

Howard County, Maryland

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

March 16, 2023

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Introduction

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$5 billion to help communities provide housing, shelter, and services for people experiencing homelessness and other qualifying populations. These funds were allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualify for funding through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the HOME Investment Partnerships Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Program. In September 2021, HUD awarded Howard County, MD the one-time allocation of \$1,757,012.00 in HOME-ARP funding.

Funding must benefit individuals and households in the following Qualifying Populations (QPs):

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a));
- At risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1));
- Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary of HUD;
- Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent a 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 the criteria in one of the qualifying populations listed above

Eligible HOME-ARP activities include:

- 1) Production or preservation of affordable rental housing
- 2) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- 3) Supportive Services, including services defined at 24 CFR 578.53(e), Homeless Prevention Services, and Housing Counseling
- 4) Purchase and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter

To expend HOME-ARP funding, the County must develop a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan which describes the distribution of HOME-ARP funds and identifies any preferences for eligible activities. This plan will be submitted to and approved by HUD. The development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan must also be informed through stakeholder consultation and public engagement. The following is the County's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

Consultation

Summarize the consultation process:

Howard County's consultation process consisted of two key components:

- 1) Virtual meetings with agencies and service providers whose clientele include the HOME-ARP qualifying populations; and
- 2) Disseminating an agency consultation questionnaire

The virtual meetings were held on February 14, 2023, February 15, 2023, and February 22, 2023, to provide information about the HOME-ARP funding source, qualifying populations, eligible activities, and the Allocation Plan process.

The agency consultation questionnaire included eleven (11) questions surrounding the unmet needs and gaps in housing and service delivery systems within Howard County.

All the agencies and organizations listed in the table below were invited to attend the virtual meetings and complete the consultation questionnaire. Their method of consultation participation is detailed below.

List the organizations consulted, and summarize the feedback received from these entities:

Agency/Organization Consulted	Type of Agency/Organization	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Springboard Community Services, Inc.	Domestic Violence Service Provider	Virtual	Attended virtual meeting, but feedback was not received.
Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc.	Homeless Service Provider -Rapid Rehousing (RRH) -Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) -Eviction prevention and housing stability -Affordable rental housing and case management	Virtual/ Questionnaire	The gaps in shelter, housing and services for qualifying populations include: 1) there are not enough shelter beds in the County for the number of unsheltered individuals and families experiencing homelessness; 2) Rapid Rehousing Services are severely constrained by low vacancy rates and high rents; 3) funding for rental subsidies has not kept pace with rent increases, with the consequence that our funding supports fewer clients than in the past; 4) the County does not have enough income-based rentals for households earning very low income; 5) rents are increasing faster than incomes annually, so households are spending more than 30%, and often 50% or more, of their income on housing costs; 6) there is not enough rental assistance for households that get behind on rent and face eviction; and 7) the County has an estimated shortage of 7,500 affordable rental homes for households earning 30-60% AMI, presenting the largest gap in

			<p>housing for other populations at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>The County's current rental vacancy rate of 1.5% has given landlords leverage to raise rents significantly since the end of the COVID-19 state of emergency (income-based housing vacancy is closer to 1.1%). As a result, more than 13,000 renter households now pay unaffordable rents. Of these, 6,800 pay more than 50% of their gross income on rent. Landlords have in-demand housing, with plenty of possible renters, so they can discriminate against people with barriers or low incomes by increasing the income needed to qualify for the units, raising the required credit score, and refusing to rent to anyone with an eviction or criminal history. They also are rejecting applicants who have vouchers due to the extra time, inspection, and scrutiny required. Case Managers also report incidents in which a client is initially accepted for a rental unit but is then rejected after the landlord realizes that the applicant is low-income or will receive security deposit assistance or a rental subsidy.</p> <p>Priority needs for qualifying populations include: 1) increased funding for case management, funding for security deposits, housing subsidies; 2) significant expansion of affordable rental stock; 3) permanent supportive housing slots; 4) eviction prevention and utility assistance funding; and 5) expansion of affordable, accessible units for those with disabilities.</p>
Community Action Council of Howard County, Inc.	<p>Address needs of each QP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Financial assistance (i.e. first month's rent) -Eviction prevention and housing stability assistance -Food pantry 	<p>Virtual/ Questionnaire</p>	<p>The gaps in shelter, housing and services include eviction prevention assistance for households with large sums of rental arrears and rental assistance for households that have accrued arrears but are not yet facing a court ordered eviction. Additionally, more robust supportive services that assist households with finding and securing affordable, stable housing.</p> <p>Howard County's rental market consists of rising rental prices, dwindling available affordable housing units, and very low vacancy rates. Barriers to utilizing rental assistance include: 1) large sums of rental arrears; 2) landlords who have waited a long period to file for eviction making it difficult to assist with the tenant's large balance owed; and 3) income restrictions making it difficult to serve the ALICE (asset-limited, income constrained, employed) population.</p>

			<p>Our organization primarily provides eviction prevention and first month's rent services to qualifying populations, and over the last fiscal year eviction prevention has remained the priority need.</p>
HopeWorks of Howard County, Inc.	<p>Domestic Violence Service Provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Emergency shelter -Transitional Housing -Financial assistance (i.e. first month's rent, utility arrears) -Referrals to supportive services 	<p>Questionnaire</p>	<p>We are often approached by residents seeking housing who may not be in imminent danger of violence and for whom domestic violence is not a primary cause of their homelessness. For this population, we do not always have the capacity to offer shelter services, so referrals to other county agencies are made. In addition, many households in our residential programs have great difficulty obtaining permanent housing that they can afford as they exit our programs. The increased availability of both Supportive Housing and Rental Assistance for these households would be of great benefit.</p> <p>There is a high cost of rental apartments for households of all sizes, very low availability of affordable housing and great difficulty of obtaining rental assistance.</p> <p>Rental Assistance programs are the most significant need of the households we serve. Most households we serve are single income, female-headed households who need assistance if they are to make the move to permanent housing in Howard County.</p>
Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc.	<p>Homeless Service Provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Emergency shelter (Year-Round, Code Blue, Cold Weather) -24-hour Crisis Hotline & Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) -Day Resource Center 	<p>Virtual/ Questionnaire</p>	<p>We need additional emergency shelter beds, especially for families, to eliminate the waiting list that exists in Howard County. This is the most pressing shelter need.</p> <p>Housing is expensive. The rental unit vacancy rate is narrow, and the monthly cost of rent is high. The quality of housing for low-income households varies and tends to be on the poor-quality level.</p>
Howard County Housing Commission	<p>PHA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Housing Choice Voucher program -Affordable rental housing 	<p>Virtual/ Questionnaire</p>	<p>There is simply a shortage of supply and of rental subsidies. The rental subsidies are almost all federal and are not sufficient to match the need. The lack of supply of housing and the concomitant high rents is generally considered the primary cause of homelessness. So, the lack of housing is not only the reason people remain homeless, but it is also the cause of homelessness. The failure to create more housing can be directly attributed to County policies that limit the supply, including APFO</p>

			<p>and zoning. There are a number of options available from DSS and non-profits. Non-profits, however, often need to charge for their services since they are expected to bring in a good amount of their funding. They also pay relatively low wages and do not offer benefits to keep their costs down, which in turn means their staff may actually need housing assistance in the County. There are also too few people in the service field, particularly in connection with case management and social work.</p> <p>The vacancy rate in the County is quite low – around 3% currently. This is inadequate to allow for typical movement of renters in the market. As a result, people are staying put and prices (rent) continues to rise. The same can be said on the homeownership front. Because of a lack of units, large lot zoning, a lack of multifamily or starter-home zoning, and prohibitions on new development or redevelopment, land costs are very high and median home prices are unaffordable to many in the County. A bigger problem today may be the increasing rents, which make many units above the maximum limit for housing choice vouchers.</p> <p>Priority needs include: 1) more stably priced housing; 2) more rent subsidies and perhaps subsidies at a higher rent level; 3) more mental health services; and 4) better transportation/transit options.</p>
MakingChange, Inc.	Address needs of each QP -Housing and financial counseling	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>There are often gaps in housing for clients who are in a transitional period as there is not sufficient affordable housing stock in Howard County.</p> <p>Programs that offer financial assistance related to housing should couple services with housing and financial counseling to ensure a household's stability.</p> <p>Priority needs include counseling, supportive services and financial assistance to individuals and households within the qualifying populations.</p>
Heritage Housing Partners Corporation	Address needs of each QP		No response received.
Humanim, Inc.	Homeless Service Provider -Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) -Rental assistance -Case management and	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>There is limited affordable housing in Howard County and a lack of financial assistance that help individuals with fees (i.e. rental arrear debt) that cause barriers in securing permanent housing.</p> <p>Some of the greatest inhibitors in accessing housing include: 1) legal charges; 2) lack of identification; 3) limited income to pay for</p>

	housing stability services		<p>application fees and renters' insurance; 4) poor or no credit history; 5) utility arrears; 6) costs of transitioning into housing (i.e. furniture); and 7) access/cost of transportation.</p> <p>Priority needs include funding to supplement rise in fair market rental rates and additional staffing for intensive case management services.</p>
Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services, Inc.	<p>Address needs of each QP in zip code 20723</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Financial assistance (i.e. rent, utility, mortgage, move-in) -Food pantry -Referrals 	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>The biggest barriers to our client's self-sufficiency are a lack of living wage jobs and availability of affordable housing. This problem has been further exacerbated by the continuing negative economic impact of the pandemic. Now that federal emergency rental assistance funding is depleted, we are being inundated with requests for rental assistance.</p> <p>Priority needs include housing that is affordable for low-income families and rental assistance.</p>
Arc of Howard County, Inc.	<p>Disability Service Provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Congregate living for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities -Community education -Referrals 	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>There is a shortage of safe, healthy, and affordable housing in Howard County, especially for people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who are low-income or may struggle to find permanent and regular employment due to not having enough financial resources.</p> <p>Financial assistance for first and last month's rent, ongoing rental subsidies and affordable housing are the priority needs.</p>
Chesapeake Neighbors	Disability Service Provider		No response received.
iHomes, Inc.	<p>Disability Service Provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Site based affordable rental housing -Financial assistance -Supportive services 	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>Lack of affordable, long-term housing for individuals with disabilities and barriers in sustaining permanent housing for those living on fixed incomes are the most prevalent gaps in housing.</p> <p>Impediments to securing housing include minor legal charges and lack of rental startup capital, such as funding for security deposits and furniture.</p> <p>The populations most in need of services include families with children; individuals with disabilities, mental illness or substance abuse; and individuals at risk of experiencing homelessness.</p>
Luminus Network, Inc.	<p>Address needs of each QP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Rental assistance -Referrals to services 	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>Based on 2021 data, one out of every five Howard County residents were immigrants (21.4%). Availability of affordable housing is a notable gap in Howard County as a whole. Some of the clients we work with are not eligible to apply for MIHU or other affordable</p>

	-For immigrant community, employment services, legal consultation, linguistic assistance, healthcare access, rental assistance		<p>housing units, leaving their choices further reduced. New arrivals to the United States may not yet have a social security number which is often required to access most forms of public assistance. Further, new arrivals, even those have social security numbers, could face years long waiting lists if they apply for an MIHU or other affordable housing units. As landlords increase rents, rental housing in the open market is difficult to find.</p> <p>The highest priority housing need for the immigrant population in Howard County is accessibility to and availability of affordable housing. Like the broader Howard County population, LMI immigrant families require housing options where rent does not cost 33-50% of their salary. Next, when families' livelihoods are impacted by matters beyond their control, there needs to be a safety net which includes knowledge of available resources, and job training opportunities.</p>
Howard County Office of Human Rights and Equity	<p>Address Fair Housing and Civil Rights</p> <p>-Paired testing</p> <p>-Investigates and processes complaints of unlawful discrimination</p>	Questionnaire	<p>The County has a low rental unit vacancy rate; demand exceeds supply, particularly as more people move here for work.</p> <p>Howard County rents generally exceed the State median rental rates. Even households who do not meet the QP definitions sometimes pay more than 1/3 of their income towards rent. There are also very few MIHU units. People always point out that a new development may have 200-300 rental units but maybe 10 -15 percent of those units are designated as MIHU. Accordingly, the chance of landing one of the MIHU units in a newer complex are very slim.</p> <p>The priority need is that the County needs truly affordable rental housing.</p>
Rebuilding Together Howard County, Inc.	<p>-Home repairs to low-income families</p> <p>-Reasonable accommodation upgrades in rental units</p>	Questionnaire	<p>There is not enough funding to meet the demand of individuals in need of home repairs and reasonable accommodation upgrades in rental units. Low-income homeowners and renters are at the greatest risk of poor and unsafe housing quality.</p> <p>We see availability of funding as the priority need.</p>
Columbia Housing Center, Inc.	<p>Address Fair Housing and Civil Rights</p> <p>-Apartment referrals in integrated communities</p>	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>There are significant gaps in available, affordable housing for households earning under \$60,000 a year. What is available does not meet our organization's objectives for promoting racial integration within the community.</p>

			<p>Our clients need assistance with funding to support the multiple application fees they must pay before finally finding a unit that works for them. They can also use assistance coming up with the necessary down payment or security deposit. Another program that is currently being operated that could be expanded is the guarantee program where property owners are provided a financial guarantee that if a client breaks their lease or does damage to a unit above the security deposit, the guarantor will cover the costs. This would encourage owners to take a chance on lower income households.</p>
Living in Recovery, Inc.	Disability Service Provider -Sober living transitional residences	Questionnaire	<p>There has been an explosion of substance use disorders throughout the nation, so there is a large need for safe and healthy living environments for those in recovery.</p> <p>Increasing the recovery housing stock is a priority need in the community.</p>
United Way of Central Maryland, Inc.	Address needs of each QP -Family Stability Program -Family Center -STEP Program rental assistance -Relocation Program -Operate 211-Helpline	Virtual/ Questionnaire	<p>Howard County has one of the highest median incomes in the state, but it also has one of the highest costs of living. In Howard County, one in four families struggle qualify as ALICE, earning less than the cost of living for their family size and composition. The greatest monthly expense for these families is housing. The County suffers from an extreme shortage of affordable housing causing many families to pay 30% or more of their income in rent each month. Only 9% of new rental units in Howard County are designed for households making less than 60% AMI and virtually no for-sale homes that have been built in the last two decades are affordable to this group. Howard County has less than its fair share of low- and moderate-income households than other neighboring counties.</p> <p>The QPs would benefit from housing care coordination and help with: 1) relocation assistance and identifying housing options; 2) housing and financial sustainability planning; and 3) provision of other wrap around supports as needed including health care navigation, workforce development or childcare assistance. Although limited, QPs could also benefit from help with initial move-in costs. Financial assistance will be used for security deposits, to cover utility bills, and childcare (and other move-in costs or barriers to housing stabilization). The widespread affordability challenges make this need particularly acute, especially for those moving into a new unit who can afford the rent but do not have the savings for the</p>

			security deposit or financial requirements to stabilize their housing long-term.
Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake, Inc.	Address needs of each QP		No response received.
Accessible Resources for Independence, Inc.	Disability Service Provider		No response received.
Volunteers for America Chesapeake and Carolinas, Inc.	Address needs of each QP -Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) with supportive services	Virtual/ Questionnaire	The gaps in shelter, housing, and services for each QP include: 1) limited services and supports for high acuity residents; 2) static number of permanent supportive houses; 3) lack of real engagement with community partners; 4) minimal rental assistance resources; 5) lack of communication between key housing organizations; and 6) limited opportunities for homeownership. Priority needs include affordable housing as there is a small rental unit pool and increased transportation options within these rental areas.
Athelas Institute, Inc.	Disability Service Provider		No response received.
Adaptive Living, Inc.	Disability Service Provider		No response received.
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs	Veterans group		No response received.
Consumer Credit Counseling Services of MD, Inc.	Address needs of each QP -Credit, debt, and housing counseling services	Virtual/ Questionnaire	There is a critical lack of emergency/short-term affordable housing, especially for individuals and families at-risk of homelessness, including victims of domestic violence. Barriers to securing housing include: 1) lack of information about the availability of housing and the application process; 2) available housing stock; 3) security deposit or down payment costs; 4) credit scores; and 5) access to safe housing, especially for victims of domestic violence. Priority needs for each QP include: 1) basic budgeting and credit skills; 2) having a comprehensive housing and financial stability plan; 3) education surrounding the various programs, services and grants they could be eligible for; 4) fair housing and fair lending rights; and 5) education on fraud and scams.
The Salvation Army of Central Maryland	Address needs of each QP		No response received.
Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Inc.	PHA		No response received.

Public Participation

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

Public Comment Period: March 1, 2023-March 15, 2023

Public Hearing: March 13, 2023 @ 6:00pm, 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 211, Columbia, MD 21048

The public has an opportunity to attend an in-person public hearing on March 13, 2023 at 6:00pm to provide feedback on Howard County's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, in addition to a fifteen (15) day public comment period between March 1, 2023-March 15, 2023 to render recommendations.

Describe any efforts to broaden public participation:

Howard County provided notice of the public comment period and public hearing through multiple outlets, including Howard County's website and social media platforms (Facebook), the Howard County Times newspaper, and the Columbia Flier newspaper. Additionally, information regarding the public comment period and public hearing was shared during the virtual agency consultation meetings. Public comments were accepted via email, mail, or fax.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process:

One individual briefly attending the public hearing; however, no comments or recommendations were provided. There were no comments or recommendations received during the 15-day comment period.

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

There were no comments or recommendations received during the public participation process.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

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

Howard County acknowledges that the HOME-ARP qualifying populations are vulnerable and traditionally underserved. The data outlined below serve as our best estimations of the size and demographic composition of the qualifying populations within our community.

1) Homeless

The [Coalition to End Homelessness](#) is Howard County's Continuum of Care (CoC) which serves as the local planning body that coordinates Federal and State housing and support services funding for homeless families and individuals. It consists of public and private agencies, nonprofits, and community advocates. The Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services Office of Community Partnerships serves as the Lead Administering Agency for the CoC, as well as the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agency. As such, it is responsible for collecting and maintaining all HMIS data, reporting and related training. To track homelessness and housing services, the CoC uses data from the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and HMIS.

The Continuum of Care's PIT count for 2022 found that there were 165 people experiencing homelessness on January 15, 2022. Amongst this group, 143 people (87%) were staying in emergency shelter and 22 people (13%) were unsheltered.

	Emergency Shelter		Unsheltered	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Gender				
Female	80	56%	10	45%
Male	63	44%	12	55%
Transgender	0	0%	0	0%
Gender Non-Conforming	0	0%	0	0%
Total	143	100%	22	100%
Ethnicity				
Hispanic/Latino	10	7%	21	95%
Non-Hispanic/Latino	133	93%	1	5%
Total	143	100%	22	100%
Race				
White	32	22%	12	55%
Black, African American or African	96	67%	8	36%
Asian or Asian American	1	1%	1	4.5%
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous	0	0%	1	4.5%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%
Multiple Races	14	10%	0	0%
Total	143	100%	22	100%

Data Source: 1) [2022 Point-in-Time Count \(PIT\)](#)

Utilizing data sourced from HMIS, the table below demonstrates the scope of homelessness in the first half of FY2023. In tandem with HMIS, Coordinated Entry (CE) is a system developed to ensure that all people experiencing homelessness have fair and equal access to housing and assistance within the CoC. During the first half of FY2023, 394 homeless individuals and households entered the CE system, however

217 (55%) individuals and households exited the system. Of these 217 individuals and households, 76 (35%) moved into permanent housing situations.

	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022
Number of homeless households and individuals in County	329	348	359	376	391	460
Population Breakdown						
HHS with children	35	37	36	36	45	47
Single Adults	223	198	200	208	189	239
*Chronic	115	121	123	134	128	145
Veteran	12	13	12	15	15	21
Employed	42	60	60	67	66	71
Unaccompanied Youth	7	11	12	15	15	21
How many people entered system	31	30	49	71	92	121
How many people exited system	14	17	40	39	27	80
PH w/ subsidy support	6	6	7	2	5	5
PH no subsidy	4	3	6	8	8	7
PH w/ friends or family	0	2	0	2	4	1
Temporary destinations	4	1	13	6	0	1
Institutional destinations	0	2	0	4	0	0
Homeless destinations	0	1	2	7	2	1
Deceased	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unknown	0	1	11	10	8	65

Data Source: 1) Howard County CoC FY23 Benchmarks provided by Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services Office of Community Partnerships *Chronic number is calculated based on several self-report fields. Chronicity has not necessarily been verified for all.

Bridges to Housing Stability, a nonprofit organization and member of the CoC that serves all HOME-ARP qualifying populations through affordable housing solutions, reports serving 70 individuals and 51 families in FY2022. They also report on average 13% of their call volume is from people experiencing homelessness.

2) At Risk of Homelessness and Other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent a family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability

Howard County received Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funding from the United States Department of the Treasury to provide rent and utility assistance to households who experienced financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between March 2021 to February 2023, 2,598 applications for ERA1 and ERA2 assistance were completed and submitted. Of these applications, 1,349 unique households received

financial assistance through the ERA1 and ERA2 grants. 817 (61%) of these unique households were between 0-30% AMI and 349 (26%) were between 31-50% AMI.

In Howard County, the number of households with incomes below 30% AMI has grown in recent years. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data as of 2019 shows 5,505 (18%) of the 30,650 renter households in Howard County have an income at or below 30% AMI.

Per HUD standards, a household that spends between 30% and 50% of their monthly income on housing is considered “housing cost burdened,” whereas a household that spends more than 50% of its income on monthly housing expenses is considered to be experiencing “severe housing cost burden.” According to 2019 CHAS data, 5,785 (18.9%) of renter households are housing cost burdened and 6,490 (21.2%) of renter households are severely housing cost burdened.

Bridges to Housing Stability reports serving 31 individuals and 136 families in FY2022 that were at risk of homelessness. On average, 5% of their call volume is from people at risk of homelessness and 24% of their call volume is from people seeking rental assistance or eviction prevention services. Their Alliance Program, which provides affordable rental housing for households with incomes that are 30%-60% AMI has a waiting list of 149 households comprised of 417 individuals as of mid-February 2023.

United Way of Central Maryland, a nonprofit organization and member of the CoC that serves all HOME-ARP qualifying populations by increasing access to basic needs, reports in 2022 the top three reasons for the 2,015 calls they received via their 211 Helpline from Howard County residents included: 1) rent payment assistance, 2) electric and gas service payment assistance, and 3) for low-income/subsidized rent housing needs.

3) Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking

HopeWorks, a nonprofit organization that supports and advocates for people in Howard County affected by sexual and intimate partner violence, served a total of approximately 874 households and received/responded to 1,295 phone calls in FY2022.

Demographics	Percentage of Households	Victimization Type	Number of Households
Gender		Domestic Violence	683
Female	97%	Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault	40
Male	3%	Human Trafficking	12
		Sexual Violence	86
Race & Ethnicity		Other	53
White	22%		
Black or African American	51%	Type of Call	Number of Calls
Asian American	8%	Hospital-Based Advocacy	151
Hispanic	19%	Lethality Assessment Program	465

		24-Hour Crisis Hotline	679
Age			
0-12	1%	Number of People in Shelter	69
13-17	2%	Total Shelter Nights Provided	3,208
18-24	15%	Walk-Ins for Services	51
25-59	78%	Adults & Children Served in Counseling	214
60+	4%	Total Hours of Counseling Provided	1,292

Data Source: 1) [HopeWorks Agency Fact Sheet FY22](#) 2) HopeWorks HOME-ARP Agency Consultation Questionnaire

Data on the true scope and prevalence of human trafficking in Howard County is limited, however, in [Howard County's Office of Human Trafficking Prevention 2021-2022 Annual Report](#) 15 potential trafficking victims were identified by Howard County Police Department's human trafficking section between January 1, 2021–March 30, 2022.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations, including but not limited to:

- *Shelter and unsheltered homeless populations;*
- *Those currently housed who are at risk of homelessness;*
- *Other families requiring services, housing assistance or homelessness prevention services; and,*
- *Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations*

The primary unmet housing need for sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations is access to affordable housing within Howard County. Limited affordable housing stock and increased rent costs have made it difficult for persons experiencing homelessness to obtain safe, affordable housing to resolve their housing crisis. This has increased the duration of time persons remain homeless and reduced success rates of permanent housing programs placing households into affordable units. In addition to this, the unsheltered population has a need of additional shelter capacity as Howard County's emergency homeless shelters consistently maintain waiting lists.

Households that are at-risk of homelessness and those in need of prevention assistance face similar needs of access to affordable housing in order reduce rent burdens and maintain housing stability. Ongoing rental assistance and housing stability case management is also needed for some at-risk households, especially those on fixed incomes and with large household sizes. Those in unstable housing situations and at greatest risk of housing instability face similar needs in housing such as access to affordable housing units, ongoing rental assistance, and housing stability case management to remain permanently housed.

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:

Homeless Housing Inventory

	Current Inventory						
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Youth	Chronic
	# Beds	# Units	# Beds	# Units	# Beds	# Beds	# Beds
Emergency Shelter	45	10	55	55	0	0	0
Transitional Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Permanent Supportive Housing	27	9	97	97	0	0	0
Rapid Rehousing	51	23	42	42	0	8	86
Other Permanent Housing	20	15	5	5	0	0	0
Total	143	57	199	199	0	8	86

Data Sources: 1) 2022 Housing Inventory County (HIC)

In addition to the housing inventory within the homeless response system listed above, there are an array of supportive services available to qualifying populations, such as housing and financial counseling, case management, and behavioral health treatment, however these programs are often overwhelmed or funding-limited.

Howard County is a HOME grant entitlement jurisdiction. We utilize this funding, as well as local tax revenue, to gap finance the development of affordable housing. The County also established an inclusionary zoning ordinance that requires developers of new housing in specific zoning districts to sell or rent a portion (generally 10-15%) of the dwelling units to households of moderate income. These Moderate Income Housing Units (MIHUs) are sold or rented at affordable prices and rents set by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

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

Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Non-Homeless Population			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gaps Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	30,650		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At Risk of Homelessness)	2,289		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	1,148		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At Risk of Homelessness)		4,275	
31%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		3,155	

Current Gap			-3,993
--------------------	--	--	--------

Data Sources: 1) HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data from 2015-2019 ACS; 2) 2022 Howard County Rental Survey

Community consultations, as well as market and homeless system data, confirm there continues to be a lack of affordable housing and appropriately resourced shelter services. This is consistent with data and information gathered during the FFY2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and FFY2023 Annual Action Plan processes.

Per the 2022 Howard County Rental Survey, there are an estimated 6,313 households who qualify for extremely low rent subsidized units (household income <30% AMI) but there is an inventory of only 1,286 subsidized rental units that serve this population. This is a deficit of 5,027 extremely low rent subsidized units for eligible households.

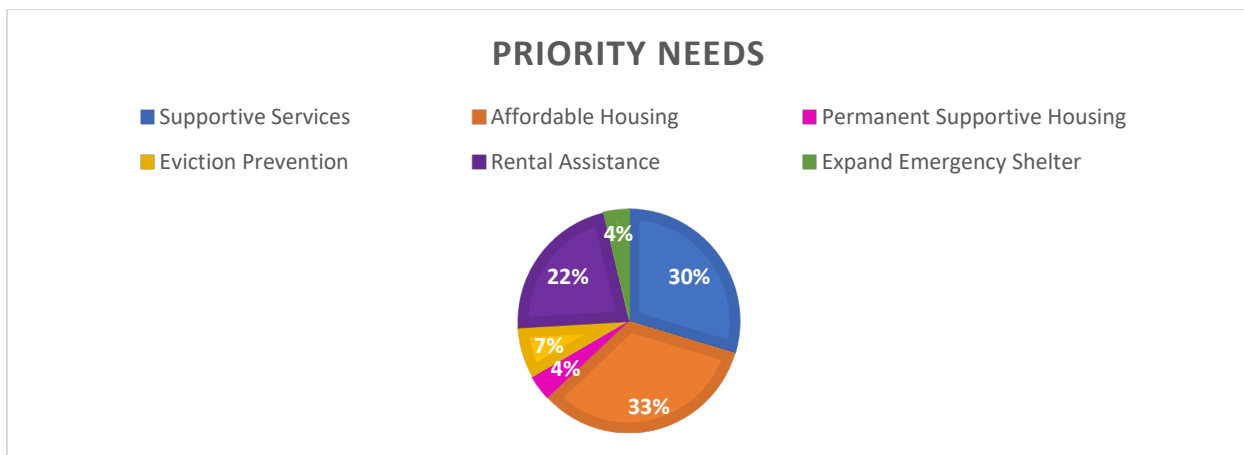
[The Path Home: Howard County's Strategic Plan to End Homelessness](#) report outlines four goals that help align resources and services within the homeless response system. Goal 2 states that every person experiencing homelessness should have access to immediate, safe and appropriate shelter. At the conclusion of FY2022, only 12 (7%) of 168 households experiencing literal homelessness were sheltered within 72 hours of presentation. According to Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, in FY2022 the average length of stay in their emergency shelters was 118 days. Without expanded transitional and permanent housing options, emergency shelter bed availability will continue to be limited.

Consulted agencies also referenced the need for recurring funding to enhance and sustain supportive services throughout the housing and homeless system. Additionally, there is a significant need for limited financial assistance to cover costs such as first month's rent, security deposit, and application fees to aid households in securing permanent housing.

Identify the characteristics of housing associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness if the PJ will include such conditions in its definition of "other populations" as established in the HOME-ARP Notice:

Howard County will not include such conditions in our definition of "other populations."

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:



The pie chart above details the most frequently identified priority needs for qualifying populations throughout the agency consultation process. As a result, Howard County has identified the following priorities: 1) Development of affordable rental housing, 2) Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units, 3) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, and 4) Supportive services. Qualifying populations have a significant need for all eligible activities as evidenced throughout the consultation process and gaps analysis.

The need for affordable housing is pervasive throughout all of Howard County for extremely low- and low-income households.

Creating non-congregate shelter units can provide qualifying populations temporary housing solutions before transitioning into permanent housing units. Having housing of this type creates an opportunity for households to engage in intensive case management services that can help reduce barriers and address risks of housing instability before they obtain permanent housing. While this activity is not identified as the most pressing shelter and housing need by community agencies, the aforementioned performance measurement data surrounding timely access to emergency shelter and average emergency shelter stay length demonstrates a significant need to provide alternative housing options that can free up bed availability.

To help qualifying households address affordability issues within the current rental housing inventory, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance has been identified as an essential need, especially as COVID-19 funding for emergency rental assistance is depleted.

Not only do households in unstable housing situations require units to secure permanent long-term housing, but many qualifying populations also require specialized and trauma-informed case management support to address their unique and occasionally similar needs, such as benefits support, referrals to childcare services, financial counseling, or behavioral health treatment. Case management can offer vital referrals to resources and services outside of housing that can prevent future housing instability upon settlement into a permanent housing unit.

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

The County considered findings from the agency consultation questionnaires alongside the qualitative and quantitative data analyses outlined above to identify gaps and prioritize needs.

We referenced the following publications: HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data from 2015-2019; 2022 Howard County Rental Survey; 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) count; 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC); The PATH Home: Howard County's Strategic Plan to End Homelessness; and Howard County's Office of Human Trafficking and Prevention 2021-2022 Annual Report.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

A majority of Howard County's work throughout the housing and homeless system is completed through valued partnerships with community-based organizations. The County intends to continue leveraging this collaborative effort in the administration of HOME-ARP funded activities.

Once Howard County's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is approved by HUD, the Department of Housing and Community Development will host a series of training sessions on each eligible activity we are funding. Thereafter, a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released for a specified period to facilitate a competitive application process. During the specified period, any organization, developer, subrecipient or Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) are eligible to apply. At the conclusion of the RFP period, all applications will be reviewed for completeness, eligibility, and their ability to deliver the specified activity to the qualifying populations listed in this plan.

Awards will be made based on the applicant's project scope as it pertains to the outlined priority needs in this plan, as well as the applicant's familiarity with utilizing federal funding and ability to comply with all Federal, State and Local requirements.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

Howard County is not planning to administer eligible activities directly.

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds were 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:

HOME-ARP administrative funds have not been provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD accepting Howard County's Allocation Plan. Howard County is not planning to allocate funds to a single subrecipient or contractor to administer the entire HOME-ARP grant.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$81,310.80		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$500,000.00		
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$500,000.00		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$500,000.00		
Non-Profit Operating	\$0.00	0%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$0.00	0%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$175,701.20	10%	15%
Total HOME-ARP Allocation	\$1,757,012.00		

Additional Narrative, if applicable:

In addition to utilizing our HOME-ARP allocation, we will explore and leverage additional grant funding opportunities to increase the impact of the funded activities.

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 are competing needs and gaps within the shelter, housing, and service delivery systems. Based on the priority needs communicated in the consultation process and presented in the gaps analysis, we've determined that each eligible activity requires funding to support qualifying populations.

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:

As noted above, a portion of Howard County's HOME-ARP allocation will be designated to the development of affordable rental housing. We estimate 10 affordable housing units will be produced at an average subsidy cost of \$50,000.00 per unit based on recent affordable housing development project data.

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

Development of affordable rental housing is a priority need as demonstrated through the agency consultation process and data previously discussed. This activity will help narrow the deficit of affordable rental housing units and provide permanent housing opportunities to qualifying populations.

Preferences and Limitations

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:

Howard County does not intend to prioritize one or more of the qualifying populations for eligible activities.

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 category of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

Howard County has not identified any preferences.

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:

Howard County has not identified any limitations.

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:

N/A

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):

N/A

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

Establish a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing to demonstrate that rehabilitation of HOME-ARP rental housing is the primary eligible activity:

Howard County does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds.

Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving qualified populations for the minimum compliance period can be demonstrated:

N/A

State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both:

N/A

Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer:

N/A

State that HOME ARP funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.

N/A

Other requirements in the PJ's guidelines, if applicable:

N/A

Appendices

1. Public Notice
2. Public Hearing Agenda
3. Public Hearing Sign-In Roster
4. Agency Consultation Questionnaire
5. SF 424, 424B, 424D and HOME-ARP Certifications



PUBLIC NOTICE

Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development HOME Investment Partnerships Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan

Public Comment Period: March 1, 2023 – March 15, 2023

Public Hearing: March 13, 2023, 6:00pm, 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 211, Columbia, MD 21046

The Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development invites all interested residents, community groups, agencies, and organizations to review and comment on the proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. During a 15-day Public Comment period one (1) In-Person Public Hearing will be held.

Howard County was awarded \$1,757,012.00 in HOME-ARP funds through a one-time allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Allocation Plan is required by HUD for the County to utilize the HOME-ARP funding. The Plan outlines how funding will be used to assist individuals or households who are: 1) homeless 2) at risk of homelessness 3) fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking 4) other families requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness or those at greatest risk of housing instability. HOME-ARP funding can be used to assist these populations by providing affordable housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter.

15-Day Comment Period: The public will have the opportunity to review a copy of the proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan beginning March 1, 2023 at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/housing-community-development> or by visiting Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development at 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 224, Columbia, MD 21046 on Monday–Friday between 8:00am–5:00pm. Public comments regarding Howard County’s HOME-ARP Allocation Plan can be submitted via email, mail or fax no later than 11:59.99 pm on March 15, 2023. To submit comments via email, contact either Elizabeth Meadows, Chief Community Planning and Grants at emeadows@howardcountymd.gov or Maggie Carnegie, HOME Program Specialist at macarnegie@howardcountymd.gov. To submit comments via mail, send to Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development, 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 224, Columbia, MD 21046. To submit comments via fax, use number 410-313-5960.

In-Person Hearing: The public will have an opportunity to comment on Howard County’s HOME-ARP Allocation Plan in-person on March 13, 2023, at 6:00pm at 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 211, Columbia, MD 21046. If you plan on commenting in-person, a written copy of your comments should be provided at the time of the hearing. If you cannot attend the hearing, but wish to comment, please submit via email, mail or fax no later than 11:59.99 pm on March 15, 2023. To submit comments via email, contact either Elizabeth Meadows, Chief Community Planning and Grants at emeadows@howardcountymd.gov or Maggie Carnegie, HOME Program Specialist at macarnegie@howardcountymd.gov. To submit comments via mail, send to Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development, 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 224, Columbia, MD 21046. To submit comments via fax, use number 410-313-5960.

Efforts will be made to provide reasonable accommodations to disabled community members and offer translation services during the Public Hearing. Please submit a request with three (3) days advance notice to Quanita Kareem, Compliance Officer, at 410-313-3386 or email qkareem@howardcountymd.gov.

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and Community Development**

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HCT/CF 2/046

February 16, 2023

7378813



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 224 ■ Columbia, Maryland 21046 ■ 410-313-6318
Voice/Relay

Kelly A. Cimino, Director

FAX 410-313-5960

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Public Hearing Agenda
Wednesday, March 13, 2023 at 6pm
9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 211, Columbia, MD 21046

- **Introduction of Staff**
 - Maggie Carnegie, HOME Program Specialist
 - Elizabeth Meadows, Chief of Community Planning and Grants
- **HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Overview**
 - Public Participation Process
 - Allocation Plan Description
- **Public Comments**
- **Conclusion**
 - Questions & Answers
 - Next Steps
 - If there are questions, please contact Maggie Carnegie via email at macarnegie@howardcountymd.gov

Monday, March 13, 2023 @ 6:00pm
9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 211, Columbia, MD 21046

[illegible]



Howard County HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Consultation Questionnaire

Agency Name: _____

Name/Title of Person Completing: _____

Date: _____

Howard County HOME-ARP Allocation: \$1,757,012.00

HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations (QPs)

- 1) Homeless (as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11302\(a\)](#));
- 2) At risk of homelessness (as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11360\(1\)](#));
- 3) Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- 4) Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act ([42 U.S.C. 12742\(a\)](#)) would prevent a family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability
- 5) Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet the criteria in one of the qualifying populations listed above

HOME-ARP Eligible Activities

- 1) Production or preservation of affordable housing
- 2) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- 3) Supportive services, including services defined at [24 CFR 578.53\(e\)](#), Homeless Prevention Services, and Housing Counseling
- 4) Purchase and development of Non-Congregate Shelter

Please fill-out the questions below to the best of your ability. If the information is not applicable or unavailable, please indicate such. Keep in mind the HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations (QPs) and Eligible Activities when generating your responses. The information your agency provides will inform the creation of Howard County's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

1) What QPs does your agency serve?

2) What data can you provide on the QPs that you serve?

a) Demographic information:

b) Number and type of households served in each QP:

c) Waiting list information (if applicable):

d) Call volume (for agency and for specific services offered):

3) What shelter, housing, and services do you provide for each QP?

4) What are the gaps in shelter, housing, and services for each QP?

5) What are the characteristics of the local housing market, including vacancy rates, housing quality, and any barriers to using rental assistance?

6) Do you have data available on voucher utilization rates for individuals served by your agency?

7) What are the challenges in locating units for voucher holders?

8) What barriers to housing opportunities and choice do the QPs experience (emphasis on fair housing)?

9) What are the priority needs that your agency sees for each QP?

10) What are potential opportunities for collaboration?

11) Does your agency have adequate capacity to operate a HOME-ARP project or activity? If not, please explain.

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:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:** Howard County, Maryland

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

52-6000965

*** c. UEI:**

LJPAM296M118

d. Address:

*** Street1:** 9820 Patuxent Woods Drive

Street2: Suite 224

*** City:** Columbia

County/Parish:

*** State:** MD: Maryland

Province:

*** Country:** USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:** 21046-3396

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Housing & Community Dev.

Division Name:

Community Planning & Grants

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

Prefix:

Ms.

*** First Name:**

Kelly

Middle Name:

*** Last Name:**

Cimino

Suffix:

Title: Director

Organizational Affiliation:

Howard County Department of Housing & Community Development

*** Telephone Number:** 410-313-0190

Fax Number:

*** Email:** kcimino@howardcountymd.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:**

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships 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:**

Howard County's Substantial Amendment to the Federal FY2021 (County FY2022) Annual Action Plan to include the HOME American Rescue Plan (ARP) Allocation Plan.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

* a. Applicant

3

* b. Program/Project

3

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

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

09/20/2021

* b. End Date:

09/30/2030

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal

1,757,012.00

* b. Applicant

* c. State

* d. Local

* e. Other

* f. Program Income

* g. TOTAL

1,757,012.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on☒ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:

Dr.

* First Name:

Calvin

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Ball

Suffix:

* Title:

County Executive

* Telephone Number:

410-313-2013

Fax Number:

* Email:

cball@howardcountymd.gov

* Signature of Authorized Representative:



* Date Signed:

3/16/2023

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 Howard County, Maryland	DATE SUBMITTED 3-16-2023

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).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. 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.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
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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.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE County Executive
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Howard County, Maryland	DATE SUBMITTED 3-16-2023

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.

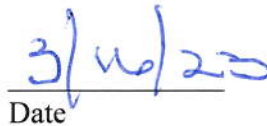
Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and program requirements.

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

County Executive

Title