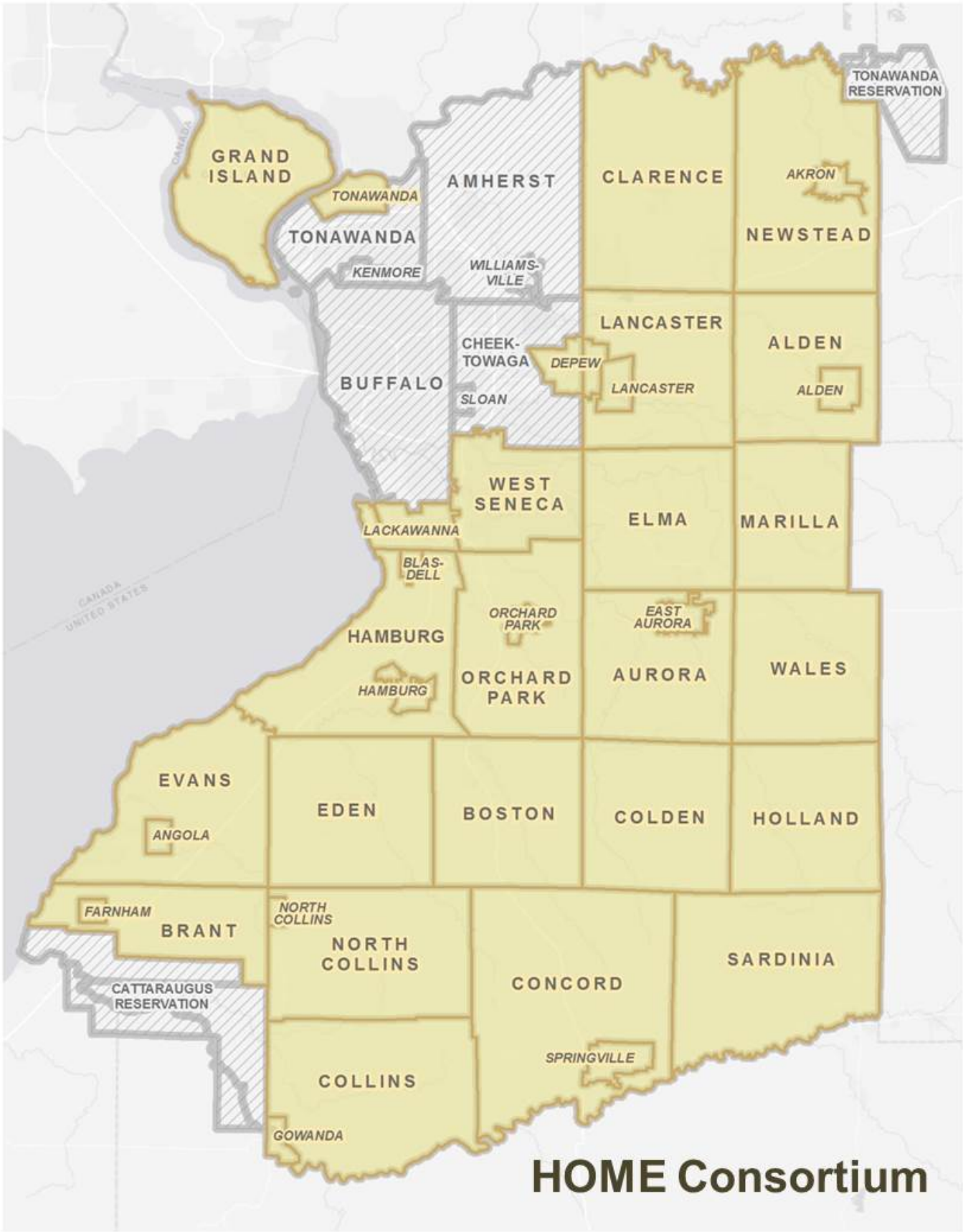
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Andrew.Dearing@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

Erie County HOME Consortium



Contact Info

Please provide your contact information, so we may follow up if needed.

What is your name? *

Sandra Becker

What agency do you represent? *

Belmont Housing Resources for WNY

What best describes the type of Agency/Organization you represent? *

- ☐ CoC/HMIS Lead
- ☐ Public Housing Authority
- ☐ Fair Housing Agency
- ☐ Domestic Violence Agency
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider
- ☐ Veterans Service Provider
- ☐ Disability Service Provider
- ☐ Local Government
- ☒ Other: Housing Counseling

What is your email? *

sbecker@belmonthousingwny.org

What is your work phone number? *

716-884-7791 ext 114

Erie County HOME-ARP Consultation Survey

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Provision of Supportive Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Describe the size and demographic of the qualifying populations you serve within the Erie County Consortium.

Serve Buffalo Niagara Metropolitan Region, low income population

What are the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations within the Erie County Consortium?

- Sheltered and Unsheltered homeless populations

No shelters in consortium communities

Invisible homeless in suburban and rural areas, are not counted as they are in urban areas where they are getting services, they are couch surfing, living in cars or campers.

- Those currently housing populations at risk of homelessness

Little subsidize based on income family subsidized housing.

- Other family's requirement housing assistance or to prevent homelessness
- Those at great risk of housing instability or in unstable housing solutions

What are the gaps in shelter and housing inventory needs for low income and qualifying populations within the Erie Consortium?

As mentioned, the main gap is Family subsidized and even tax credit housing. That is the main population who would come into Belmont office hours in the Housing Counseling consortium community outreach, and we would not have any options to share with them. The Southtowns have just one unit in Hamburg, which is difficult credit wise to qualify for and even folks from Evans did not want to move to Hamburg. As we know in WNY there is a large population who do not leave their zip code, and certainly do not want to come into the City.

There is also just a lack of affordable housing period, even for the middle income families. Lack of available units. Idlewood Apartments a 2 bedroom is about \$1200 you would need to have an income of \$48K a year to keep the rent to 30% of your income. Maplewood in Hamburg \$1500 for similar unit. These are somewhat modest units.

What are some of the current resources available to assist qualifying populations to seek shelter and housing?

<https://resources.hud.gov/#search-dialog>

<https://resources.hud.gov/#>

Not aware of any shelter units other than when County places homeless families in participating Motels. Homeless Services at the County would probably know how many motel units are available in the consortium. However, they are often filled by City resident who have been housed there temporarily as well. I am also not aware of the success rate and ability to get ESG funding out the door. From what I have experienced it seems that much of the Homeless Services and Support Services are being provided by fringe support services agencies such as Food Pantries; Senior Centers, Healthcare Facilities and the one main agency Rural Outreach Center. Although Belmont offers our Housing Counseling Services monthly at various municipalities it is a drop in the bucket and not well attended do to not having a brick and mortar presence.

The HUD Housing Resource MAP pretty much spells it out. And it shows, virtually little to no family subsidized housing. If there is affordable housing development they are just reduced rent tax credit properties, not based on income, and almost exclusively for seniors and disabled population. There is about 10 complexes that allow families in all the Consortium that allow children and mostly concentrated in Amherst. They also have a limited number of units that are subsidized. Due to the high demand and low inventory, complexes require excellent credit and rental history.

Renters Assistance Corp. allow excepting applications now will soon close. So, tenant based vouchers is not really an option for most. Less than 30% of the clients we currently provide rental assistance to live in the suburbs.

What are characteristics of housing insecurity within the Erie Consortium?

I don't have eviction data but the factors we see that contribute to homelessness are the following:

- Income cannot afford rent increasing larger percent of income being spent on housing. One hardship then leads to eviction. Income loss.
- Illness, become permanent disability and not having ability to regain income, especially seen with homeowners. Also see seniors who had to retire but still have mortgages on homes often due to needing home repairs.
- Poor Credit, lowers opportunities to regain housing.
- Substandard housing, have to move due to home not being safe or sanitary
- Divorce or relationship split
- Mental illness, not just ability to afford but ability to get along with landlord, other tenants, or maybe causing disruption or damage.
- Extended families are not willing to take in relatives

What are some priority needs for qualifying populations?

Although Belmont has had satellite locations various days and times in the community I think that it would be helpful to have actual locations for Restoration Society and other Housing Services providers like Belmont to man services full time. But even if we are there providing services there must be resources and units. So, services can only go so far without opportunities and options.

The number 1 priority need is affordable family housing.

Are there any data sources or annual reports that can provide additional information on housing needs for Qualifying Populations and low income residents?

Personal experience in providing Housing Counseling Services
 Factual Data from HUD on affordable Housing Complexes
<https://resources.hud.gov/#search-dialog>

Prosperity Now publishes data on housing affordability for municipalities.
<https://scorecard.prosperitynow.org/data-by-location>
 Shows the percentage of population cost burdened.

Google Forms