



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME)

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

LAST UPDATED DECEMBER 15, 2022

HOME-ARP Draft Allocation Plan
Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

Summarize the consultation process:

In order to broaden participation in the HOME-ARP allocation planning process, the Montgomery County Office of Housing and Community Development (HCD) partnered with the Montgomery County Recovery Office (RO) to plan and implement the public participation process. The Montgomery County Recovery Office is a government entity created in response to the pandemic and release of the American Rescue Plan Act and was the lead county organization tasked with allocating the county's ARPA-SLFRF funds and ensuring an equitable recovery from the pandemic.

Together, HCD and the RO developed a multi-methods public participation process to gather input on HOME-ARP funds. This included a public survey, two public events (virtual and in-person), and interviews with people experiencing homelessness. Data from these efforts was collated and analyzed along with data from the CoC's HMIS system. Together, these sources of quantitative and qualitative data were used to create the draft allocation plan.

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback received
See attached sheet- Attachment 1			

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:

- ***Public comment period:*** start date – December 16, 2022 end date - January 16, 2023
- ***Public hearing:*** January 4, 2023, 11:00AM

In order to broaden participation in the HOME-ARP allocation planning process, the Montgomery County Office of Housing and Community Development (HCD) partnered with the Montgomery County Recovery Office (RO) to plan and implement the public participation process. The Montgomery County Recovery Office is a government entity created in response to the pandemic and release of the American Rescue Plan Act and was the lead county organization tasked with allocating the county's ARPA-SLFRF funds and ensuring an equitable recovery from the pandemic.

The public participation process included efforts to provide in-person and written opportunities for comment. The public participation process included:

(1) Release of a public survey in both Spanish and English to allow resident and community stakeholders to provide input regarding their priorities for the plan, which was shared with over 200 community groups/ nonprofits/ developers/ residents including the CoC, the County's general public listserv, and a number of affiliated organizational groups. The survey was available online from September 26 through October 16, 2022. The survey received 71 responses. The survey and responses are attached (Attachments 2- 5)

(2) A community-wide virtual Town Hall event on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, to provide information on HOME-ARP and provide a “live” opportunity to comment on the plan. One hundred thirty-seven people registered for the event. A copy of the slide deck, breakout session handout, breakout sessions responses, and list of participating organizations is attached (Attachments 6-9). This public town hall was advertised in three area newspapers fifteen days prior to the event and a copy of those notifications is attached. (Attachments 10- 13).

(3) Interviews with persons experiencing homelessness, conducted in person in Norristown, PA on October 5, 2022. A summary of their input is attached (Attachment 14)

As well, input in the form of a letter from a local advocacy organization regarding priorities for funding was received on October 16, 2022. That letter is also attached (Attachment 15)

The RO collated and organized this data to reflect common themes and priorities. Then, using data provided by HCD regarding HIC/PIT information and other demographic information, the RO provided a draft allocation plan to reflect the priorities of the community.

The HCD and RO published the draft plan on December 15, 2022 on the county’s website. The plan and instructions on how to provide comments were published online and via three area newspapers as well (notifications attached). The RO and HCD allowed public comment to be submitted via an online survey and through a virtual town hall session hosted on January 4, 2023.

Describe any efforts to broaden public participation:

Efforts to increase public participation included the creation and wide distribution of a survey, where over 200 residents and community members were invited to offer their input. The survey was made available in Spanish and English. Seventy responses were received in English and one response was received in Spanish.

Second, the town hall event was advertised broadly and received 137 registrations. During the town hall, participants were given more information about the funding available and were given the opportunity to provide feedback in smaller “breakout sessions,” which were structured to encourage participation. HCD and RO staff took notes during these sessions so public comment could be built into the plan.

Also, in order to ensure that people currently experiencing homelessness had the opportunity to provide input directly, the RO conducted interviews with people currently experiencing homelessness. The RO worked with the CoC’s street outreach team to plan interviews and meet with people willing to discuss their priorities for the funding. Three interviews were held and the notes from those interviews were analyzed as part of the draft plan process.

Finally, in order to collect input from other groups underrepresented in housing services, the RO and HCD co-hosted a community conversation with the county’s Asian American Healthcare Coalition. This was done to increase outreach efforts to Asian American groups, which make up a significant portion of the county’s population of persons of color. Residents were able to provide their input into funding and housing needs, as well as other service needs. Their input was recorded and incorporated into the draft plan.

A PJ must consider any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at a public hearing, when preparing the HOME-ARP allocation plan.

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

All comments were accepted.

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

All comments were accepted.

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

- **Persons experiencing homelessness:**

According to data collected from the PA-504 Continuum of Care, in 2022 there were 1,556 individuals who experienced unsheltered homelessness (people living in a place not meant for habitation) and 2,497 individuals who experienced sheltered homelessness (people who would be unsheltered without CoC intervention and assistance) totaling 4,053 total individuals. Of those experiencing homelessness 48% (1,959) were women and 51% (2,067) were men. 1% identify as a gender other than male or female or chose not to disclose their gender. Montgomery County has seen a sharp increase in the number of households with children who are dealing with a housing crisis during the last year. Over a quarter of individuals experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County (29%) are children under the age of 18, and the waitlist for family emergency shelters is three times as long as it was in the previous calendar year. Nearly half of those experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County identify as Black or African American (49% or 1,976 people). 35% of the homeless population is White, 6% is Mixed Race, less than 1% each Asian or Asian American, Indigenous, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. In the last year the only year-round, single adult emergency shelter was forced to close its doors, leaving those experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County without a timely resolution to their crisis. As a result of rising rental prices nationwide, stagnant wages, natural disasters that destroyed affordable housing like Hurricane Ida, and the long-term economic impacts of COVID-19, more Montgomery County residents are facing housing instability than ever before.

- **Persons fleeing domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault:**

In the year of October 2021- September 2022, 279 persons identified as experiencing homelessness as a result of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault. This included 245 women, 33 men, and 1 person identifying as transgender. One hundred fifty-five persons identified as Black/ African American, 73 as white, 16 as multi-racial, 8 as American Indian/ Alaska Native/ Other Indigenous, 2 as Asian, and 82 persons did not input identifying information. Two hundred forty five identified as Non-Hispanic/Non Latino, 23 as Hispanic/Latino, and 11 did not enter ethnicity information.

Based on consultation with the Women's Center of Montgomery County, located in Norristown, it is estimated that 3 out of 5 people who contact the Women's Center are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, are in need of housing assistance. The Center serves approximately 4,000 victims of domestic violence per year. All of the people the Center works with that need housing are on the same wait list for transitional and/or public or privately subsidized housing.

- **Persons at risk of homelessness:**

During the year of October 2021- September 2022, Your Way Home served 5,244 persons in homelessness prevention programs. Of those, persons identifying as Black, African American, or African were 2,809; as White were 1,681; Multi-Racial was 152; Asian or Asian American was 56; American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous 27; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 12; and 507 persons did not have identifying information entered. As well, 4,347 persons identified as non-Hispanic/non-Latino and 527 persons identified as Hispanic/Latino with the remainder not disclosing this information. Of the total,

3754 persons identified as female, 1416 as male, 7 as transgender, 3 as a gender other than singularly male or female, and 64 did not disclose gender.

Beyond persons specifically being served in established prevention programs, the number of persons "at risk" of becoming homeless is difficult to estimate at any point in time. Those threatened with eviction, unemployment, foreclosure, or termination of utilities could become homeless when they no longer have a cushion against the perils of life. Most commonly, it is when a family lives paycheck to paycheck without any savings for emergencies. If only one lost paycheck, a small rent increase, one stint of mental or physical illness, or a temporary layoff from work can cause people to lose their housing, then they are considered "at risk". A common scenario is when eviction from rental housing occurs due to nonpayment of rent. Unemployment or underemployment results in lack of sufficient income to meet the costs of food, housing, transportation, and childcare. Additionally, individuals or families who fall into one or more of the following categories are most likely to become homeless:

- Persons leaving institutions such as mental hospitals or prisons;
- Young adults aging out of the foster care system;
- Households with incomes less than 30% of the median family income;
- Households paying in excess of 50% of income for housing costs;
- Victims of domestic violence;
- Special needs populations such as persons with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, drug and/or alcohol addictions;
- Single parent households who are unemployed;
- Large low-income families;
- Renters facing eviction; and
- Homeowners facing foreclosure

The greatest housing problem facing Montgomery County is the lack of affordable housing and the fact that many of the County's lower income households are paying more than 30% of their total household income on housing related costs. The following information was noted: 32,965 White households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 24,775 White households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 3,984 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, 2,971 Black/African American households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 2,210 Asian households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 1,997 Asian households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 14 American Indian, Alaska Native households were cost-overburdened by 30% to 50%, 59 American Indian, Alaska Native households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%; 25 Pacific Islander households were cost-overburdened by 30% to 50%, and lastly, 1,258 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by 30% to 50%, and 1,193 Hispanic households were cost overburdened by greater than 50%.

- **Other populations:**

- **Seniors:**

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 245,486 households in 2018 in Urban Montgomery County. Based on this number of households, 62,862 (25.6%) of all households were single person households living alone. Single person households aged 65 and over comprised of 29,345 households or (11.95%) of all households. Based on the ACS estimates, 46.68% of all persons living alone are seniors, and it is presumed that as they age in place, additional accommodations and supportive services will be necessary for this portion of the Urban County's population.

- **Persons with disabilities:**

The 2014-2018 American Community Survey reported disability status for civilian, noninstitutionalized persons aged five and over. In 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, there were an estimated 629,728 civilian, non-institutionalized persons in Urban Montgomery County, 61,985 identified a disability status which accounts for 9.84% of the non-institutionalized population.

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

- **Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations:**

In July 2022, the only year-round emergency shelter serving single adults in Montgomery County was closed, due to a long-standing land use issue between the municipality in which the shelter is located and the state of Pennsylvania, which owned the land and building. The shelter provided 60 beds and was a critical component of the homeless crisis response system. There was limited space available for transferring sheltered persons to other locations, and therefore when the shelter closed, people experiencing street homelessness had fewer options for emergency housing.

The shelter closure, however, was only the latest in a series of environmental and economic disasters impacting low income and homeless households in the county. In October 2021, Hurricane Ida decimated one of the largest market-rent, affordable housing developments in Norristown. A significant number of families and seniors on fixed incomes, many of whom held public housing vouchers, were immediately displaced from their home. Despite the immediate resource of disaster funding to support hotel stays, many of them have been unable to find an affordable unit elsewhere due to the extreme rise in rents and their particular challenge in qualifying for units on low, fixed incomes. Disaster funding for hotels has run out, and many of those residents are also now displaced, including street homelessness, according to anecdotal information gained from the CoC's homeless outreach team.

These factors, combined with the economic impacts of the pandemic, inflation, and rising costs of rents, has created an extreme and sudden increase in the number of households experiencing unsheltered homelessness. "Since CHOC has closed you can see the increase in homeless individuals with no place to go throughout the county...this needs to be addressed."

In August 2022, the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners approved \$6.8 million in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act be directed to support emergency shelter across the county. This includes \$5.5 million to address the new location for the closed single adult shelter in Norristown region, and an additional \$1.3 million to support creation of a new year-round housing space serving the western portion of the county in the Pottstown area.

- ***Those currently housed populations at risk of homelessness;***

Rents in Montgomery County have risen over the last few years, mirroring national trends. More than 50% of renter households are considered rent burdened, and rents increased 12-17%¹ year-over-year. According to the gaps analysis provided herein, about 14,000 households are in need of affordable units.

According to community stakeholders, there is an element of exploitation connected to rising rents, affordability, and people most at risk of homelessness. About 74% of households living between 0-30% of the AMI have at least one severe housing issue, compared to 48% of households living at 30-60% of the AMI, according to the county's 2020-2024 Consolidated Action Plan. As one survey participant

¹ Insert MA reference

mentions, “Rent[s] are high but landlords are not keeping up with the building forcing residents to live in a high rent unit that is breaking down.”

- ***Other families requiring services or housing assistance or to prevent homelessness; and,***

Vulnerable residents, including low-income families with children, recent immigrants and people with disabilities, are often on the brink of eviction and facing the threat of homelessness. Housing instability negatively impacts the academic performance of K - 12 and college students, affecting their future career opportunities. And, people of color, persons with disabilities, and low-income people often experience discriminatory housing practices.

A lack of quality affordable housing places housing cost burdens on low- to moderate-income persons, limiting their ability to pay for other goods and services, such as quality education or needed prescriptions.

Homes For All, a two-year, multi-sector planning project the purpose of which is to identify, evaluate and recommend public, private and social sector strategies to ensure that everyone who lives, works, learns and invests in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania has the opportunity to live in an affordable home and a thriving community. The planning project will also explore the creation, promotion and adoption at the municipal level of an inclusionary housing ordinance that would require the set-aside of a specific percentage of housing units.

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:

As mentioned, there is currently no year-round emergency shelter space for single adults in the County. There are pop-up Code Blue shelters which offer overnight shelter during the coldest times of the year, but these are largely for single adults only and only open sporadically. Families experiencing homelessness may be able to secure space in one of the county’s six family shelters. However, all shelters tend to be chronically full, and therefore there is a waiting list for space which forces families to split up, often separating children from their parents/ guardians while waiting for shelter space. As mentioned, a total of \$6.8 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds was allocated to emergency shelter in the county in August 2022 to address this issue. However, those funds are for construction/ rehab of spaces and will likely not result in the creation of shelter space during the winter of 2022, when shelter is urgently needed.

Your Way Home’s Street outreach team provides year-round, daily resource connection for persons experiencing homelessness. Street Outreach and the county’s coordinated homeless crisis hotline, 2-1-1, serves as the centralized intake system for homeless services. However, given the high volume of need, there is a long wait time for intake and, given the bottlenecks throughout the crisis response system, callers are often required to wait for services or beds to open up before receiving help. As one town hall participant noted, there is a need for “Funding to improve access to the system; it’s difficult to direct those who need assistance to it.” American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$420,000 have been set aside to address coordination of intake and referral systems in the county, including homeless crisis intake.

Eviction prevention and rental assistance/ utility assistance is available for persons facing eviction or for persons behind in rent due to the pandemic. The CoC works with a number of geographically dispersed service providers to administer these programs and services. However, there is a long waiting list for services and delays in processing applications due to the high number of persons needing support. American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$4 million have been allocated to expand eviction prevention assistance in dedicated magisterial district courts, in addition to the \$116 million distributed and available through the U.S. Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).

Your Way Home also operates a county-wide rapid rehousing program, which offers housing location, move in assistance, and rental support for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Due to the shortage in affordable housing, there are lag times in identifying units and moving through waiting lists for the program.

The County offers two small TBRA programs, currently serving **15 special needs households**. These programs are designed to support people with special needs. The programs are co-coordinated between the CoC and the county's Office of Mental Health.

The Montgomery County Housing Authority (MCHA) owns and manages 526 public housing units located in four high-rise towers, designed for elderly and disabled residents, and two-family communities in eight developments in three of the County's sixty-two municipalities. Virtually all the public housing units are occupied, with an annual turnover rate of approximately 60 units. In addition to public housing, the Authority administers the Housing Choice Voucher Program serving approximately 2,300 families as of April 2022. Small Families (1-4 persons) comprised 1,912 voucher households, while households with a disabled member represented 1,203 voucher holders. June 2019 was the last time the MCHA's Housing Choice Voucher Program accepted applications. Our notification efforts and on-line applications were available in both English and Spanish. During the 7-day application window, the MCHA rec'd over 10,500 applications.

Construction of new affordable units is managed through the county's Office of Housing and Community Development. A total of 1036 affordable housing units have been created since 2008, with 650 units dedicated to seniors, and 387 multi-family units.

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

There is a clear need for additional shelter space in the county, given the recent influx of street homelessness and its ripple effect throughout the service system. Forty-seven percent (47%) of respondents to the HOME-ARP survey ranked emergency shelter as the number one investment for these funds, with TBRA and affordable housing development tying for second place at around 14% and 25% respectively.

Consistent with this service priority, stakeholders also recommended that HOME-ARP funds prioritize households already experiencing homelessness. In the stakeholder survey, about 65% of respondents recommended that this population category be prioritized, with the second ranking being persons at risk of homelessness (18%). Some respondents also noted particularly vulnerable demographic groups within these categories, including seniors, persons identifying as LGBTQIA+, persons with disabilities, and youth.

Discussion with resident and community stakeholders also makes clear that investment in one strategy is not considered a "silver bullet" solution, but rather a variety of deep investments into all components of

healthy housing stock is necessary. As one survey participant noted, “Currently we do not have the capacity to move people off the streets. We need to have both Emergency Housing and Permanent Housing stock.” Another survey respondent noted, “Affordable housing [is lacking] which is escalating homelessness as well as lack of funds to assist with actual housing beyond shelters.”

During the public comment period, HCD and the the RO also received a letter from the local advocacy coalition “Here for Us”. The letter spoke to the urgent needs regarding the homeless population, recommending that HOME-ARP funds be utilized for “shelter ... to move people into a legal and safe place to stay as the temperatures drop,” and that “The county should provide ongoing rental assistance to families and individuals who are housed or living in a shelter and looking to transition to a more permanent setting.”

Townhall and survey respondents also noted service issues, such as issues with waiting times for coordinated entry. However, these waiting times are largely considered to be as a result of lack of housing stock and “flow” through the system, which would be better remedied through investment into housing programs and stock rather than service needs, with this funding source.

Discussion of prioritization for HOME-ARP funds is connected to larger strategic planning efforts, using a coordinated funding approach to strategically align funding sources based on the timeliness of payment disbursement, flexibility of funding, and fit with local need. The discussion of allocation of HOME-ARP funds comes after the county’s investment of \$32.4 million from the American Rescue Plan Act; State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds into housing. These investments included \$6.8 million into emergency shelter, \$5.5 million into the creation of a local land bank/ policy and planning effort, \$500,000 into the existing First Time Homebuyer’s Program, \$5.8 million to support rehab of existing public and privately owned affordable housing, \$4 million to expand and continue eviction prevention services, and supporting creation of 325 units of new affordable 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:

Not applicable.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Through a robust community participation process, HCD and the RO have determined that the priority investment for these funds is to support emergency shelter, affordable housing construction, and administration/planning in the allowed limit. The prioritized populations should include persons experiencing homelessness and persons at risk of homelessness. The needs of these populations include immediate safe, legal shelter as well as increased access to safe, affordable housing throughout the community.

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:

Your Way Home provides oversight over the county’s unified HMIS system, regularly reviewing data reports and changes in population, service outcomes, and other measurements related to homeless crisis service delivery. As well, Your Way Home includes two governing boards that reflect a variety of community stakeholder input: the Your Way Home Advisory Council and the CoC Governing Board, which also analyze data, trends, service outcomes, and discuss evolving needs within the system.

In addition to these regular opportunities for system evaluation, this process has included additional community input in order to provide the most inclusive process possible. These efforts are described above. Survey responses, comments from town hall events, and personal interview data were analyzed in conjunction with the available HMIS data and other institutional knowledge of community representatives who are engaged in this work every day. Finally, recommendations were compared against the recent ARPA-LSFRF allocations and existing CoC, ESG, CDBG, and other housing funding sources to ensure that HOME-ARP funds were being prioritized and aligned with existing resources.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors and whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

HCD and the RO will use an open application process to solicit projects for funding that align with the community reviewed, HUD-approved allocation plan. HCD already uses an annual application process for its funding programs and has a well-established process for advertising grant opportunities, collecting proposals, and reviewing proposals. The RO has also established additional processes for increasing evaluation of projects using an equity-based approach, and will support HCD by providing additional technical assistance and administrative support to reach a broader array of audiences and to connect potential projects submitted through the American Rescue Plan Act process to HCD for consideration.

Once the allocation plan has been approved by HUD, HCD and the RO will publish a grant application where applicants can apply for funds. HCD and the RO will establish a scoring rubric that will evaluate projects based on how well they meet the established priorities of HOME-ARP. Projects will then be evaluated against this scoring rubric and allocated funding based on the evaluation process.

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:

Not applicable.

PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits. The following table may be used to meet this requirement.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding - Amount Percent of the Grant Statutory Limit

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ #		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 1,000,000.00	20%	
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ #		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 3,318,553.00	65%	

Non-Profit Operating	\$ #	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ #	0%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 762,097.00	15 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 5,080,650.00		

Additional narrative, if applicable:

NA

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:

Feedback from community partners identified emergency shelter, tenant-based rental assistance, and affordable housing as priority areas. As described in the narrative above, funds for emergency shelter were allocated in the amount of \$6.8 million in August 2022 from American Rescue Plan Act funds, and so a smaller portion of HOME-ARP funds were allocated to support additional emergency shelter efforts, especially since HOME-ARP funds would not be able to be disbursed until early 2023 at the earliest. Additionally, HCD recently received \$161 million in funds for rental assistance through the U.S. Treasury ERAP program, as mentioned above. Given the cost of affordable housing and the high need for these services, a large portion of grant funds were allocated to construction costs for affordable rental housing. Finally, the allowable allocation for administration related to the grant funds was allocated to support HCD costs related to financial compliance, reporting, monitoring, and grants management.

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:

It is estimated that the allocation will allow for up to 24 units of affordable housing, assuming \$125,000 per unit. However, challenges in construction and financing may require HCD to increase the per unit subsidy and therefore decrease the number of units supported.

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:

With a \$3 million dollar investment in affordable housing development, Montgomery County would hope to fund the creation of 66 new affordable housing rental units serving households 80% Area Median Income or below.

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:

•Preferences cannot violate any applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a).

•PJs are not required to describe specific projects to which the preferences will apply.

Shelter services will be directed towards persons who are already experiencing homelessness. The PJ will also prioritize projects that support units for the qualifying populations of youth, seniors, persons identifying as LGBTQIA+, and persons with disabilities.

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:

A primary need in the community is to address the emergency shelter crisis that has led to an increase in literal homelessness. Emergency shelter funds through this program will support persons in this category. As well, through the community feedback procedures, it was identified that additional populations should also be prioritized: seniors, youth, persons identifying as LGBTQIA+, and persons with disabilities. Therefore, HCD will prioritize affordable housing projects that will specifically serve or prioritize these populations for housing. However, no Qualifying Populations will be excluded.

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

While it is challenging to address the needs of all population with limited funds, other populations are still being served through recent investments in shelter, rental assistance, and affordable housing as described above, such as through the American Rescue Plan Act funds, US. Treasury ERAP funds, and annual allocations of funding such as through the CoC Grant Program, Emergency Solutions Grant Program, Community Development Block Grant program, and HOME program. While we will prioritize non-congregant shelter and affordable housing development for people already experiencing homelessness, all qualifying populations will be eligible and none will be excluded. Affirmative marketing plan and compliance with the plan will be required for any project that receives HOME-ARP dollars for the construction of affordable rental housing. Any non-congregant shelter built with HOME-ARP dollars will be required to accept all Qualifying Populations in need of emergency shelter.

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines: If a PJ intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOMEARP funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines in accordance with 24 CFR 92.206(b).

Montgomery County is not proposing to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing to be rehabbed with HOME-ARP funds. Therefore, this is not applicable.

HOME-ARP Draft Allocation Plan- Attachments

Attachment 1- Agencies consulted during initial engagement period

Attachment 2- Housing Funding Survey

Attachment 3- Encuesta de servicios de vivienda

Attachment 4- Housing Funding Survey- All Responses

Attachment 5- Encuesta de servicios de vivienda- All Responses

Attachment 6- Housing and Disaster Recovery Town Hall PPT

Attachment 7- Housing and Disaster Recovery Town Hall Breakout Session Handout

Attachment 8- Housing and Disaster Recovery Town Hall Breakout Session Summary of Responses

Attachment 9- Housing and Disaster Recovery Town Hall Registration Report 10.11.22

Attachment 10- Advertisement Pottstown Mercury

Advertisement 11- Advertisement Lansdale Reporter

Attachment 12- Norristown Times Herald

Attachment 13- Advertisement Intelligencer

Attachment 14- Summary of interviews with people experiencing homelessness

Attachment 15- Letter from Here for Us Advocacy Coalition

(future) Attachment 16- advertisement of draft plan

(future) Attachment 17-summary of draft plan public comment

ATTACHMENT 1

Agency/ Organization Consulted	Type of Agency/ Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback Received
100 Centre Ave Condominium Association	Condo association	Townhall	see summary of feedback
a nonprofit not involved in housing	nonprofit services	Survey	
A&S Multiservices LLC	community services	Townhall	
	homeless services, mental health/ behavioral health,		
Access Services	persons with disabilities	Survey/ townhall	
AdvocacyWorx	civil rights	Townhall	
Ann Frances Outreach Foundation	Homeless services	Survey/ townhall	
Apostolic Housing- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ	housing services/ developer	Townhall/ survey	
Bethel AME Church of Ardmore	faith	Townhall	
Blight 2 Light Foundation	other	Townhall/ survey	
Bucks-Mont Collaborative	community services	Survey/ townhall	
CADCOM	community action agency	Townhall/ survey	
	community services, Latino		
Centro Cultura	services	Townhall	
Cheltenham Police Department	law enforcement	Townhall/ survey	
	law enforcement/ mental		
Cheltenham Township Substance Abuse/Mental Health Committee	health/ substance use	Townhall/ survey	
Children and Youth	government services	Survey/ townhall	
Chineseinus.org	other	Townhall	
Christian Concern Communities Management and Development, Inc.	other	Townhall/ survey	
Church of the Lord Jesus Christ	faith	Townhall	
	basic needs, community		
College Student Basic Needs Program	college students	Townhall/ survey	
Community Connections	information and referral	Survey	
county of montgomery	government services	Townhall	
	mental health/ behavioral		
Creative Health Services	health	Townhall/ survey	
Emmanuel Lutheran Church	Homeless_services,other	Survey	
Eternal Life Christian Center	landlord, housing	Townhall	
Family Promise Montco PA	homeless services	Townhall	
Family Promise of the Main Line	homeless services	Townhall/ survey	
Family Services	behavioral health, housing	Townhall/ survey	
FHIP	other	Townhall	
Genesis Housing Corp.	housing developer, CHDO	Townhall/ survey	
George Washington Carver Community Center	community center	Townhall	
GHI	other	Townhall	
H.A.I.R Health Advocates In Reach & Research	fair housing/ civil rights	Townhall/ survey	
Habitat for Humanity Montgomery and Delaware Counties	housing developer	Townhall/ survey	
HDC MidAtlantic	housing developer	Townhall	
HealthSpark Foundation	philanthropy	Survey	
Hedwig House, Inc.	mental health, housing	Townhall	
	civil rights, fair housing,		
Here For Us	advocacy	Townhall/ survey	
	behavioral health, persons with		
HopeWorx	disabilities	Townhall	
Indian Creek Foundation	behavioral health	Townhall	
Individual proponent of fair and equality in housing	fair housing/ civil rights	Survey	
Individual residents		Survey/ townhall	
JFCS of Greater Philadelphia	community services	Townhall	
KATS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.	other	Townhall	
LaMott A.M.E. Church	faith, food security	Townhall	
Lansdale Borough	municipality	Townhall	
	community services, Latino		
Latinos Norristown PA	services	Townhall/ survey	
Laurel House	Domestic violence services	Survey/ townhall	
Little Lansdale	other	Townhall	
	mental health/ behavioral		
Lower Merion Counseling and Mobile Services.	health	Survey	
Lower Merion Township	municipality	Townhall/ survey	
Lower Providence Township	municipality	Townhall	
	mental health/ behavioral		
Merakey	health	Townhall/ survey	
Milovcich-Davis Family	other	Townhall	
Montco Anti-Hunger Netowrk	food security	Townhall	
Montco Health & Human Services	government services	Survey/ townhall	
Montgomery County Housing Authority	housing authority	Townhall/ survey	
Montgomery County Intermediate Unit	persons with disabilities	Townhall	
Montgomery County Office of Public Health	public health	Survey	
	community services,		
Montgomery County OIC	workforce development	Townhall	
Montgomery County PA Veteran Affairs	veteran's services	Townhall	

ATTACHMENT 1

Agency/ Organization Consulted	Type of Agency/ Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback Received
Montgomery Korean Senior Association	senior services, Korean	Townhall	
Mosaic CLT	housing developer	Townhall/ survey	
NAACP	civil rights	Townhall	
NAACP Pottstown Branch	civil rights	Townhall	
NAMI	persons with disabilities	Townhall	
Narberth Community Food Bank	food security	Townhall	
No Longer Bound Development Center	other	Townhall	
NoGrayArea	other	Townhall	
Orion Communities	homeless services, persons with disabilities	Townhall/ survey	
Petra Community Housing	housing developer	Townhall/ survey	
Phoenixville Women's Outreach	other	Survey	
Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities	homeless services, food security	Survey	
Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities	other		
PowerUp Foundation	civil rights, fair housing, advocacy	Townhall/ survey	
Rahab's Hope	homeless services	Townhall	
Rehab Consultants LLC	drug and alcohol services	Townhall	
	homeless services, mental health/ behavioral health, persons with disabilities		
Resource for Human Development	persons with disabilities	Townhall/ survey	
Royersford Borough	municipality	Townhall	
Saint Vincent DE Paul Society	community services	Townhall	
Schwenksville Borough	municipality	Townhall	
SEPTA	transportation authority	Townhall	
Springfield Township, Montgomery County	municipality	Townhall	
St Luke's Conference of SVDp	community services	Townhall/ survey	
Crisis worker in pottstown hospital	homeless services, behavioral health		
SVDP at St. Catherine's in Horsham	other		
	mental health/ behavioral health, persons with disabilities		
The Ferns Peer Respite	disabilities	Townhall/ survey	
The Foundation for Delaware County - Housing Opportunities Program for Equity	other	Townhall	
The Hope and Help Network	other	Townhall/ survey	
The Lending Helping Hands Service	other	Survey	
The Open Link	senior services	Townhall	
The Salvation Army, Norristown	homeless services	Townhall	
	LGBTQ services, immigrant services, mental health/ behavioral health		
The Welcome Project PA	Homeless services, youth services	Townhall/ survey	
Valley Youth House	services	Survey	
Vincent Mennonite Church	faith	Townhall	
VMSC Emergency Medical Services	emergency services	Townhall	
VNA Community Services	healthcare service	Survey/ townhall	
Walters Group	housing developer	Townhall/ survey	
	affordable housing owner, developer		
Willow Grove Community Development Corporation	developer	Townhall	
	youth services, housing services		
YWCA Tri-County Area	services	Townhall	
Zion Baptist Church Ardmore	faith	Townhall	

ATTACHMENT 2



Housing Funding Survey

Montgomery County has received \$5,080,650 in funding for housing services through the American Rescue Plan Act- HOME Program (in addition to other Rescue Plan Act funds). As part of its work determining how to spend these funds, the County is interested in hearing about housing needs from residents, nonprofit housing providers, developers, and others. Your input will help determine the funding priorities.

The funding is allowed to be spent on the following types of programs and services:

- Emergency shelter
- Rental assistance to individuals and families
- Construction costs to create new affordable housing
- Housing-related services, such as case management, housing counseling, housing location, etc

In addition, communities must prioritize which populations to serve with this funding. The populations to prioritize are:

- Households already experiencing homelessness (e.g. sleeping in a shelter or outside)
- Households at risk of homelessness (e.g., facing eviction)
- Households experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Any other specific population (e.g., youth, families with children, seniors, LGBTQIA+ population) at risk of homelessness

Please provide your feedback on how Montgomery County should spend the \$5 million below.

1. In your opinion, what are the unmet housing needs in the community?
2. Which programs or services should the County prioritize with these funds? Please order the list below in order of most important (first) to least important (fourth).*

_____ Rental assistance to individuals and families

_____ Construction costs to build new affordable housing

ATTACHMENT 2

____ Housing-related services, such as case management, housing counseling, housing location, etc

____ Emergency shelter

3. Which populations should the County prioritize serving with these funds? Please list the populations in order of most important (first) to least important (fourth).*

____ Households experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking

____ Households already experiencing homelessness (e.g., staying in an emergency shelter or sleeping outside)

____ Households at risk of homelessness (e.g., facing eviction)

____ Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness

____ Any other specific population (e.g., youth, families with children, seniors, LGBTQIA+ population) at risk of homelessness

4. Please describe the specific populations you think should be prioritized for funding, if any.*

5. Please provide any additional comments on how this funding should be spent.

As part of our public input process, we are collecting information on which organizations provided comment so that we can ensure a wide variety of opinions are included. Please respond to the following questions below.

- Name of your organization (or N/A if none)*
- Sector/ focus of your organization*
- What geographic region does your organization serve? If you're not affiliated with an organization, what part of the county do you live in?*
- Does your organization target services to a particular demographic group, such as Latinos, Asian Americans, seniors, veterans, or others?*

The County will be releasing a draft of the funding plan after public comments have been analyzed and before the plan is officially approved. If you would like to receive a copy of the draft funding plan directly, please enter your email below.

ATTACHMENT 3



Encuesta de servicios de vivienda

El Condado de Montgomery ha recibido \$5,080,650 en fondos para servicios de vivienda, a través del Acto de Recuperación Americano-HOME. El Condado está interesado en solicitar las opiniones de los residentes, organizaciones sin fines de lucros, y otros para determinar la mejor forma de cómo utilizar estos fondos. Su opinión nos ayudara a determinar las prioridades para el uso adecuado de estos fondos.

Los fondos podrán ser utilizados en estos tipos de programas y servicios:

- Refugio de emergencia
- Asistencia de alquiler para familias e individuos
- Construcción de vivienda asequible
- Servicios, como manejo de casos, asesoramiento, ayuda buscando una vivienda

Además, las comunidades deben priorizar a qué poblaciones atender con esta financiación. Las poblaciones prioritarias son:

- Personas que ya están experimentando la falta de hogar (por ejemplo, durmiendo en un refugio o al aire libre)
- Personas que corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar (por ejemplo, que se enfrentan a un desahucio)
- Hogares que se encuentran sin hogar porque huyen o intentan huir de la violencia doméstica, la violencia de pareja, la agresión sexual, el acoso o la trata de seres humanos
- Veteranos que experimentan o corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar
- Cualquier otra población específica (por ejemplo, jóvenes, familias con niños, personas mayores, población LGBTQIA+ en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar)

Su opinión cuenta. Por favor, proporcione su opinión o sugerencia sobre cómo el Condado de Montgomery debe gastar los \$5 millones de dólares a continuación.

1. ¿En su opinión, cuáles son las necesidades de vivienda en su comunidad?

2. ¿A qué programas o servicios debería dar prioridad el condado para el uso de estos fondos? Por favor, organize la siguiente lista en orden de más importante (primero) a menos importante (último).

_____ Servicios, como manejo de casos, asesoramiento, ayuda buscando una vivienda

_____ Refugio de emergencia

_____ Construcción de viviendas asequibles

ATTACHMENT 3

___ Asistencia de alquiler para familias e individuos

3. ¿A qué poblaciones debería priorizar el condado los servicios que proporcionarán estos fondos? Por favor, enumere las poblaciones en orden de la de mayor importancia (primero) a la de menor importancia (ultimo).

___ Hogares que se encuentran sin hogar porque huyen o intentan huir de la violencia doméstica, la violencia de pareja, la agresión sexual, el acoso o la trata de seres humanos

___ Personas que corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar (por ejemplo, que se enfrentan a un desahucio)

___ Personas que ya están experimentando la falta de hogar (por ejemplo, durmiendo en un refugio o al aire libre)

___ Veteranos que experimentan o corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar

___ Cualquier otra población específica (por ejemplo, jóvenes, familias con niños, personas mayores, población LGBTQIA+ en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar)

4. Por favor, indique los grupos de población específicos a los que, en su opinión, debería darse prioridad en la financiación, si es que hay alguno. Le agradeceríamos que nos hiciera llegar cualquier comentario adicional sobre la forma en que debería invertirse estos fondos.

5. Le agradeceríamos que nos hiciera llegar cualquier comentario adicional sobre la forma en que debería invertirse estos fondos.

6. Favor de incluir la comunidad en donde usted vive (por ejemplo, Norristown, Pottstown)

7. Si desea recibir directamente una copia del plan final de financiación para el uso de estos fondos, introduzca su correo electrónico o número de teléfono a continuación. Esta información no será compartida con otros.

Housing Funding Survey

1. In your opinion, what are the unmet housing needs in the community?



Response	Count
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We need an emergency homeless shelter immediately. MontCo has a crisis that is only going to get worse as the weather gets colder and Covid numbers rise.	1
We have a lack of safe, decent, affordable homes for families that make less than 80% of the AMI.	1
We do not have enough emergency shelters for men and families; we absolutely do not have a pipeline out of the shelters and no affordable housing options when they are able to leave shelter.	1
We are in need of homeless shelters for all individuals (Adults and Children). Assistance with resources or funds when eviction notices are given. Housing for adults that have a mental health diagnosis and high medical needs. The barrier becomes that they don't meet the requirements for a nursing home, yet their medical needs are too high for a personal care home.	1
Unaffordable rent prices on apartments in Montgomery County.	1
Transportation from areas without emergency housing to shelters and temporary housing. Pets permitted in all shelters and temporary housing.	1

There is not enough affordable apartments or housing in the willow grove, hatboro, horsham areas. There needs to be more space available for low income families. There is also no emergency shelters in the area other than hotels.	1
There is no shelter for single adults and not enough shelter space for families despite the caseload for both groups increasing significantly.	1
There is no Emergency Shelter for single adults in the county.	1
The unmet needs of the community is affordable housing. Many of the people we serve do not have an education past high school making it impossible to pay the increasing high cost of rent. Many are only slightly above minimum wage. The cost of food is also contributing to unmet housing needs because families have to choose between paying unaffordable rent or buying food.	1
The unhoused population....to have mobile facilities to attain clean showers, bathrooms, clean clothes, and referral services.	1
The primary need is subsidized housing for seniors, low income families and single adults. In addition, for those that do not qualify for subsidized housing - there is a need for funds to secure housing - security deposit, first and last month's rent.	1
Since CHOC has closed you can see the increase in homeless individuals with no place to go throughout the county.. this needs to be addressed.	1
Shelters for homeless families throughout the County, available low-income rental properties, affordable low-income properties to buy	1
Shelters for all populations- especially single adults, DV w/children. Workforce housing, affordable homes, rental assistance (one time), more quality subsidized housing. Ongoing rental assistance for crisis situations.	1
Shelter Affordable rentals TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	1
Safe, affordable, attainable rental housing. Safe and affordable single room occupancy units.	1
Rental and utility assistance for people struggling to survive. We need to work with them to develop a plan to keep them in their homes and avoid eviction. There is a need for rental assistance, security payments when moving to a new place. We need to stop limiting assistance for only people affected by covid.	1
Providing affordable housing for low-income people, including homeownership and rental.	1
Prioritizing shelters for the homeless over investing in rental properties.	1

People who slip through the cracks of the current system. Especially, in our experience LGBT+ Youth & Young Adults. There is need for affordable and safe housing.	1
People experiencing homelessness who find their own housing struggle to have the money for move in costs. Agencies are not funded and/or staffed enough to support these needs. Affordable housing is not readily available.	1
Outreach to unsheltered people on the street and in unsafe conditions. Preserve existing and build/acquire additional affordable housing.	1
Not enough affordable housing options. Our most vulnerable people, children, seniors, and people with disabilities all suffer with lack of affordable housing opportunities. Those with SSI and very low SSD/SSRI are unable to afford market rates for housing. We must do better. We need more affordable housing specifically for those groups.	1
More shelter beds and severe need for affordable housing	1
More affordable housing options. More shelters/shelter beds. Additional recovery houses, CRRs, PCHS.	1
Lots! But we really need homeless shelters to send people to, or we will be seeing people die in the streets during the winter. SECOND, Rental assistance is so hard to get, people end up homeless before they can access funding. and THIRD-- There is NO affordable housing available anywhere for people who are disabled and on SSD or SSI. It just does not exist. This is a problem of EPIC proportions -- Landlords saw the need to raise rental prices following the pandemic, and that has priced low income people out of the market and they are now our growing homeless population. If landlords refuse to work with Section 8 as they have been it compounds the issue shrinking housing even more.	1
Lack of shelters, lack of real resources for at risk homeless, lack of housing for already homeless. Honestly, a total lack of resources for homeless and at risk homeless.	1
Lack of shelter space, lack of flexible shelter programs, lack of incentivized landlords who will accept 3rd party assistance. Lack of subsidized housing programs.	1
Lack of affordable housing	1
In terms of housing, the needs being unmet include things such as lack of assistance in locating housing and existence of affordable housing for at need individuals in and of itself. The reason that housing programs are not working isn't a lack of funding, it is a lack of being attentive every step of the way. We keep thinking that if we just help people cover their costs, they'll find housing and be fine. This isn't the case, anyone who may have disabilities, or a criminal record, or poor credit (or any myriad of obstacles that weigh upon the homeless population) is going to have a hard time finding housing.	1

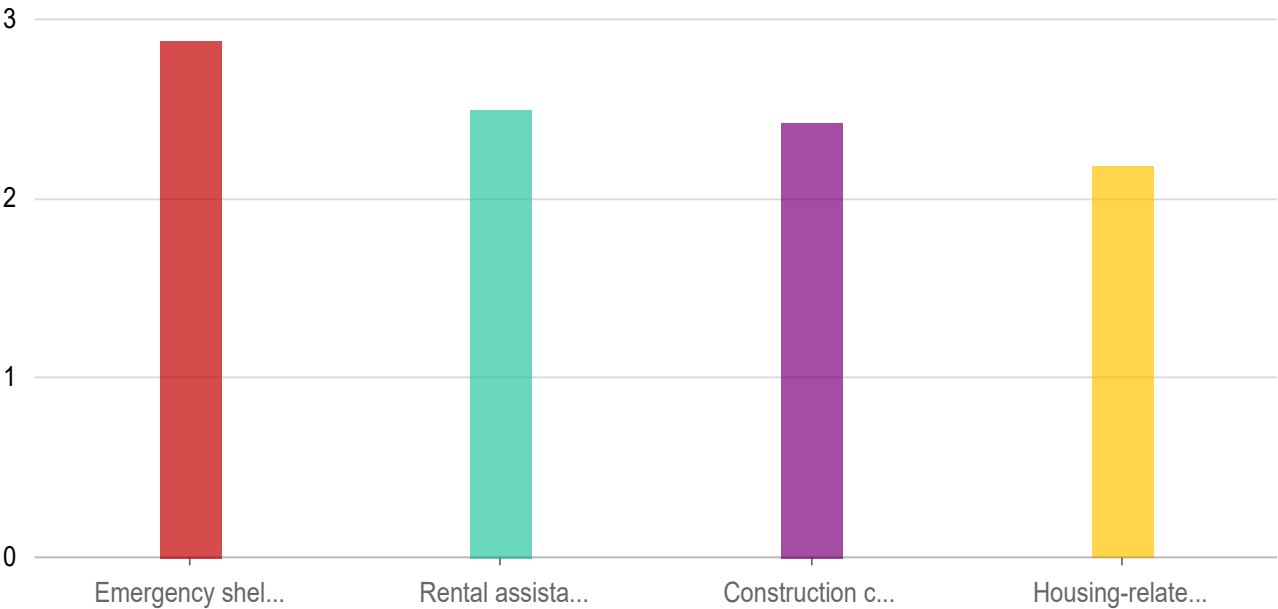
In my opinion there are unmet housing needs for elderly low-income individuals as well as single parents with school-aged children.	1
I'd like to see a work group convened of County, municipal, and community leaders to address short and long-term emergency shelter solutions, including zoning law advocacy to adjust local barriers to emergency shelters in diverse zip codes throughout the County.	1
I believe the greatest unmet need is in the delivery of services including transportation and access to healthcare and food. I would love to see Rural Development properties be allowed across the Board to have a Service Coordinator in their employ. These individuals not only save seniors and those with disabilities a lot of money out of pocket through connecting them to vital resources in the community, but they assist them with information to handle chronic disease management and healthy options to take care of themselves better as they age in affordable housing settings. These people would otherwise become a drain on Medicaid and nursing home levels of care costs, but with successful interactions and relationships, they can often stay in an affordable housing community far longer; a place they know as home. Funds made available to support and sustain affordable housing bricks and mortar and the services found within these structures is key to reducing homelessness.	1
Huge unmet needs in many areas affordable housing, landlords unwilling to work with subsidies, lack of emergency support, NIMBYism	1
Housing is faced with the impact of temperature extremes on energy resilience and poor air quality.	1
Housing for youth aging out of the foster care system- at 21.	1
Housing for homeless and housing for women Just got out of prison trying to put there life back together	1
Housing and Transportation	1
homeless using hospitals as a source of housing to meet their needs, emergency shelter, affordable housing (even for those making a low/mid income)	1
Every community is struggling right now with housing affordability. People who work in our communities are less able to afford to live within them than ever before. This puts significant pressure on local businesses to draw from a local workforce and it also tests the public transportation infrastructure to bring workers from other communities.	1
Emergency shelter Staffing of homeless agencies Transitional housing	1
Emergency Shelter for single adults Street Medicine Outreach	1

Elderly, Disabled population is underserved and still growing. Single occupancy units for all populations are amongst the highest needs	1
Currently we do not have capacity to move people off of the streets. We need to have both Emergency Housing and Permanent Housing stock	1
Continued funding for homeless youth	1
Being so close to the city, I think we can sometimes see an influx of unhoused people. It would be great to have resources available for those that might not have a home in the community to know where to go and who to contact for such assistance. The same can also be said for those already in the community - making sure resources are easily available and that there is enough staff to handle a large volume of requests would be a great start.	1
Being able to afford to move into a rental home.. as well as finding one in a specific school district without being homeless	1
Availability of moderate, to low-income housing stock. Diversity of smaller homes and general municipal policy prohibiting ADUs, increasing affordable housing incentives and protection of existing affordable housing stock.	1
All of the populations noted above have trouble finding affordable, clean, and safe housing. If we want to have a vibrant and just community, we need more affordable rental units and more affordable starter homes. We have over-built luxury rental and \$1 million+ houses. The lack of housing stock is the biggest barrier.	1
Affordable housing, especially for groups that might be discriminated against fair housing laws. Counseling on how to obtain housing when there is discrimination.	1
Affordable housing, both rental and owner-occupied homes Transitional housing for those leaving shelter Shelter for families and singles - the county forced the Norristown shelter for singles to close before a replacement location could be found, there are no shelters in Pottstown other than the Salvation Army, etc.	1
Affordable housing transitional housing	1
Affordable housing which is escalating homelessness as well as lack of funds to assist with actual housing beyond shelters, for victims of domestic violence	1
Affordable housing supplemented by other support services to meet other basic needs and help position people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity to get sustainable income. In other words, a wholistic approach.	1

affordable housing options and housing options for literally homeless individuals/families	1
Affordable housing for individuals in safe places	1
Affordable housing and shelter space for both adults and families.	1
Affordable housing - all of this is related to inventory stock. We need more variety of housing options - tiny houses, boarding home equivalents, studios as well as middle class equivalent 2 & 3 bedroom homes. And we need options now.	1
affordable housing	1
Affordable apartments and utilities for folks on disability Understanding/educated landlords Affordable apartments that allow pets	1
Adults. Low income housing especially for older individuals. Emergency shelters and brick and mortar shelters for year round relief	1
A reoccurring deficit I have seen has been the transition to a home. Even when families are placed, they often have nothing and do not have enough assistance to guide them in obtaining kitchenware, bedding, furniture, and other essentials. Additionally, it is already known that the housing market is in a terrible state. Many families are waitlisted seemingly forever and cannot find any affordable options.	1
1) Physically connecting the person who needs the services to the resources available. 2) Emergency shelter services for the number of people who require it. 3) Lack of affordable housing in such an affluent county.	1
1) Affordable housing. Rental rates have soared and property owners can afford to be selective in filling rental vacancies. Individuals attempting to exit homelessness are not provided with opportunities. 2) The community needs to continue investment in Your Way Home and their plan to prevent and end homelessness with a coordinated strategic plan. 3) Assure housing opportunities to marginalized populations and those most at risk: LGBTQ+, youth, underserved racial/ethnic groups.	1
* Low-income affordable housing without slumlords * Disabled or accessible housing (one & two floor, with ramps & widened doors, etc.) * Homeless Shelters for all demographics (single male or female, married w/children) * Mental Health residential homes or domiciliary group homes w/staff & supports * Transportation-accessible	1
- SHELTER - Faster movement with RHHL applications - Childcare for families with low income or no income - More beds available for families - Bigger family shelter rooms for larger sized families	1

Answered: 67 Skipped: 3

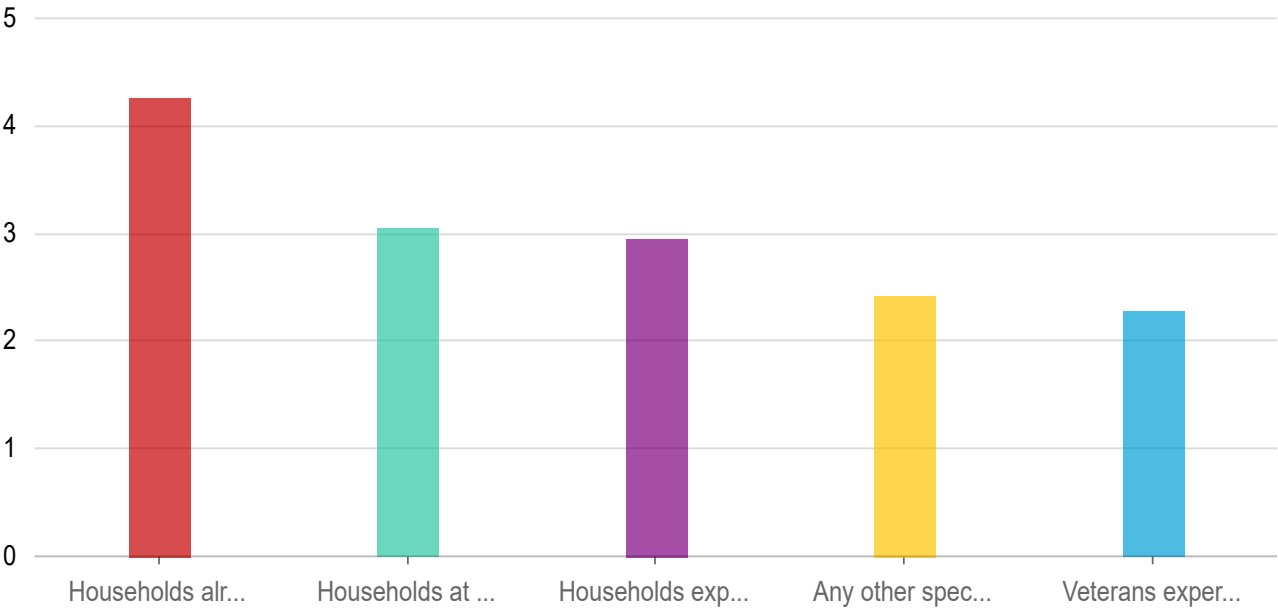
2. Which programs or services should the County prioritize with these funds... *



Rank	Answers	1	2	3	Average score
1	Emergency shelter	47.14% 33	14.29% 10	18.57% 13	2.89 20% 14
2	Rental assistance to individuals and families	14.29% 10	35.71% 25	35.71% 25	2.50
3	Construction costs to build new affordable housing	25.71% 18	22.86% 16	20% 14	2.43 31.43% 22
4	Housing-related services, such as case management, housing counseling, housing location, etc	12.86% 9	27.14% 19	25.71% 18	2.19

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Which populations should the County prioritize serving with these funds?... *



Rank	Answers	1	2	3	4	Average score	
1	Households already experiencing homelessness (e.g., staying in an emergency shelter or sleeping outside)	64.29% 45	15.71% 11	8.57% 6	5.71% 4	4.27	5.71% 4
2	Households at risk of homelessness (e.g., facing eviction)	18.57% 13	25.71% 18	17.14% 12	20% 14	3.06	
3	Households experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, etc.	7.14% 5	31.43% 22	28.57% 20	15.71% 11	2.96	17.14% 12

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Please describe the specific populations you think should be prioritized for funding, i... *



Response

Count

Younger people in their 20s - 30s.	1
Women fleeing domestic violence.	1
With an equity lens applied, I'd like to see housing support dedicated to underserved zip codes, either through census tract designations or through other community indicators. Community-based organizations could be contracted for outreach support, including multi-lingual and multi-cultural support to build relationships with community members for co-identification of needs and implementation, including mapping of community assets, stakeholders, and leaders.	1
We need to resolve the shelter challenge. This impacts all populations (individuals, families, youth). We need a more comprehensive set of shelter solutions - not just one, big shelter that no one wants in their backyard. Homeless want and need more localized shelter solutions that keep them connected to their communities.	1
Veterans Mentally ill Domestic violence survivors	1
Veterans and those with mental health issues.	1
Those who are most vulnerable on SSI/ SSD who don't make enough to pay rent and ARE already homeless. They have no hope of increasing income.	1
Those that are already experiencing homelessness or those most at risk.	1
The youth and elderly, especially veterans.	1

The homeless - CAT 1/ CAT 4	1
The growing number of seniors who do not have healthy savings for retirement need affordable housing as as explained above that housing with services is vital.	1
The elderly, veterans, Single family and the one facing eviction.	1
The above response answers this question.	1
Single homeless people that used to have CHOC as their salvation. LGBTQ teens and young adults.	1
Single adults should be added to the list of specific populations, as listed in the above question	1
Seniors; seniors tend to have fixed income. Yet the cost of living-- especially housing-- continues to increase.	1
Seniors, Disabled and families with children.	1
seniors, adults between 45-60 seem to have less resources at present.	1
Seniors Families with children People with disabilities	1
Seniors who live below the poverty line. This group has to deal with inflation in housing, medication and food. However, they are at the age when working also becomes difficult. In addition, single parents with young children also need assistance because they are struggling to make ends meet however, they are needed in the home because their children are young. Doing over-time is not always an option for single parents.	1
seniors	1
Rather than target specific populations, funding should go toward shoring up the affordable housing availability in all communities. Without specific data on the composition of those who need affordable housing, I'm not able to respond to this question in an informed manner.	1
Providing more affordable housing for seniors because the need is increasing with each year as the Baby Boomers age Providing more single occupancy efficiency apartments this would serve both Senior and other populations	1
Populations with households who have school age children. Without a steady environment, the children become at risk for other things (unsuccessful school grades, truancy). Obviously, populations who are already experiencing homelessness.	1
Population where we don't normally see funding allocated to or where we see the most impact. We need to focus on getting individuals off the streets and into safe structures	1

Persons with Children Seniors/Those with health conditions	1
People/Families who are working poor or recently lost their jobs. People/Families who are experiencing medical bills and can't work. People/Families who have received an eviction notice.	1
People with disabilities and DV cases.	1
People who are already homeless People at risk of homelessness	1
Parents with children Single woman Transitional Age Youth	1
n/a	1
Middle age adults Families /Children	1
Medically fragile people who are homeless or about to be homeless. People with children who are homeless or about to be homeless. Seniors who are homeless or near homeless.	1
Low-income populations for individuals with special healthcare needs. Racial/ Ethnic groups based on the traditionally underserved communities.	1
Look at the research: what populations have disparate rates of homelessness and highest vulnerability as a result? LGBTQ+, youth, families with children, survivors of DV or trafficking, racial/ethnic minorities.	1
literally homeless	1
LGBTQIA+ youth, victims of domestic abuse, veterans should come first.	1
LGBT+ youth & young adults Recent Immigrant families	1
Individuals with mental illness who are subsets of the categories listed above. These individuals are the most vulnerable when they lose housing, and also often have trouble maintaining housing once they have it. They do not need supports when they are doing well, but when they are not doing well, they need immediate access to supports such as case management, peer support, peer respite, legal aid, so that a temporary mental health crisis does not turn into a permanent loss of housing.	1
Individuals with behavioral health care needs facing homelessness as there are not many other resources available to that particular population.	1
Individuals facing homelessness or barrier to affordable housing.	1
I firmly believe in stabilizing families that are 50% to 80% AMI families with access to homeownership, as well as homeowners whose income does not exceed 80% AMI.	1

I don't believe in prioritizing by groups, instead prioritize by income specifically those who are able to maintain with smaller subsidies. They have demonstrated commitment to housing and maintaining housing but maybe earn above poverty thresholds to be eligible for other subsidies that would reduce their expenses so they can spend their income on housing. Families who were affording housing (barely) are going to be priced out soon with inflation eating up their paychecks.	1
Households at risk of homelessness. Our main focus will be on people of low-income, possibly including very low-income and extremely low-income homeowners and renters.	1
homeless, veterans	1
Homeless youth, especially youth families. The county is a breaking point with the number of families that are currently homeless.	1
Homeless youth that were in foster care Homeless families with children	1
homeless who are ready to seek services and help. If they are willing to attend groups and work for services, they can move forward with placement.	1
Homeless people they deserve to have somewhere to live and be safe	1
Fyi, Can't list options in question 2, after first selection. Selection should be rental assistance, construction, emergency, counseling last. Next part should be already homeless, fleeing domestic violence, veterans, at risk, then other specific at risk. Priority of funding: 1) homeless families fleeing domestic violence 2) homeless families, general 3) homeless individuals	1
Folks on disability and families with children	1
Families with minor children, elderly/medically fragile, Veterans, minorities.	1
Families with children, people with disabilities	1
Families with children DV Mental health	1
Families with children who are homeless aging out youth individuals suffering from severe mental illness/IDD	1
Families at risk or actually homeless, individuals with mental illness or other disabilities that make them vulnerable on the street	1
Families at risk of homelessness, and parents without custody of their kids should be prioritized. The instability has long term negative side effects for children, and parents trying to reunify with their children need stability to be able to care for them.	1

employed residents contributing to society	1
Disabled, prioritized work/school for who gets funding	1
Disabled and Senior Adults	1
Current and at risk homeless	1
College students, particularly those with children, who are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.	1
Children and elders.	1
Category 1 homeless, especially families.	1
Category 1 Homeless individuals and families - More robust partnerships with area landlords to develop rooms for rent near public transportation and employment opportunities as well as well multi-room rentals for larger sized families. Most will deny the need is largely in the Norristown and Pottstown area, but it is and individuals and families do not want to relocate from their communities for housing resolutions.	1
All of them. It's ridiculous that a county like Montgomery has so many NPOs dealing with housing and hunger, as evidenced by the previous round of ARP funding requests. a centralized approach, a la Houston's, should eliminate overlap while providing expanded geographical coverage. Everyone caught in the safety net is there for a reason, and should be served.	1
Adults with disabilities or are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing homelessness.	1
•Individuals and families already experiencing homelessness. •Human Trafficking, • Pregnant mothers, •Mothers and father with infants and children, •Individuals fleeing violence of all sorts	1
.	1
* Elderly/seniors * Disabled or hospitalized homeless	1

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Please provide any additional comments on how this funding should be spent.



Response	Count
Youth and young adults disproportionately represent the homeless populations in MontCo. We need to figure out why this is happening and develop prevention strategies that reduce vulnerabilities and enhance opportunities.	1
Your Way Home has ample research and analysis indicating where the need is. Use this one-time infusion of cash to support their plan.	1
We need more municipal cooperation to establish shelters. This include council boards, but especially needs more assistance from police so that they can provide a list of resources rather than harrass individuals that have nowhere to go.	1
We need a homeless shelter in Montco	1
Unfortunately we have a combination of inflation and greed driving the cost of living up and this will be a tough issue for a very long time. I think we need more communal living / subsidized housing centers for low income people who are unable to self sustain. Group homes --Etc. Recovery houses are a nice idea but most people coming from a rehab can't afford \$200 / weekly rent. Let's be real! If they have a record, they have difficulty getting a job and then become homeless!!	1
Transportation to these places is key. We encounter many individuals that we can connect with emergency services, but getting them to those places is beyond our means, as it is always outside of our community.	1

This funding should be used to continue to expand our family shelter spaces and expand the caseworkers to get families at a speedy rate into permanent housing. Funding for an emergency shelter that is well regulated and is available for different populations. Funding should go to halfway homes being built in Montco that can also support parents/guardians with children who are in need of recovery. Funding should go to supplies needed for those experiencing CAT 1/ CAT 4 homelessness	1
The funds should be spent for the children of Pottstown because there is nothing for them to do, should build a big community center for all children and ages activities and computers games they can play on tv such as PlayStation and art much more reading program for the youth	1
Temporary housing money can also be helpful to get youth and children off of the streets.	1
Support local organizations that support people experiencing homelessness, transitioning to emergency shelter and then to permanent shelter with support services to follow up and increase successful transition.	1
Shelters, stopping eviction and helping landlords keep tenants	1
shallow subsidies to individuals or households, currently in housing, at least 1 adult working a f/t job or in school/training w or w/o children, at or slightly above poverty and struggling to pay their rent.	1
Rental market is impossible to afford as a single mom on disability. I moved to Blue Bell to put my son in a good school now 8 years later my lease is ending and facing homelessness	1
Removing barriers to getting the services/ resources to the people who need it most. I have several stories about people coming to me, asking for help for a family member. Even knowing what I know it was hard to get them the resources they needed into their hands in a timely fashion. Waiting 3 months for an approval for a security deposit for an apartment is cumbersome and disheartening for the person trying to get into housing. There has to be a more streamlined way to get the financial resources in the hands of the actual individual who is homeless or at risk.	1
Provide funding to purchase transitional space(building) and fund case management services	1
Provide funding and case management for currently homeless and at risk homeless	1
Properties that are undervalued as a result of code violations. Funding would provide homes with a reasonably safer and cleaner environment.	1
Please use some of the funding towards the existing countless blighted, empty, unused buildings already within the county and state and place wrap-around supportive services (housing & budget counseling, job resources, mental health counsel & peer supports, daycare, recreation, transportation) on-site so that those who need help maintaining their new home, will not be set-up to fail.	1

Master lease rental units to safely and affordably house vulnerable populations.	1
Low income housing if possible and rental assistance.	1
It is important to look beyond the large organizations who are providing rental assistance and housing placement. There are smaller organizations who are working to provide rental assistance plus supportive services. These organizations collaborate with churches, agencies and organizations throughout the community. These organizations are able to have provide a more supportive role for people and families.	1
-Incentivizing landlords, many are homeless due to rental application qualifications (not making 3x the rent, credit score, criminal history, work length history). -Emergency shelter space, more minor children & medically fragile are becoming homeless, presenting concerning safety risks while being outdoors. -Designated subsidized housing programs for families/elderly/veterans	1
I think that the County has been doing a fantastic job with available funding!	1
I feel the funding should include organizations that have opportunities to purchase apartments units or buildings (already built) to offer as affordable housing .	1
I believe that sustainability of affordable housing units is very important so those looking to refinance or preservation efforts could benefit from these funds. Not every owner/agent is looking to build new but the existing housing portfolio needs an infusion of money to remain sustainable.	1
Hopefully soon we can get more shelters in the area.	1
Funds for repairing owner occupied homes that are at risk of being blighted is also a priority. Improving the current housing stock preserves neighborhoods and builds generational wealth.	1
employed residents contributing to society	1
Emergency shelters.	1
Emergency shelter and comprehensive resources to approach solving the homelessness problem.	1
Disburse as follows: 1) One million to Montco Domestic violence earmarked for rent payments for fleeing families 2) Two million to non profit housing agencies representing Norristown and Pottstown to assist with homeless rent assistance and at risk homeless assistance 3) Two million to Montco Habitat for Humanity (for Montco only) to enable them to build a couple dozen affordable homes	1
Create more shelters within the county, for individuals (men/women) and also for families. There is a need for more licensed recovery houses, SIL's, halfway houses, CRR's. Housing voucher programs.	1

Create more housing options by converting existing buildings into multi-unit affordable housing. Build and use tiny homes/trailers for individual housing units for short-term stays, while In-home and outside resources are provided like job search, job training, money management, preparing to buy homes, long-term housing search. Make multiple emergency shelters across the county where homelessness is most prevalent, and pay workers above market rates to draw people who will stay at their jobs caring for this vulnerable population and still meet the needs of their own families. Provide resources that teach people how to thrive without government assistance. All intervention through government assistance specific to long-term affordable housing, except for people deemed disabled by SSA or seniors, should have time-specific stays for the various categories of housing. There should be a process for gradual progression from housing insecurity to a strong housing foundation.	1
Construction and Rehab funding to CHDO organizations.	1
Concerned that policy makers are not aware of the mushrooming elder housing insecurity. With people living longer, more medical treatments, fewer pensions, social security covering less of the actual cost of living, smaller families with no or fewer children that can take in elder relatives, cognitive challenges, higher rents and co-occurring medical conditions - senior housing needs are growing rapidly.	1
By developing more affordable housing options for both single adults (even just rooms just rent) and apartments for single-parent households with children, we can move more people through the shelter system quicker. Present case management systems won't be so overburdened once these resolutions are identified, so I don't see this as a critical of a need as affordable housing presently is in our county.	1
Assistant in funding housing for rental and food	1
Assist non profit organizations that offer counseling, guidance, and financial assistance to individuals and families facing homelessness and/or housing discrimination.	1
All other areas of Human Services have seen an increase in staff wages over the past few years. Funding in homeless services remain stagnant which many people will transition their focus. We need to be competitive in the job market and incentives employees who are committed to working with the homeless	1
Affordable housing throughout county. Increasing funding for affordable housing to help people quickly move through shelter system.	1
Affordable housing should be acquired and/or constructed in very low-density structures, spread throughout local communities, to avoid "ghettoizing" areas of poverty and supportive housing.	1
Additional shelters	1
Adding shelter beds and affordable housing units	1

Answered: 44 Skipped: 26

Name of your organization (or N/A if none) *



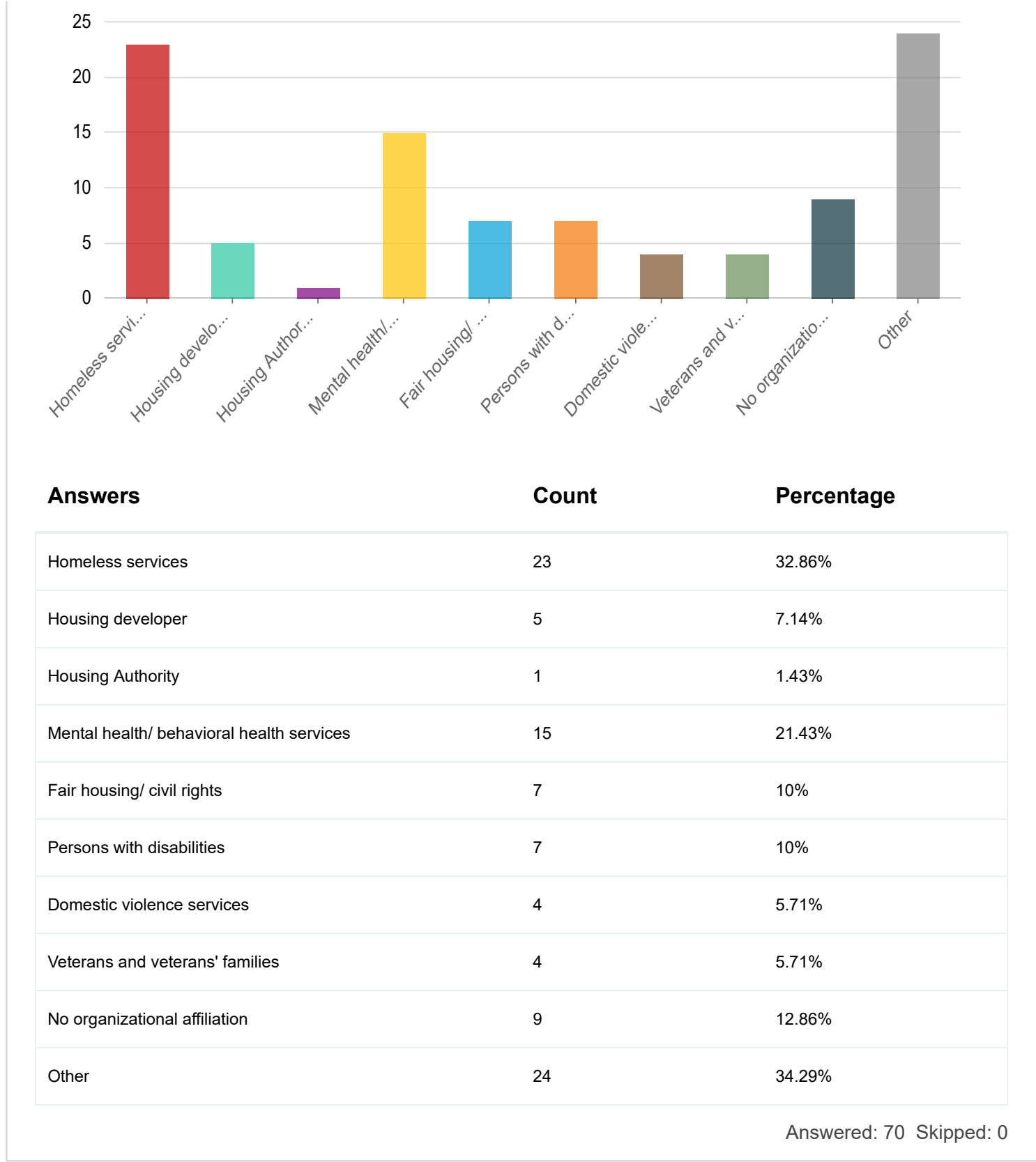
Response	Count
N/A	8
Access Services	4
RHD	3
Merakey	3
VNA Community Services	2
Valley Youth House	2
na	2
Emmanuel Lutheran Church	2
Access Services- Street Outreach	2

Walters Group	1
The Welcome Project PA	1
The Lending Helping Hands Service	1
The Hope and Help Network	1
The Ferns Peer Respite	1
SVDP at St. Catherine's in Horsham	1
Stevee Woodward-crisis worker in pottstown hospital	1
RHD CHOC	1
Resource for Human Development	1
resident of Montco and Resources for Human Development	1
resident	1
PowerUp Foundation	1
Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities	1
Phoenixville Women's Outreach	1
Petra Community Housing	1
Orion Communities	1
Mosaic CLT	1
Montgomery County Office of Public Health	1
Montgomery County Housing Authority	1
Montco HHS	1
Montco Health & Human Services	1
Lower Merion Township	1
Lower Merion Counseling and Mobile Services.	1

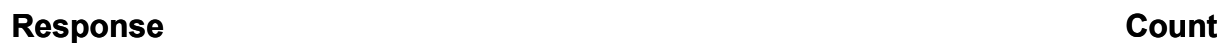
Laurel House	1
Individual proponent of fair and equality in housing	1
HealthSpark Foundation	1
Habitat for Humanity MDC	1
H.A.I.R Health Advocates In Reach & Research	1
Family Services of Montgomery County	1
Family Promise of the Main Line	1
Creative Health Services	1
Community Connections of Montgomery County.	1
Community Connections	1
College Student Basic Needs Program	1
Christian Concern Communities Management and Development, Inc.	1
Children and Youth	1
Cheltenham Police Department	1
CADCOM	1
Bucks-Mont Collaborative	1
Ann Frances Outreach Foundation Inc	1
Ann Frances Outreach Foundation	1
a nonprofit not involved in housing	1

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Sector/ focus of your organization *



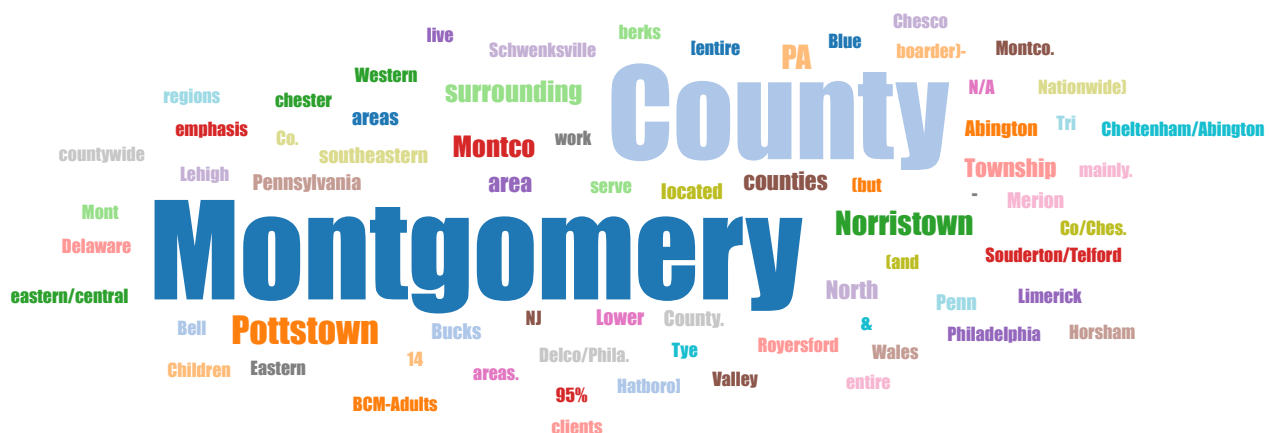
If you answered "Other," please describe the sector/ focus of your organization:

40

Maternal Child Health	1
LGBT+, immigrants	1
Law Enforcement	1
Human Services	1
Health and Welfare	1
food security and housing stability	1
focus is on youth ages 18-24, those who are preparing to age out of care, and families with children	1
education	1
Community Connections	1
Collaboration	1
Coalition of 7 Montgomery County organizations, including the Community College and Gwynedd Mer cy University addressing housing, food and other basic needs services for under-resourced students	1
Child welfare	1

Answered: 24 Skipped: 46

What geographic region does your organization serve? If you're not affiliated with an... *

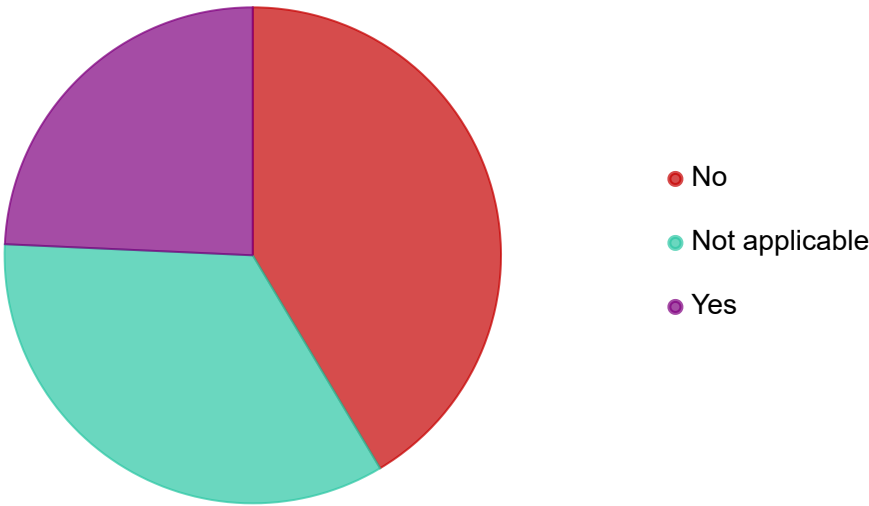


Montgomery County	15
All of Montgomery County	6
Pottstown	4
PA	3
Norristown	3
Pennsylvania	2
Lower Merion township	2
Western - Pottstown area	1
We serve throughout Montgomery County. We are located in Southeastern Montgomery County.	1
southeastern montgomery county	1
Souderton/Telford	1
Royersford, Limerick, Schwenksville, Pottstown	1
PA & NJ	1
North Wales	1
North Penn area	1
North Penn	1
Norristown & surrounding area	1
N/A	1
Montgomery County mainly. Also work with Delco/Phila. Co/Ches. Co.	1
Montgomery County and Tye Surrounding Tri County Areas	1
Montgomery County and surrounding areas	1
Montgomery County [entire county, but located in Hatboro]	1
montgomery county (but on boarder)- chester, montgomery, berks	1

Montgomery County - Norristown, Pottstown emphasis	1
Montgomery and Delaware Counties	1
Montgomery and Bucks Counties	1
Montco, Bucks, Philadelphia, and Lehigh Valley	1
Montco	1
Horsham and surrounding areas.	1
entire county	1
Eastern Montgomery County	1
countywide (and Nationwide)	1
Cheltenham/Abington regions	1
Blue Bell	1
BCM-Adults and Children	1
all of Montco and 14 other eastern/central PA counties	1
All of Montco	1
All Mont Co	1
ALL	1
Abington Township	1
Abington	1
95% of our clients live in Chesco and Montco.	1

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Does your organization target services to a particular demographic group,... *



Answers	Count	Percentage
No	29	41.43%
Not applicable	24	34.29%
Yes	17	24.29%

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0

Please describe this population.

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
youth and families with children	1
Youth	1
We serve anyone in need we do not Discriminate	1
survivors of human trafficking	1
Students from marginalized population groups including people of color, immigrants and English as a second language.	1

Seniors, Veterans & Disabled	1
seniors, parents, LGBTQ+, latinos, formerly incarcerated	1
Poor, disabled, under-reourced.	1
Our focus is the most vulnerable minorities (all) , however not exclusive. We desire to solidify a foundation that will uplift communities holistically.	1
mixed	1
Mentally Ill adults, young adults and personal care	1
Latinos African Americans Seniors Veterans	1
Latin American, Carribbean, Spanish-speaking families	1
Families whose AMI does not exceed 80% AMI. Our repair program gives priority to homeowners who are also seniors, Veterans, and people with disabilities.	1
Families	1
Black and Latinx Populations	1
A diverse population of African American- Latino- Asian Island Pacific-Veterans- Seniors- Physically Handicapped- LGBTQ	1

Answered: 17 Skipped: 53

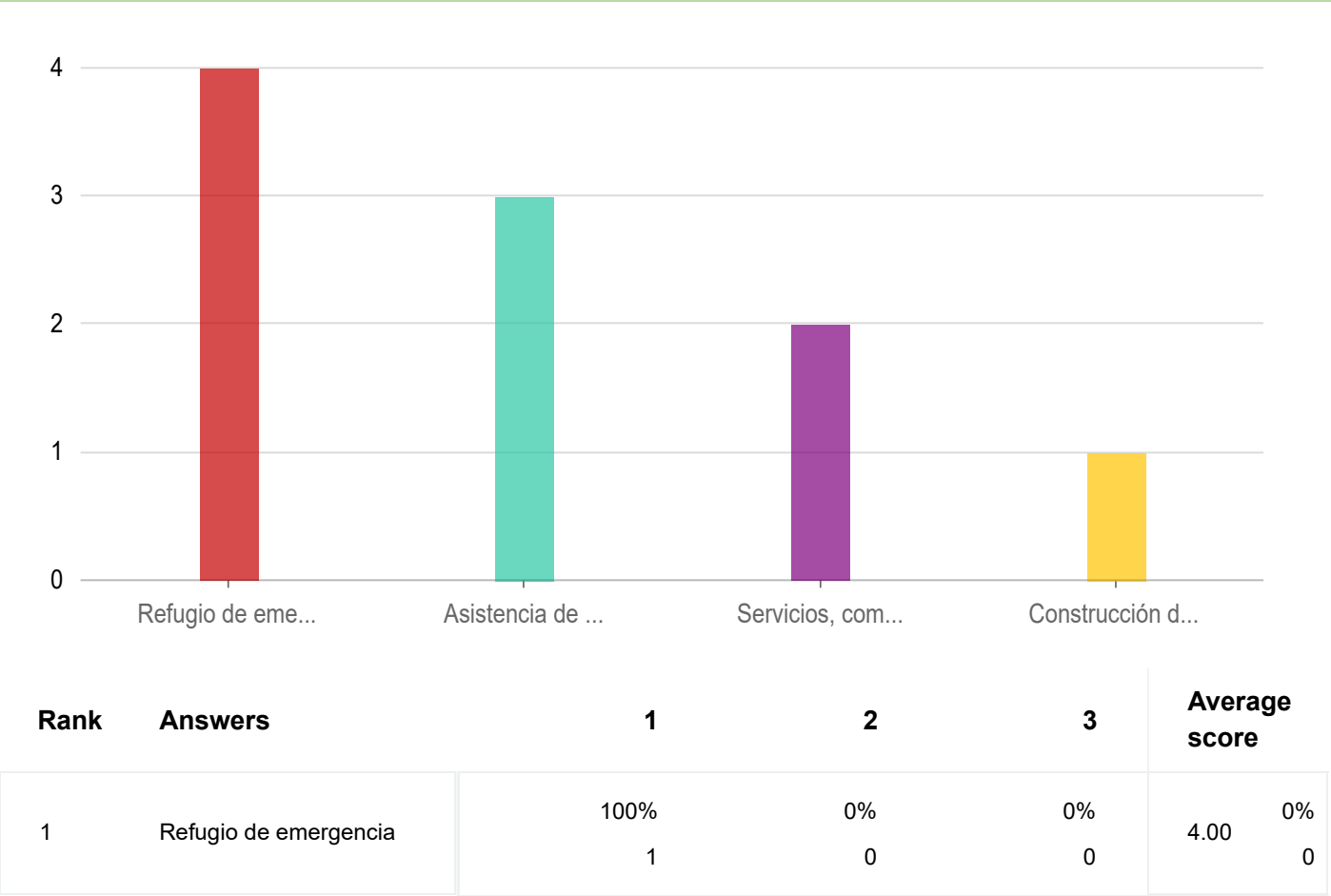
Encuesta de Servicios de Vivienda

1. ¿En su opinión, cuáles son las necesidades de vivienda en su comunidad?

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
Hoy en día un gran número de la población experimenta situación de calle. Debido al alto costo para entrar en un alquiler, como lo son gastos de depósito. Para una familia es importante el asesoramiento, poder brindarle las herramientas para que ellos puedan construir un plan y poder llegar la meta.	1
Answered: 1 Skipped: 0	

2. ¿A qué programas o servicios debería dar prioridad el condado para el uso ...

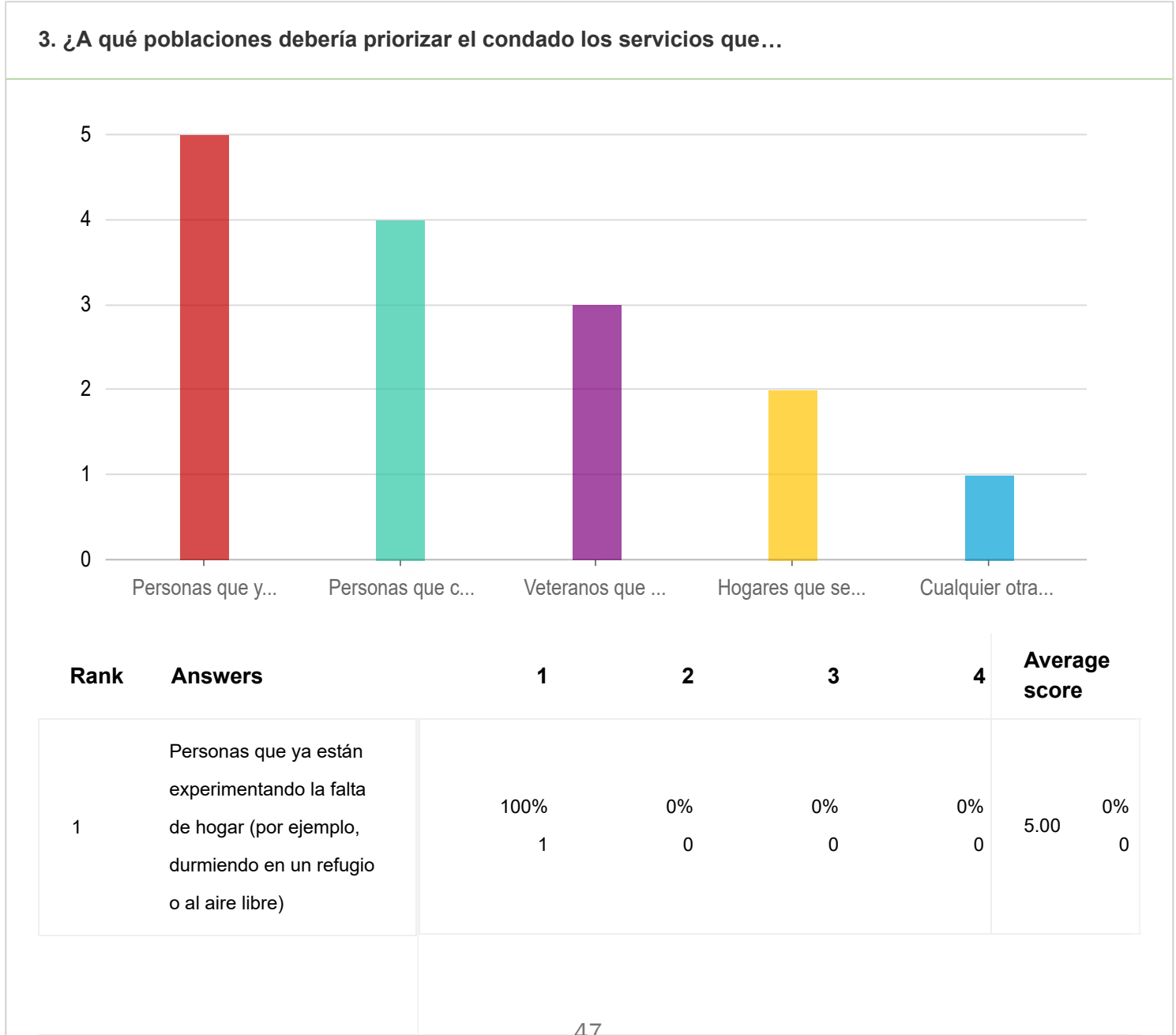


10/24/22, 2:46 PM

Encuesta de Servicios de Vivienda

2	Asistencia de alquiler para familias e individuos	0%	100%	0%	3.00	
		0	1	0		
3	Servicios, como manejo de casos, asesoramiento, ayuda buscando una vivienda	0%	0%	100%	2.00	0%
		0	0	1		0
4	Construcción de viviendas asequibles	0%	0%	0%	1.00	
		0	0	0		

Answered: 1 Skipped: 0



10/24/22, 2:46 PM

Encuesta de Servicios de Vivienda

2	Personas que corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar (por ejemplo, que se enfrentan a un desahucio)	0%	100%	0%	0%	4.00
		0	1	0	0	
3	Veteranos que experimentan o corren el	0%	0%	100%	0%	3.00
						0%

Answered: 1 Skipped: 0

4. Por favor, indique los grupos de población específicos a los que, en su opinión, debería...

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
Las agencias de Multiservicios y agencias sin fines de lucro son la llave de un servicio completo para que la comunidad encuentre un esquema de cómo empezar y llevar a cabo su propósito. Las agencias multiservicios, brindan la asesoría necesaria para abarcar todos los recursos que nuestra comunidad espera. Desde copias hasta cómo abrir una cuenta y llevarlos al paso a paso de alquiler de una casa o compra de una propiedad.	1

Answered: 1 Skipped: 0

5. Le agradeceríamos que nos hiciera llegar cualquier comentario adicional sobre la forma en que...

There are no answers to this question yet.

6. Favor de incluir la comunidad en donde usted vive (por ejemplo, Norristown, Pottstown)

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Word	Count
Norristown	1

10/24/22, 2:46 PM	Encuesta de Servicios de Vivienda
Hatfield	1
Answered: 1 Skipped: 0	

7. Si desea recibir directamente una copia del plan final de financiación para el uso de est...

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Word	Count
Ing.anyramirezpetit@gmail.com	1

Answered: 1 Skipped: 0



Montgomery County and PA Department of
Community and Economic Development

Housing & Disaster Recovery Town Hall

October 11, 2022

Community feedback session on funding priorities for HOME-
American Rescue Plan and Community Development Block
Grant- Disaster Recovery funds





October 11, 2022

Goals for meeting

Share information on both
funding opportunities

Solicit feedback on funding
priorities

Provide information on how feedback will be incorporated into
funding allocation process

Today's agenda

- **Background information on HOME-ARP and CDBG-DR**
 - **Purpose of funding**
 - **Eligible uses for funding**
 - **Funding process**
- **Small group discussion on priorities**
- **Next Steps**

CDBG- Disaster Recovery



\$23 million available statewide to address impacts of Hurricane Ida.

- \$23.152 million available in PA for Hurricane Ida relief; \$18.5 million into Montgomery and Delaware counties
- Before these funds can be utilized, the state must prepare and submit an action plan that identifies the unmet need remaining in the affected communities and propose activities - projects, and programs to build back better.

CDBG- Disaster Recovery



\$23 million available statewide to address impacts of Hurricane Ida.

Funds can be used for:

- Housing
 - New construction and/or rehabilitation
- Infrastructure
 - Repair, replacement, or relocation of damaged public facilities
- Economic Development
 - Workforce training program
 - Downtown Revitalization Program

- Planning
 - Vulnerability Analysis
 - Resiliency plan
 - Stormwater Management plan
- Mitigation
 - Elevating critical infrastructure

CDBG-DR Funding Process

- 1 Declaration of disaster by the Governor and President
- 2 Congress allocates CDBG-DR funding
- 3 State engages the impacted communities to identify the unmet need and begins development of proposed projects and activities.
- 4 State submits an action plan to HUD
- 5 Upon approval, State implements Action Plan

HOME- American Rescue Plan

\$5 million available to support local housing priorities.



- \$5,080,650 available in funding specifically for housing activities
- Funds can be used for:
 - Emergency shelter
 - Rental assistance
 - Construction of new affordable housing
 - Housing services

- Communities must prioritize which populations to serve:
 - People already experiencing homelessness
 - People at risk of homelessness
 - People homeless/ at risk due to domestic violence
 - Other priority populations (must specify)

HOME- ARP Funding Process

A three-part process:

- 1

Communities identify priority projects and populations to serve.



County reviews data and provides a draft plan to the public for review
- 2

County submits the community-reviewed plan to HUD for approval.



HUD approves within 45 days.
- 3

County allows agencies to apply for funding for specific projects that align with the approved priorities.

Breakout Discussions

What are your priorities for this
funding?

Next Steps

HOME-ARP

- A copy of the draft HOME-ARP plan will be distributed for review and comments by end of October
- Once HUD approves the plan, the County will distribute information about how organizations can apply for project funding

CDBG-DR

- Community engagement
 - a. [Click here](#) for community engagement form
 - b. [Click HERE](#) for Stakeholder survey intended for those government employees, agencies, and those engaged in or familiar with Recovery
 - c. [Click HERE](#) for virtual and in person meeting schedule
- Action plan draft and 60 day public comment period
- Action plan implementation

Questions?

CDBG- DR

RA-DCCDBG-DR@pa.gov

HOME-ARP

RecoveryOffice@montcopa.org

ATTACHMENT 7

**Housing and Disaster Recovery Town Hall
October 11, 2022
Breakout session hand-out**

<p><u>HOME-ARP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5,080,650 available in funding specifically for housing activities • Funds can be used for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency shelter ○ Rental assistance ○ Construction of new affordable housing ○ Housing services • Communities must prioritize which populations to serve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People already experiencing homelessness ○ People at risk of homelessness ○ People homeless/ at risk due to domestic violence ○ Other priority populations (must specify) 	<p><u>CDBG-DR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$23.152 million available statewide; \$18 million in Montco and Delco combined • Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New construction and/or rehabilitation • Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Repair, replacement, or relocation of damaged public facilities • Economic Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workforce training program ○ Downtown Revitalization Program • Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vulnerability Analysis ○ Resiliency plan ○ Stormwater Management plan • Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Elevating critical infrastructure
Breakout Discussion Questions	Your Notes/ Responses
<p>HOME- ARP: What are the unmet housing needs in the community? How could HOME-ARP best address those needs?</p>	
<p>HOME-ARP: With limited funds, how should populations be prioritized?</p>	
<p>CDBG-DR: What are the ongoing impacts of the Hurricane?</p>	

ATTACHMENT 7

CDBG-DR: How should funding from CDBG-DR be used to address those impacts?	
Other thoughts or comments:	

Please email your notes to ehertz1@montcopa.org.

ATTACHMENT 8

Housing Funding and Disaster Recovery Funding Town Hall

October 11, 2022

Summary of breakout session notes and notes submitted by participants (categorized by the Recovery Office)

What are the unmet housing needs in the community? How could HOME-ARP best address those needs?

Rental assistance and incentive programs:

- Rent are high but landlords are not keeping up with the building forcing residents to live in a high rent unit that is breaking down
- Offer more \$\$ to current residents who are in high cost units
- Assistance students who wish to break the cycle of poverty- eviction prevention and rental assistance has worked in the past
- Outdated appliances and lack of energy efficient appliances that can impact the health of residents
- Perhaps look at a master lease program
- Some funds for [legal] council so people who are facing eviction can consult with council. Funds for stabilization of housing needed back rent & utility bill assistance

Construction of new units

- Additional financing to incentive builders in putting in more aff. Housing.
- Hard to find units to rent due to landlords increasing due to low inventory. Need more rental units.
- Affordable housing for those with super low incomes
- Affordability – incentivize townships to set aside affordable units. Require developers to set aside affordable units.
- Creation of more affordable and middle-income housing
- Preservation of existing affordable housing – units that do provide housing should not fall into disrepair (COVID has caused great increase in costs)
- Preservation of already existing affordable housing units – (Jefferson East)
-

Shelter

- Lack of homelessness shelter space in MontCo right now is critical
- Support for shelter

Services

- Programs that promote self-sufficiency- financial education; case management; job training
- Funding to improve access to the system; it's difficult to direct those who need assistance to it

ATTACHMENT 8

- Clients are well aware of county services but say it doesn't work and the waiting period is too long

With limited funds, how should populations be prioritized?

- Homeless:
 - Should target street homeless
 - The unhoused population has doubled in just a year and policies like dusk to dawn bans in parks has criminalized homelessness.
 - The unhoused is the highest priority followed by those at risk
 - Homeless and people at verge of homelessness facing evictions
- Youth
 - Different groups of people fall through the cracks in the system; huge issue for LGBTQ+ young adults
 - Youth housing needs as a specific population
 - Because vouchers are only good for 18 and older, would be good to fund services that can help assist emancipated young people
- Bilingual
 - Should offer more bi-lingual assistance
- Communities of color are living in multi-generational housing due to costs.
- Persons with mental illness
 - The mentally ill / those with mental health issues often are on a fixed income or no income
 - People experiencing mental illness should also be considered
- Persons fleeing DV
 - Victims of DV when living out on their own for the first time, do not have a work history and income to afford an apartment, and the waiting list for any affordable units is too long.
- Seniors
 - Seniors and disabled housing with services
 - Seniors with disabilities are a vulnerable population and if homeless, will face mortality issues this winter.
 - Special population – elderly people and senior citizens without family support
- At risk
 - Prevention is important
 - Want to see if we could keep on keeping people from becoming homeless – prioritize prevention, it's more cost effective to let people stay where they already are – prevention seems to be the top priority for this group
- Families
 - Emphasis on supporting families experiencing homelessness, especially those with children
- Resistance to prioritizing – think broader in the “other” category

Other comments?

- Importance of helping families with younger children who can help multiple generations
- Emphasis on hopes to fund sustainable, long-term systemic programs
- Strategic approach to have the maximum impact; ie dedicated money for DV victims

ATTACHMENT 8

- Identified the importance of setting realistic program expectations and emphasis on exit/stability planning at intake
- Comments on the CHOC relocation and trying to turn the tide of NIMBYism.
- Accessible housing – by cost, by design and by location; stop putting people in places where there isn't public transportation
- "There is a dearth of section 8 housing vouchers in the county; expanding the program would be a fast and effective way to get people more housing-based vouchers; directing money to Housing Authority"
- Response to this, supporting "The Housing Authority goes after all housing vouchers – would be good to have more, advocate to local legislators"
- QUESTION: Is the "affordable housing" under HOME-ARP income restricted, and is it homeless restricted
- Not enough emergency housing; not enough middle income housing
- Issues of availability; not enough housing; also issues of affordability
- Potential of competitive grant for those who serve emergency rent assistance?
- Communication and outreach for funding availability – let the community know what the sources that are available to us
- Promote more private and public partnerships to create a viable community
- More agency partnerships to have housing resource experts and assistance provided to clients – extra support to people when they enter housing

ATTACHMENT 9

First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Job Title	Are you a member Continuum of Care (CoC)
Denise	Neuschwander	DNEUSCHW@montcopa.org	Housing	Program Coordinator	No
Bill	England	Bill@pahealthaccess.org	Here For Us	Campaign Director	No
Charlie	Doyle	cdoyl@lowermerion.org	Lower Merion Township	Assistant Director of Building & Planning	No
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ATTACHMENT 9

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Sherry	Woodside	sherryaw2276@gmail.com	None	Concerned vitizen	Unsure
Lora	Lehmann	lel@directquest.com	How dare you require the public provide private info you can share in order to participate- Fix that!	Angry Citizen- angry you would seek to exclude any in what our government does - we should not have to trade our private data	No
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HOMES



METRO CREATIVE

Contemporary and modern homes both employ an approach that leans toward minimalism, including clean design lines.

Here are seven characteristics that make modern houses unique

Metro Creative

Homes contain a variety of components that appeal to homeowners with different ideas about the perfect place to call home. That starts with the style of a home.

Buildings are classified according to share components. A Craftsman style home will have a covered porch with a set of wide base columns, while a Cape Cod home is often defined by a gabled roof and dormer windows. Modern houses, which are sometimes called contemporary homes even though the terms are not interchangeable, will have their own sets of unique characteristics. Here's a look at seven features that make modern homes unique.

1. Minimalist approach: Contemporary and modern homes both employ an approach that leans toward minimalism, including clean design lines. Spaces are open and airy without the clutter of too many ornate architectural details. While modern homes may have some curvature to their design, contemporary ones are all about an

angular look.

2. Neutral color palette: Modern homes tend to utilize a neutral color palette. Modern homes may use "earthy" elements, such as wood and brick, in ways that do not look rustic. Contemporary homes rely on a color palette of black and white with shades of gray or other neutral colors.

3. Geometric shapes: Modern homes have strong horizontal and vertical elements that showcase geometric shapes in their designs. Contemporary homes often have flat roofs, while modern homes may not.

4. Large, unadorned windows: Most modern homes showcase a lot of natural light by utilizing large windows that are not covered up by heavy window treatments or elements like shutters and thick trims. Large windows are the focus of the interior and shift attention to the view outdoors.

5. Open floor concept: A hallmark of modern interior design, the open concept floor plan removes many of the walls that tend to separate common areas of a

home. This helps to foster the spread of natural light and maintains the emphasis on simplicity of design.

6. Smart elements: Thanks to the proliferation of smart technology, smart homes are cropping up with greater frequency. While smart devices can be included in any home style, they tend to feel like they were designed specifically for modern homes. In a similar vein, modern homes may include environmentally friendly elements, such as solar panels, upcycled materials, added insulation and energy efficient lighting.

7. Updated kitchen spaces: The clean lines and attention to technology and open space generally extends to modern kitchens. Modern kitchens tend to feature efficient, top-tier appliances with additional storage and space amenities that keep the room from feeling cluttered.

While some may consider modern homes austere, many others are right at home among their clean lines and airy spaces.

GARDENING



METRO CREATIVE

Some fall plants can add color around the landscape and brighten up homes to add curb appeal.

Make the most of the fall gardening season

A beginner's guide to fall planting

Metro Creative

Spring and summer are perhaps the busiest times of year for gardeners. However, fall also is a prime time to tend to gardens. The tree and bare root retailer Bower & Branch advises that soil temperatures in many regions of the country may still be warm enough to encourage root growth well into the start of winter.

Furthermore, fall is often the ideal time to plant, fertilize and keep a garden going or to get a head start on next year's bounty. Here are some tips to make the most of the fall gardening season.

Near the end of September, start planting cool-weather-loving pansies and violas for pops of color as summer flowers fade. Also, it's a good idea to stock up on bulbs that will bloom in the months to come before they sell out in stores. Wait until the temperatures really cool down before planting them in desired spots for spring sprouts.

• **SOW SALAD SEEDS**» Lettuce, spinach, radishes and arugula tolerate cooler temperatures. Try new and interesting lettuce varieties and enjoy salads well into the fall season.

• **TAKE INVENTORY OF THE SUN**» Positioning a garden carefully means maximizing

hours of sunlight, which begin to dwindle in the fall. Experts say gardens grow best in sunny locations that receive six hours of direct sunlight each day. This is where container gardens can be helpful, as they allow gardeners to move plants into spots that will get ample sunlight.

• **FILL IN LANDSCAPING GAPS**» Some fall plants can add color around the landscape and brighten up homes to add curb appeal. In addition to pansies and violas, asters, kale and chrysanthemums are fall blooms. Keep in mind that mums can come back year after year. So take them out of those flower pots and get them into the ground. They can be enjoyed next year as well, sprouting in early spring and developing leaves and buds through late summer.

• **CLEAN UP UNWANTED GROWTH**» Fall is an ideal time to cut back spent vegetable plants and get rid of errant weeds. Rather than bagging leaves, mow them with a grass catcher and then add the mix to a vegetable garden as an excellent soil insulator. The nitrogen and carbon will fertilize the soil, enhancing growing possibilities and limiting weed growth.

• **PROPAGATE PLANTS IN THE FALL**» As temperatures gradually begin to cool, start taking cuttings from perennials, gathering seed pods from azaleas and rhododendrons and dividing hardwood cuttings, says the resource Gardening Know How. Consult with a garden center or horticulturist on the proper ways to propagate stems using rooting hormone and other techniques.

• **CONTINUE TO WATER PLANTS**» Water is essential in the fall and winter as roots can still be growing. Gradually reduce watering duration as plants go dormant.

Fall planting and maintenance can extend gardening season and improve the chances of growing a healthy spring garden.

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

is initiating the planning for the 2021 HOME ARP Program Funds, as required from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As part of this planning process, the County will conduct a virtual Public Meeting to provide County residents with information on the allocation process for the PY 2021 the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME - ARP) Program. In addition, the meeting will serve as an information gathering session on the need for homeless prevention services, homeless shelters, transitional housing, affordable housing development, housing and services for those with special needs, and community services in low and moderate income neighborhoods.

This is an opportunity for individuals and organizations to provide feedback to the County on the needs of low and moderate income residents, to learn about the program, and to be involved in determining how the County will use the approximately \$5 million in allocations from HUD to improve our community. The County encourages participation of all its residents, especially the involvement of very low income residents, minorities and non-English speaking persons, and persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments.

Due to current public health concerns, a virtual Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 11, 2022 at 6pm. Please register for this meeting at the following web link:

www.montcopa.org/housingfunding

The link will also be posted on the County website at www.montcopa.org. If you have a special need and require an accommodation in order to participate, please contact Denise Neuschwander, at 610-278-3540. Advance notice of 5 days is required for sign-language or non-English speaking interpreter services, at no cost to the requester.

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SELLERSVILLE

Grand View Health names new Chief Medical Officer

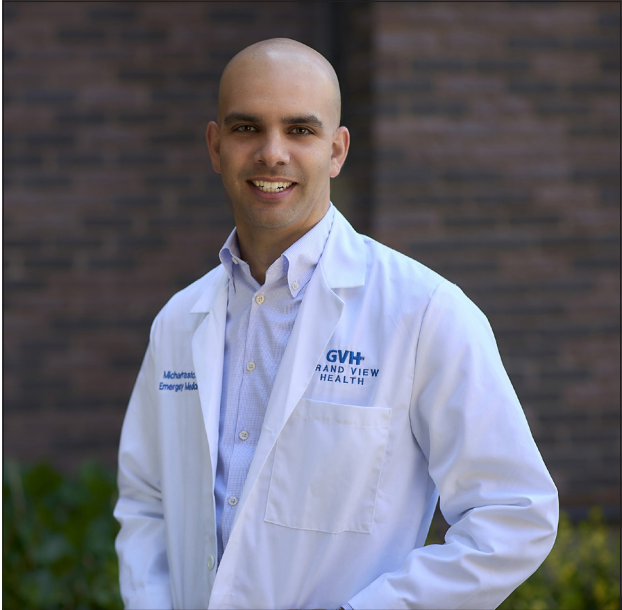
By Medianews Group

SELLERSVILLE » Michael J. Prasto, MD, will serve as the next Vice President and Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Grand View Health. Dr. Prasto will transition into the new role over the next few months.

A board-certified emergency medicine physician, Dr. Prasto initially joined Grand View Health in 2016 and assumed a leadership role one year later as Chair and Medical Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine. In March 2020, he accepted the additional leadership role of Assistant Chief Medical Officer, collaborating with the health system's executive team in various areas of administrative leadership on a part-time basis.

During his tenure at Grand View Health, Dr. Prasto has led system-wide initiatives in a variety of areas, including stroke care and quality improvement. He also worked as part of the Medical Command team that provided oversight for Grand View Health's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Over the last seven years, our administrative team and our medical staff have grown to rely on Dr. Prasto for his calm, steady leadership, his ability to bring people together, and his vision for the future of healthcare," said Douglas Hughes, RN, BSN, MBA, President and Chief Executive Officer



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Michael J. Prasto, MD, will serve as the next Vice President and Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Grand View Health.

at Grand View Health, in a statement on Sept. 14.

"We look forward to his leadership as CMO as we guide our community and our medical staff through an exciting time of growth, including the opening of our new six-story pavilion on our main hospital campus in Sellersville this summer."

Dr. Prasto will replace Jane A. Ferry, MD, who announced in May that she would step down from her role as Vice President and CMO after 23 years to start a new chapter of her professional and personal life. The CMO is responsible for managing Grand View Health's medical providers, ensuring the provi-

sion of safe, effective medical services to community members.

A Villanova University graduate, Dr. Prasto received his medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed his residency training at Temple University Hospital. In addition to his roles at Grand View Health, Dr. Prasto serves as an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. Dr. Prasto resides in Wrightstown, Pa with his wife and two children. For more information about Grand View Health, visit gvh.org.

FLOYD DEATH

Former police officer gets 3 years in plea deal

By Amy Forliti

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS » A former Minneapolis police officer who pleaded guilty to a state charge of aiding and abetting second-degree manslaughter in the killing of George Floyd was sentenced Wednesday to three years.

Thomas Lane is already serving a 2½-year federal sentence for violating Floyd's civil rights. When

it comes to the state's case, prosecutors and Lane's attorneys had agreed to a recommended sentence of three years, which is below the sentencing guidelines, and prosecutors agreed to allow him to serve that penalty at the same time as his federal sentence, and in a federal prison.

Judge Peter Cahill accepted the plea agreement, saying he would sentence Lane below the guidelines because he accepted re-

sponsibility.

"I think it was a very wise decision for you to accept responsibility and move on with your life," Cahill said, while acknowledging that the Floyd family has not been able to move on with theirs.

Under Minnesota rules, it is presumed Lane would serve two years of his state sentence in prison, and the rest on supervised release, commonly known as parole.

Grants

FROM PAGE 1

"I'm proud to have helped secure these funds so our young athletes can pursue their love of soccer," he said.

The improvements will be made to the existing field by installing a new synthetic turf surface, according to Stephens's office, and the project will include installing two new turf fields for soccer games and small side games. There will also be installation of yard drains and pipes installed to improve drainage. These funds will supplement the \$700,000 Horsham Soccer has raised for the project and allow them to move forward.

Upper Dublin

In a separate grant award, Upper Dublin Township received \$500,000 to upgrade the existing Bodenstein Channel culvert below Commerce Drive.

"Addressing flooding in the office park has been a top priority over the years. This grant will reduce pressure on local taxpayers who would otherwise be forced to carry the burden of upgrading pipes needed to reduce flood risk," Stephens said.

The project will replace two metal pipes with a concrete box culvert to match the capacity of the downstream box culvert that sends water out to Sandy Run. This will reduce flooding and a deteriorated corrugated metal pipe culvert will be replaced with a prefabricated concrete culvert. The culvert will also be realigned to reduce the sharp turn the channel water follows to enter the culvert.

Wentz Run Park, Whitpain

State Rep. Mary Jo Daley, D-148th, similarly announced that she secured \$131,669 in state grants to install parking lot solar lights in Wentz Run Park in Whitpain Township.

The grants were awarded by the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program.

"This funding will help improve safety and reduce energy costs in Whitpain's Wentz Run Park by installing parking lot solar lights," Daley said in a statement. "By increasing safety, more people will take advantage of this wonderful community resource."

The funds will be used to replace the existing wooden light poles and lights at the Wentz Run Park parking lot with 18 new aluminum poles and solar LED lights. The new solar lights will reduce energy costs and improve safety at the park through adequate and reliable lighting.

The Horsham, Upper Dublin and Whitpain projects were among a list of awards also announced by state Sen. Maria Collett, D-12th, along with three others in her district:

Upper Moreland, Lower Gwynedd

Upper Moreland Hatboro Joint Sewer Authority was awarded \$116,360 for its Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection; Lower Gwynedd Township received \$75,000 for the Oxford and Pen-Ambler Parks Master Plan; and Montgomery Township secured \$125,000 for Whistlestop Park

"With the proliferation of extreme weather events in our district and beyond, Act 13 and the projects it supports are more important than ever," said Collett in a statement. "The grants announced today will create new recreation opportunities, support our water infrastructure, and remediate and prevent flood damage and erosion, all while bringing new jobs to our region. I'm excited to see how these projects make our district an even more attractive place to live, work, shop and play."

Whistlestop Park

State Rep. Steve Mal-

Shooting

FROM PAGE 1

During the trial, defense lawyer John I. McMahon Jr., who represents Vance, argued to jurors that Vance had "no clue about any murder" and revealed Vance will testify during the trial.

Suggesting he had an alibi, Vance also initially told detectives that he was attending an event, a boxing match watch party, at a friend's house in Philadelphia on the night of Nov. 28. However, that friend, Nate Fisher, testified for prosecutors on Wednesday that Vance did not attend that party but had attended an earlier one on Oct. 31.

Jurors appeared riveted as Vance's nearly 80-minute interview was played during the third day of a trial at which Vance and co-defendant Chong Ling Dan are accused of playing pivotal roles in Pack's slaying. Prosecutors Brianna Ringwood and Lindsey Mills characterized the killing as a "murder for hire" plot.

Dan, 50, of the 3000 block of North Lambert Street, Philadelphia, is accused of plotting the fatal shooting of Pack, who was his former girlfriend's new love interest. In addition to charges of first- and third-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder, Dan faces a charge of solicitation to commit murder.

Vance, 54, of the 2400 block of North 31st Street, Philadelphia, who allegedly was operating the Cadillac vehicle involved in the drive-by shooting, faces charges of first- and third-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder, person not to possess or transfer a firearm and possessing an instrument of crime.

With the charges, prosecutors alleged Dan and Vance conspired with Marche to kill Pack.

Marche, 48, of Valley Forge Circle in the King of Prussia section of Upper Merion, the alleged gunman who prosecutors say was a passenger in Vance's Cadillac, faces homicide-related charges and is still being sought by authorities.

The investigation began at 9:59 p.m. Nov. 28 when Lansdale police were dispatched to a vehicle crash

and reports of shots fired in the area of East Hancock Street and Church Road, according to a criminal complaint filed by Wittenberger and Lansdale Detective Joseph Gary. Arriving officers found a Nissan Sentra, with numerous bullet strikes and its engine still running, resting against a light standard on the northwest corner of the intersection and an unresponsive Pack seated in the driver's seat.

Pack was transported to Abington-Lansdale Hospital Jefferson Health where she was pronounced dead at 10:24 p.m. A subsequent autopsy determined Pack died from multiple gunshot wounds and the death was ruled a homicide.

Detectives combing the scene found 10 fired 9mm cartridge cases and shattered glass on East Hancock Street, just east of Church Road, according to court papers. Investigators determined Pack's vehicle traveled 93 feet from where the cluster of fired cartridge cases and the shattered glass were found to where it crashed into the light standard.

Detectives also obtained video surveillance footage from a camera located in the 400 block of East Hancock Street which depicted Pack's vehicle traveling westbound on East Hancock Street, followed by a second vehicle, according to the arrest affidavit. At 9:56 p.m., Pack's vehicle stopped for a red traffic signal at the intersection with Church Road and a few seconds later the second vehicle pulled next to the driver's side door of Pack's vehicle, detectives alleged. The second vehicle then drove away and traveled southbound on Church Road.

"Meanwhile, the victim's vehicle slowly rolls through the intersection to where it came to rest against the light standard...These were the only two vehicles at the intersection at the time of the shooting," Wittenberger and Gary alleged in the criminal complaint.

Witnesses reported hearing multiple gunshots and observed a dark-colored sedan, believed to be a Cadillac, driving southbound on Church Road at a high rate of speed.

During the investigation, detectives interviewed a woman, identified as Pack's girlfriend,

who said she began dating Pack in July 2020 and that each evening Pack traveled to her Lansdale area residence between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. Pack's girlfriend was Dan's ex-girlfriend.

Detectives traced the route Pack travelled that evening, after leaving her mother's Feasterville residence, to the Lansdale area residence of the woman with whom she was in a relationship.

Through Pennsylvania Turnpike records and surveillance, detectives determined Pack entered the turnpike at the Bensalem Plaza at 9:27 p.m. and exited at the Fort Washington Plaza at 9:42 p.m. At both points, her car was followed by a dark-colored Cadillac with counterfeit paper Delaware registration tags, authorities alleged.

"Your car is there. There's no disputing that," Wittenberger addressed Vance during the February 2021 interview, asking him to explain the circumstance.

"Nothing happened with my car. I swear to God I don't know about no killing," Vance responded during the initial interview.

Detectives determined the vehicle seen following Pack was owned by Vance, according to the arrest affidavit.

"The information Vance provided in his interview is refuted by evidence gathered by detectives throughout this investigation. His denial that he ever drove his vehicle on the turnpike is clearly refuted by the images of Vance's black Cadillac entering and exiting the Pennsylvania Turnpike directly behind Ebony Pack," Wittenberger and Gary alleged in the arrest affidavit.

Pennsylvania State Police conducted forensic tests on Vance's vehicle and that analysis showed particles indicative of gunshot residue on the passenger side of the Cadillac, which is consistent with images depicted in video surveillance of the fatal shooting, detectives alleged.

"This evidence is consistent with Ricky Vance's Cadillac pulling alongside the victim's vehicle and a passenger inside of Vance's Cadillac firing shots, as depicted in the video surveillance from the North Penn School District Building," detectives alleged in court papers.

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

is initiating the planning for the 2021 HOME ARP Program Funds, as required from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As part of this planning process, the County will conduct a virtual Public Meeting to provide County residents with information on the allocation process for the PY 2021 the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME - ARP) Program. In addition, the meeting will serve as an information gathering session on the need for homeless prevention services, homeless shelters, transitional housing, affordable housing development, housing and services for those with special needs, and community services in low and moderate income neighborhoods.

This is an opportunity for individuals and organizations to provide feedback to the County on the needs of low and moderate income residents, to learn about the program, and to be involved in determining how the County will use the approximately \$5 million in allocations from HUD to improve our community. The County encourages participation of all its residents, especially the involvement of very low income residents, minorities and non-English speaking persons, and persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments.

Due to current public health concerns, a virtual Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 11, 2022 at 6pm. Please register for this meeting at the following web link:

www.montcopa.org/housingfunding

The link will also be posted on the County website at www.montcopa.org. If you have a special need and require an accommodation in order to participate, please contact Denise Neuschwander, at 610-278-3540. Advance notice of 5 days is required for sign-language or non-English speaking interpreter services, at no cost to the requester.

Perkiomen
Tours & Travel
www.perkiomentours.com

A Branson, Missouri Christmas
November 6 - 13.....\$1784

Historic Inns of MA
November 16 - 20.....\$1395

Motorcoach Vacations
Mississippi River Foliage..... 10/3-10..... \$2174
Smoky Mountain Splendor... 10/9-15..... \$1886
Charleston & Savannah..... 10/10-16..... \$1596
Southern VT at Kitzhof Inn..... 10/11-14..... \$1004
Fall Mystery..... 10/13-16..... \$847
Outer Banks Seafood Fest..... 10/13-16..... \$857
Finger Lakes Fall Foliage..... 10/18-21..... \$893
PA Grand Canyon..... 10/22-23..... \$450
Golden Isles of Georgia..... 10/23-29..... \$1752
Greenbrier Resort..... 11/27-29..... \$680
Grand Illumination..... 12/2-4..... \$513
Christmas in the Capital..... 12/3-4..... \$448
Christmas Mystery..... 12/5-7..... \$650
NYE at the Founder's Inn..... 12/29-1/1..... \$1385
Orlando Value..... 1/15-21..... \$499
Middlebury Inn Valentine..... 2/13-16..... \$1032
Seneca Niagara Resort..... 3/14-16..... \$410
Macon Cherry Blossoms..... 3/23-28..... \$1854
Grand Canyon & Nat'l Parks 6/7-24..... \$4998
Thousand Islands..... 6/12-15..... \$1196
Flight 93 Nat'l Memorial..... 6/15-16..... \$422
Nova Scotia & PEI..... 6/24-7/4..... \$3252

Cruises
Southern Caribbean 2/11-23.....from \$1093*
Bermuda.....5/18-23.....from \$993*
Mississippi River.....7/8-18.....from \$3534*

Broadway
The Music Man.....Sun, 10/23.....\$285
MJ.....Sat, 11/12.....\$265
The Music Man.....Sat, 11/12.....\$375
The Music Man.....Sat, 12/10.....\$295

One-Day Fun
New York City Free Time
9/17, 10/23, 11/12, 12/10.....\$60
Bloomsburg Fair Senior Day.....9/26.....\$68
Penn's Peak - Boy in Black.....9/28.....\$95
Absolutely Amish.....9/29.....\$137
Penn's Peak - Elton Rohn.....9/29.....\$95
A Day in Central Park.....10/1.....\$115
Carpenters Remembered - PP.....10/4.....\$95
Memories of Patsy - PP.....10/5.....\$95
German Fest at Silver Birches...10/5.....\$95
Rehoboth Beach Sidewalk Sale 10/7.....\$70
Jim Thorpe Fall Foliage.....10/9.....\$50
Penn's Peak - Dolly & Kenny.....10/11.....\$100
Sight & Sound - David.....10/15.....\$135
Penn's Peak - Everly Brothers...10/18.....\$95
Penn's Peak - Still Surfin'.....10/19.....\$95
Sight & Sound - David.....10/19.....\$105

Radio City Christmas Spectacular
11/19, 11/30, 12/5, 12/15, 12/29.....\$185

Turning Stone Casino
2-Day - November 6 - 7.....\$213
3-Day - November 6 - 8.....\$399

Multi-day vacations listed as per person, double occupancy. *Plus transfers, taxes, fees & airfare when applicable.
Broadway prices & availability are pending final theatre confirmation.

Reservations 1-800-222-4434

NORRISTOWN

What’s happening at Maenner-Chor Club

For Media/News Group

NORRISTOWN » Three big events are scheduled for the next three months at the Norristown Maenner-Chor Club, located at 920 Haws Avenue in Norristown. All are invited to share in the activities.

OKTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 15, 2022
2:00 pm — 6:00 pm
Draft Beer, Soda & Buffet \$25.00 per person
Music by the Tom Craig

Band Event will be held in the Hall
This is a smoke-free event
See Bartender for tickets or contact the Norristown Maenner-Chor at 610-272-9043

HOLIDAY MEAT WHEEL

Sunday, November 13, 2022
12 Noon
Bring Your Dollar Bills for a chance to win Tur-

key, Steaks, Chicken, Beef, Pork, Seafood, Sausage, Bacon and So Much More!
It’s a simple game of chance to win your favorite meats as \$2.00 buys you a ticket for a number on the Meat Wheel. You may buy multiple tickets for each round if they are not sold out. Each Round gives you 3 chances to win! Steaks and Seafood Rounds will be \$3.00. If your number on the Meat Wheel is the winner you can choose from three meat choices.
There will be a \$5.00 Fi-

nal Bonus Round! For the Bonus Round the Meat Wheel keeps spinning until all meats are won. Bonus Round tickets are good for every spin.
The Eagles have a bye week so come out and try your luck!
This is a non-smoking event.

DESIGNER BAG BINGO

Sunday, December 3, 2022
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.



Doors open at noon
Regular Bingo or 4 Corner Bingo \$25, \$30. at the door.
Specials Available: 4 for \$5 or \$2 each.
Jackpot Bingo Cover All

— 3 for \$5 or \$2 each
Raffles and 50/50 will be available.
No outside alcohol is allowed.
This is a non-smoking event.

PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY

Authority hires interim executive director hired

Thomas Frawley has more than 40 years of experience in transportation systems planning

Editor’s note: Due to a production error in Wednesday’s edition, we are re-running the story in its entirety.

By Karen Shuey

kshuey@readingeagle.com

The Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority has hired an interim executive director to lead the effort of restoring passenger rail service between Reading and Philadelphia.

At the authority’s monthly meeting Monday afternoon, the authority voted unanimously to bring on Thomas Frawley to help lead the effort of officials in Berks, Montgomery and Chester counties to revive passenger rail service by formalizing agreements, pursuing funding and partnering with rail

operators and state and federal transportation agencies.
Frawley has more than 40 years of experience in transportation systems planning, development, design, engineering, procurement, construction, operation and management. As principal of the Berwyn-based Thomas Frawley Consulting, he has focused primarily in public transit and passenger rail, working with organizations including the Virginia Railway Express, Amtrak, the California High Speed Rail Authority and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority.
Frawley has also worked on a feasibility study for a Phoenixville task force about the potential restoration of passenger rail service between Phoenixville and Philadelphia, giving him insight

regarding potential regional rail ridership and an understanding of institutional issues.
Frawley will be paid \$100 an hour for up to 25 hours a week.
Greater Reading Chamber Alliance President Jim Gerlach, who serves on the personnel committee, said the committee felt Frawley was the best candidate for the post following conversations with four people who expressed interest in the position.
“We are excited to have Tom Frawley join us,” he said. “He has a wealth of experience not only with authorities such as this, but also dealing with Amtrak directly on rail transportation projects.”
Berks County Commissioner Christian Leinbach,

said Frawley will provide important leadership.
“Tom brings to the role his immense professional expertise, as well as a personal interest as a resident of the region who understands the value a Reading-to-Philadelphia rail service will mean for the economy and for everyone who lives here,” he said.
The authority also approved a budget plan that will carry the authority through 2025.
Montgomery County Planning Commission Director Scott France, who serves as the chairman of the planning committee, said the budget will help the finance officers in the three counties as they plan for the upcoming budget year and the additional county

contributions as needed.
The authority has budgeted a total of just under \$1.3 million for the three-plus-year span. From October through the end of the year, \$82,630 has been budgeted, while \$378,140 has been budgeted for 2023.
Expenses are estimated to be \$410,734 in 2024 and \$423,056 in 2025.
The only income listed in the budget through 2025 is from county contributions. With the three counties sharing the expense equally, each will provide \$431,520. For the remainder of 2022, that number is \$27,543 per county.
The budget acknowledges the expected payment of the interim executive director as well as the likely cost of the consulting firm the authority hired last month to help nav-



Thomas Frawley

igate the technical and political aspects of the passenger rail project.
It also includes operating expenses over the next three years.
France said the budget does not address potential capital investments that could be made or large-scale studies that may take place because the authority is not yet aware of the costs. He did, however, stress there are already some additional funding sources lined up in the form of federal and state dollars.
“For now, this represents the way that the counties plan on funding the authority at least for the next three years,” he said.

Shooting

FROM PAGE 2

she was pronounced dead at 10:24 p.m. A subsequent autopsy determined Pack died from multiple gunshot wounds and the death was ruled a homicide.
Detectives combing the scene found 10 fired 9mm cartridge cases and shattered glass on East Hancock Street, just east of Church Road, according to court papers. Investigators determined Pack’s vehicle traveled 93 feet from where the cluster of fired cartridge cases and the

shattered glass were found to where it crashed into the light standard.
Detectives also obtained video surveillance footage from a camera located in the 400 block of East Hancock Street which depicted Pack’s vehicle traveling westbound on East Hancock Street, followed by a second vehicle, according to the arrest affidavit. At 9:56 p.m., Pack’s vehicle stopped for a red traffic signal at the intersection with Church Road and a few seconds later the second vehicle pulled next to the driver’s side door of Pack’s vehicle, detectives alleged. The second vehicle then drove

away and traveled southbound on Church Road.
“Meanwhile, the victim’s vehicle slowly rolls through the intersection to where it came to rest against the light standard...These were the only two vehicles at the intersection at the time of the shooting,” Wittenberger and Gary alleged in the criminal complaint.
Witnesses reported hearing multiple gunshots and observed a dark-colored sedan, believed to be a Cadillac, driving southbound on Church Road at a high rate of speed.
During the investigation, detectives interviewed a woman, identified as Pack’s

girlfriend, who said she began dating Pack in July 2020 and that each evening Pack traveled to her Lansdale area residence between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. Pack’s girlfriend was Dan’s ex-girlfriend.
Detectives traced the route Pack travelled that evening, after leaving her mother’s Feasterville residence, to the Lansdale area residence of the woman with whom she was in a relationship.
Through Pennsylvania Turnpike records and surveillance, detectives determined Pack entered the turnpike at the Bensalem Plaza at 9:27 p.m. and ex-

ited at the Fort Washington Plaza at 9:42 p.m. At both points, her car was followed by a dark-colored Cadillac with counterfeit paper Delaware registration tags, authorities alleged.
“Your car is there. There’s no disputing that,” Wittenberger addressed Vance during the February 2021 interview, asking him to explain the circumstance.
“Nothing happened with my car. I swear to God I don’t know about no killing,” Vance responded during the initial interview.

Detectives determined the vehicle seen following Pack was owned by Vance, according to the arrest affidavit.
“The information Vance provided in his interview is refuted by evidence gathered by detectives throughout this investigation. His denial that he ever drove his vehicle on the turnpike is clearly refuted by the images of Vance’s black Cadillac entering and exiting the Pennsylvania Turnpike during the initial interview.”

SHOOTING » PAGE 10

Reunion

FROM PAGE 1

nue, but the school’s alumni — including underclassmen forced to complete high school elsewhere — have continued to hold annual reunions, and according to organizers, this year’s 150th was extra special. Contributing to that, the all-class video Beverlee Knoeller Stemple (Class of 1966) produced by combining information and photos from CHS yearbooks. Stemple also designed a pair of memorabilia displays that highlight key events from the CHS years.
Richard Nasielski (Class of 1964) crafted the wooden boxes — trimmed with souvenir CHS photos — that contained the reunion’s yellow mum centerpieces, and Nancy Elam DeVitis (Class of 1965) tracked down the celebration’s signature yellow and blue tote bags.
Organizers used the late Robert Haines’ (Class of 1947) commemorative

school bell to signal the luncheon’s start. Haines’ daughter and son-in-law, Deborah and Ken Garcia, attended in his honor and donated the bell to the association.
Also recognized at the gathering...102-year-old Louise Higgs Smith (Class of 1939), the reunion’s oldest guest; John R. Smith (Class of 1942), a reunion regular for many years; Judith Horn Armsby (Class of 1962), whose trip from Hawaii made her the alum who traveled the farthest to attend; Bob Benedetto (Class of 1963), who spoke about the group’s devotion to alma mater; and Maria J. DiDonato (Class of 1963), who led the singing of CHS’s Alma Mater.
Organizers describe CHSAA’s 150th reunion as “a huge success” and have scheduled their 151st for Sept. 15, 2023 at the 1912 Club. They invite any alumni who would like to receive future reunion committee mailings or additional information to contact them at chs.aa2017@gmail.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CHS’s Class of 1966 was the last to graduate from the landmark 1913 building on Fayette Street at Seventh Avenue.

Perkiomen Tours & Travel

www.perkiomentours.com

A Branson, Missouri Christmas November 6 - 13.....\$1784	Historic Inns of MA November 16 - 20...\$1395
Motorcoach Vacations Mississippi River Foliage..... 10/3-10.....\$2174 Smoky Mountain Splendor.... 10/9-15.....\$1886 Charleston & Savannah..... 10/10-16.....\$1596 Southern VT at Kitzhof Inn..... 10/11-14.....\$1004 Fall Mystery..... 10/13-16.....\$847 Outer Banks Seafood Fest..... 10/13-16.....\$857 Finger Lakes Fall Foliage..... 10/18-21.....\$893 PA Grand Canyon..... 10/22-23.....\$450 Golden Isles of Georgia..... 10/23-29.....\$1752 Greenbrier Resort..... 11/27-29.....\$680 Grand Illumination..... 12/2-4.....\$513 Christmas in the Capital..... 12/3-4.....\$448 Christmas Mystery..... 12/5-7.....\$650 NYE at the Founder's Inn..... 12/29-1/1.....\$1385 Orlando Value..... 1/15-21.....\$499 Middlebury Inn Valentine..... 2/13-16.....\$1032 Seneca Niagara Resort..... 3/14-16.....\$410 Macon Cherry Blossoms..... 3/23-28.....\$1854 Grand Canyon & Nat'l Parks 6/7-24.....\$4998 Thousand Islands..... 6/12-15.....\$1196 Flight 93 Nat'l Memorial..... 6/15-16.....\$422 Nova Scotia & PEI..... 6/24-7/4.....\$3252	Cruises Southern Caribbean 2/11-23.....from \$1093* Bermuda..... 5/18-23.....from \$993* Mississippi River..... 7/8-18.....from \$3534* Broadway The Music Man.....Sun, 10/23.....\$285 MJ.....Sat, 11/12.....\$265 The Music Man.....Sat, 11/12.....\$375 The Music Man.....Sat, 12/10.....\$295 One-Day Fun New York City Free Time 9/17, 10/23, 11/12, 12/10.....\$60 Bloomsburg Fair Senior Day..... 9/26.....\$68 Penn's Peak - Boy in Black..... 9/28.....\$95 Absolutely Amish..... 9/29.....\$137 Penn's Peak - Elton Rohn..... 9/29.....\$95 A Day in Central Park..... 10/1.....\$115 Carpenters Remembered - PP..... 10/4.....\$95 Memories of Patsy - PP..... 10/5.....\$95 German Fest at Silver Birch..... 10/5.....\$95 Rehoboth Beach Sidewalk Sale 10/7.....\$70 Jim Thorpe Fall Foliage..... 10/9.....\$50 Penn's Peak - Dolly & Kenny..... 10/11.....\$100 Sight & Sound - David..... 10/15.....\$135 Penn's Peak - Everly Brothers..... 10/18.....\$95 Penn's Peak - Still Surfin'..... 10/19.....\$95 Sight & Sound - David..... 10/19.....\$105 Radio City Christmas Spectacular 11/19, 11/30, 12/5, 12/15, 12/29.....\$185 Turning Stone Casino 2-Day - November 6 - 7.....\$213 3-Day - November 6 - 8.....\$399 NYE in Nashville Dec 29 - Jan 2.....\$1398

Multi-day vacations listed as per person, double occupancy. *Plus transfers, taxes, fees & airfare when applicable. Broadway prices & availability are pending final theatre confirmation.

Reservations 1-800-222-4434



SUBMITTED PHOTO

More than 140 graduates attended this reunion.

Account Number:	790920
Customer Name:	Montgomery Cty Dept Of House
Customer Address:	Montgomery Cty Dept Of House Po Box 311 MARGARET HAGERTY Norristown PA 19404
Contact Name:	Montgomery Cty Dept Of House
Contact Phone:	6102783540
Contact Email:	
PO Number:	

Date:	09/19/2022
Order Number:	7810964
Prepayment Amount:	\$ 0.00

Column Count:	1.0000
Line Count:	76.0000
Height in Inches:	0.0000

Print

Product	#Insertions	Start - End	Category
LNG Intelligencer	1	09/22/2022 - 09/22/2022	Public Notices
LNG classifiedonline.com	1	09/22/2022 - 09/22/2022	Public Notices

Total Order Confirmation

\$285.88

NOTICE

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT is initiating the planning for the 2021 HOME ARP Program Funds, as required from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As part of this planning process, the County will conduct a virtual Public Meeting to provide County residents with information on the allocation process for the PY 2021 the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME - ARP) Program. In addition, the meeting will serve as an information gathering session on the need for homeless prevention services, less prevention services, transitional housing, affordable housing development, housing and services for those with special needs, and community services in low and moderate income neighborhoods.

This is an opportunity for individuals and organizations to provide feedback to the County on the needs of low and moderate income residents, to learn about the program, and to be involved in determining how the County will use the approximately \$5 million in allocations from HUD to improve our community. The County encourages participation of all its residents, especially income residents, minorities and non-English speaking persons, and persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments.

Due to current public health concerns, a virtual Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 11, 2022 at 6pm. Please register for this meeting at the following web link: www.montcopa.org/housingfunding

The link will also be posted on the County website at www.montcopa.org. If you have a special need and require an accommodation in order to participate, please contact Denise Neuschwander, at 610-278-3540. Advance notice of 5 days is required for sign-language or non-English speaking interpreter services, at no cost to the requester.

ATTACHMENT 14

Summary of notes from interviews with people experiencing homelessness

All interviews conducted on October 5, 2022

Participant 1 ("M"). Interviewed at the Norristown Public Library.

- Male, age 45-64, Black/ African American, living outside in Norristown. Identifies as having experienced multiple episodes of homelessness over the past ten years and participation in various housing programs.
- Would like to see funds go for transitional housing. It is too difficult to try to get an apartment from a landlord when you have to have first, last security, etc and learn to pay bills etc. Helpful when someone is taking your rent and putting it into a savings account so when you're ready you can use that to get your own place. He did that program before and it was the most helpful.
- Someone should take all of the abandoned properties in Norristown and convert them into transitional housing.

Participant 2 ("T"). Interviewed at HopeWorx.

- Male, age 45-60, Black/ African American, living outside in Norristown. Identifies as having severe physical challenges due to sleeping outside.
- Would like to see the list move faster, it is too slow to get help. It is hard to find units that are available if you are on a fixed income. The rent assistance isn't enough or its hard to find a place.
- Landlord don't want to work with you if you're on a program.
- FEMA paid for people who had to move out from flooding but they aren't stepping in to help the people who are displaced from the CHOC closing. You have to have an apartment or SEO to be approved for assistance.
- He would like to see women and children prioritized for funding, and the elderly, since they are the most at risk if they're outside

Participant 3 ("C"). Interviewed at HopeWorx.

- Male, 35-45, Asian, living outside in the Norristown area.
- Had experienced homelessness and then found an apartment through rent program. During the pandemic his landlord increased his rent and he couldn't pay. The stay on evictions prevented his eviction for a while but eventually was evicted and now he is homeless again.
- Hard to find a new place with an eviction on your record, and he is on a fixed income so he can't qualify for the rent prices and doesn't have the up front monies needed to move in.
- Would like to see the monies go to helping single guys who don't qualify for any cash programs or other programs. So many shelters help families with children but there's nothing for single guys.



October 16th, 2022

Barbara O'Malley
Deputy Chief Operations Officer
Montgomery County
One Montgomery Plaza
Norristown, PA 19401

Re: The Crisis for the unhoused in Montgomery County and ARP HOME Funds

Dear Ms. O'Malley,

The *Here For Us* advocacy coalition and the *Campaign to Protect the Unhoused* would like to make the following recommendations to the County for the new [ARPA HOME Program](#).

The current housing and shelter situation in Montgomery County is in crisis and should be a top priority for the Program. The number of persons who are unsheltered increased by 118% between 2021 and 2022. In early September 2022, there were 596 individuals and 70 families with children living without shelter in Montgomery County. While unhoused individuals are without a temporary home, even unhoused families are suffering under the current inaction, the shelters serving families unable to meet the current need.

When the Coordinated Housing Outreach Center (CHOC) closed its doors in June 2022 it left a gaping hole in the County's ability to service the unhoused. While some individuals have been able to obtain a stay in hotel rooms, this is not a viable long-term solution. The number of unhoused persons living in encampments continues to grow.

The County took immediate action when Hurricane Ida displaced dozens of individuals and families. The County's action in the face of that housing crisis showcased that swift action is possible – when there is the will to do so.

The continued increase of unhoused persons in the county highlights the need for emergency shelter space to accommodate both families and individuals. It is incumbent upon the County to alleviate this situation – and you have the resources necessary to do so.

The County has received \$5,080,650 in funding for housing services through the American Rescue Plan Act- HOME Program. This funding is in addition to the \$161.4 million already allocated through the American Rescue Plan Act- Pandemic Recovery Fund.

We recommend the county take the following actions:

- Montgomery County should open emergency shelter spaces before Winter arrives. Using ARPA funds, shelter can be provided to move people into a legal and safe place to stay as the temperatures drop. The County has land it could use at this time and has the ability to secure and rehabilitate additional property using a declaration of a public emergency.
- The county should provide ongoing rental assistance to families and individuals who are housed or living in a shelter and looking to transition to a more permanent setting. According to the report [“Out of Reach”](#), released by the National Low-Income Housing coalition, the average cost of rent in Montgomery County for a 2-bedroom unit is more than \$1,700 per month – an unattainable amount for families working at minimum wage.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations. Our recommendations are taken from the list of permissible expenditures for ARPA funding. We are happy to provide additional information supporting these recommendations and would be happy to discuss how we can move ahead together in alleviating the crisis too many are facing in Montgomery County today.

Best Regards,

Bill England, MSW
Campaign Director

The Campaign to Protect the Unhoused
PA Health Access Network
NAACP Cheltenham Branch
NAACP Norristown Branch
NAMI Montgomery County
Teach One Feed One
Hopeworx
Macedonia Baptist Church

The Norristown Hospitality Center
The Bucks-Mont Collaborative
Laurel House
OIC Montgomery County
The Boots and Wings Project: Caregiver Soul-utions and Resources
First Presbyterian Church at Norristown
Neighbors Helping Neighbors on the Main Line
Norristown Ministerium

*As of October 15, 2022