



## **CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT, NC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

**Submitted to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
as a Substantial Amendment to the  
2021 Annual Action Plan**

### Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

**\* 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication  
☒ Application  
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

**\* 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New  
☐ Continuation  
☐ Revision

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

**\* Other (Specify):**

**\* 3. Date Received:**

**4. Applicant Identifier:**

**5a. Federal Entity Identifier:**

**5b. Federal Award Identifier:**

**State Use Only:**

**6. Date Received by State:**

**7. State Application Identifier:**

**8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

**\* a. Legal Name:** City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina

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

56-6001323

**\* c. UEI:**

LMW6VKJDJZJ3

**d. Address:**

**\* Street1:** 331 South Franklin Street

**Street2:** P.O.Box 1180

**\* City:** Rocky Mount

**County/Parish:**

**\* State:** NC: North Carolina

**Province:**

**\* Country:** USA: UNITED STATES

**\* Zip / Postal Code:** 27802-1180

**e. Organizational Unit:**

**Department Name:**

Community Development

**Division Name:**

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

**Prefix:**

Ms.

**\* First Name:**

Cornelia

**Middle Name:**

**\* Last Name:**

McGee

**Suffix:**

**Title:** Interim Director of Community Development

**Organizational Affiliation:**

**\* Telephone Number:** 252-972-1178

**Fax Number:** 252-972-1581

**\* Email:** cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

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

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

### \* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

### 11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

CFDA Title:

### \* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

14-239

\* Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

### 13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

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

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

### \* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424****16. Congressional Districts Of:**\* a. Applicant \* b. Program/Project 

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

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**17. Proposed Project:**\* a. Start Date: \* b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,476,477.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,476,477.00"/>

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

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

☒ \*\* I AGREE

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

**Authorized Representative:**

Prefix:  \* First Name:

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Suffix:

\* Title: \* Telephone Number:  Fax Number: \* Email: 

\* Signature of Authorized Representative:

\* Date Signed:

## ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.


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

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

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

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina	12/22/22

## ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

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

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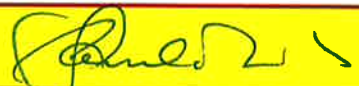
**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

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

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
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18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

<b>SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL</b> 	<b>TITLE</b> Mayor
<b>APPLICANT ORGANIZATION</b> City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina	<b>DATE SUBMITTED</b> 12/22/22



## **HOME-ARP CERTIFICATIONS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

# CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT, NC & DOWN EAST HOME CONSORTIUM HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Submitted to HUD as a Substantial Amendment to the  
Approved 2021 Annual Action Plan

## Consultation

### **Section 1: Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation**

See Appendix A for all Stakeholder Consultation materials. Stakeholder comments received throughout these various sessions are referenced appropriately throughout the Needs Assessment & Gaps Analysis.

The city coordinated the stakeholder consultations for its 2022 Annual Action Plan with its HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The city held a kickoff meeting to provide an overview of the HOME-ARP Program on March 30, 2022. This meeting was followed by a series of stakeholder listening sessions on April 12 and 13, 2022. The intent of these listening sessions was to identify the unmet housing and supportive service needs of the Qualifying Populations. A second round of meetings were held on June 7 and 8, 2022. The goal of this second round was to present summaries of (1) the needs identified by stakeholders during the April sessions and (2) the unmet needs identified through data analysis. Meetings were also held with Down East HOME Consortium members to discuss HOME-ARP eligible activities and funding allocations. Interviews were also conducted with additional stakeholders whose input was required for this planning process but who were unable to participate in the stakeholder group sessions.

To ensure that all consultation requirements were met, the City engaged critical stakeholders, including Continuum of Care leadership, public housing authorities, domestic violence, veterans service providers, and public agencies serving Qualifying Populations (QPs).

### **Section 2: List the organizations consulted and summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities. Required stakeholders are italicized.**

Agency/Org. Consulted	Type of Agency/Org.	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Princeville Housing Authority	<i>Public housing authority</i>	4/1/2022 phone call	The 50 units that the Princeville Housing Authority previously managed were sold on March 17, 2022. PHA is not currently managing any public housing units. The Authority could use acquisition funding to purchase land for future development.
Tar Heel Regional Committee of the Balance of State	<i>Continuum of Care</i>	4/20/2022 virtual meeting	Noted a shortage of permanent supportive housing and a lack of participation among landlords

Continuum of Care.			participating in the HCV program. Shared that Region 9 is in the process of conducting a needs assessment and that funding for this initiative would be beneficial.
The REACH Center	<i>Homeless Services Provider</i>	4/12/2022 stakeholder engagement session  4/20/2022 Virtual meeting	Identified the following needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency shelter beds and transitional housing options especially for those coming out of domestic violence shelters. DV shelter beds are also limited.</li> <li>• Housing that is affordable to very low-income households or households exiting homelessness. The availability of affordable rental units is limited.</li> <li>• Permanent supportive housing.</li> <li>• Wraparound supportive services for clients such as workforce development, financial literacy, and other wrap-around services to ensure that families can become self-sufficient. Mental health services are lacking.</li> <li>• Capacity-building among service providers such as case management training and homeless data collection training</li> </ul>
Ripple Effects Group	<i>Homeless Services Provider</i>	4/13/2022, 6/8/2022 stakeholder engagement sessions	Identified the following needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency shelter- stable shelter would also enable organizations to provide more robust wraparound services to clients</li> <li>• Permanent supportive housing. Long-term, they would like to create transitional homes for veterans and survivors of human trafficking to provide wrap-around services.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better coordination among service providers. Would like to see an organization that provides services from street outreach all the way to permanent housing (“from start to finish”).</li> <li>• Better housing quality/property maintenance for Ripple Effects Group’ clients to secure rental housing. Very low-income tenants have limited housing options. Fair housing issues can impact individuals with disabilities; having case managers help locate housing can assist with these barriers.</li> <li>• Volunteers of America (VOA) provides housing assistance to veterans for about 3 months. For many, this is not enough for long-term housing stability.</li> <li>• Utilization rate of emergency shelter in Rocky Mount is low because of high barriers.</li> </ul>
North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness	<i>Statewide advocacy group for homeless individuals and families</i>	3/15/2022 Virtual meeting 4/23/2022 stakeholder engagement session	<p>Noted a need for funding to make more affordable units available, whether through intense landlord recruitment or building affordable housing units.</p> <p>Highlighted importance of using HOME-ARP on supportive services and making sure service providers are using low-barrier/housing-first best practices.</p> <p>HOME-ARP capacity-building resources will be essential to ensuring successful implementation of services.</p> <p>Suggested using TBRA for rapid rehousing.</p>

Legal Aid of North Carolina	<i>Nonprofit organization / civil rights, fair housing, disability rights</i>	4/12/2022 stakeholder engagement session	Legal services are needed for eviction prevention and more safe and affordable housing units for renters.
Community Academy Steering Committee	Community Advocacy Organization	4/12/2022 and 4/13/2022 stakeholder engagement sessions	<p>Emphasized the importance of focusing on the communities in Rocky Mount that have been marginalized, particularly in Edgecombe County. Progress in these communities has been slow and the resources available are inadequate to meet community needs.</p> <p>Home maintenance is needed. Rocky Mount has vacant and dilapidated housing stock in need of repairs and rehabilitation. Low-income homeowners cannot afford to do their own improvements or maintenance.</p> <p>Noted the increasing cost of housing in the region and the need for additional resources to address the housing crisis. Community Academy has advocated for a housing bond but City Council has not approved one.</p> <p>Housing costs are soaring. This is going to particularly impact the households with lowest incomes who spend the largest share of income on housing and food. Focus should be on serving the under-resourced communities cited in the RM 2014 Crossroads to Prosperity study.</p> <p>Employment training could help address Rocky Mount's high unemployment rate.</p> <p>Voiced support for TBRA and housing counseling.</p>

Down East HOME Consortium	DEHC members	5/2/2022, 7/11/2022 In-person/virtual meetings	<p>There is a mobile home community in Conetoe that has fallen into disrepair; could these funds be used to rehabilitate units into affordable housing?</p> <p>Supportive services such as housing counseling would be beneficial. The Consortium should invest in something that lives beyond the funding, such as more single-family or duplex rental units in scattered sites to provide choice.</p>
Edgecombe County Health Department	<i>Public agency that addresses the needs of qualifying populations</i>	5/2/2022 phone call	<p>Edgecombe County is completing a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)</p> <p>The lack of affordable housing is a need in both Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Increased housing costs place additional burdens on households that are already at risk.</p>
Mercer Foundation	<i>Veterans Services Provider</i>	5/10/2022 phone call	<p>There is a lack of available affordable rental units for veterans. Many landlords won't lease to veterans with poor rental histories. It would be helpful to have meetings to engage landlords and encourage second chances, as well as landlord incentives.</p> <p>More resources for homeless prevention are needed.</p>
Rocky Mount Human Relations Commission	<i>Public entity / civil rights, fair housing, disability rights</i>	6/13/2022 email response to questions	<p>Most critical housing gap for persons with disabilities is accessibility. Risk factors include rising rents without controls, unreasonable leasing terms and requirements, inadequate access to employment, unaffordable childcare, inadequate public transportation, lack of financial resources for rent and utilities. Greatest need is for accessible family units. Education needed for landlords and property managers who place too many illegal restrictions on tenants with disabilities.</p>



My Sister's House	<i>Domestic Violence Service Provider</i>	6/8/2022 Virtual meeting	Many survivors of domestic violence have high delinquency debts related to previous housing situations, which must be paid in full before they can rent again. Many survivors and persons fleeing from domestic violence are referred to Wilson Housing Authority (south of Rocky Mount) where they can access affordable rental units.
Rocky Mount Housing Authority	<i>Public housing authority</i>	08/16/2022 Virtual meeting	Need for permanent affordable rental units to house HCV recipients. RMHA's HCV waitlist is long with low turnover due to increasing rents.

# Public Participation

See Appendix B for evidence of Public Participation conducted for the plan.

## **Section 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.**

- ***Date(s) of public notice: 11/12-14/2022***
- ***Public comment period: start date - 11/12/2022 end date - 12/5/2022***
- ***Date(s) of public hearing: 11/28/22 and 12/05/22***

### ***Describe the public participation process:***

Two public hearings were conducted: one before the City Council of the City of Rocky Mount on November 28<sup>th</sup> and one before the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners on December 5<sup>th</sup>. A public notice was published in the Rocky Mount Telegram in the November 12-14, 2022 edition. Both public hearings were held in-person and with virtual participation accessible via Zoom. The public was also encouraged to call-in and listen as a third option for participating. All stakeholders invited to the earlier outreach sessions were invited to the public hearings. A PowerPoint presentation was presented at each public hearing.

### ***Describe efforts to broaden public participation:***

The city implemented the following actions:

- Included in the public notice the list of priority needs identified through the consultation process, the proposed HOME-ARP budget and selected activities, and provided directions on how to access accommodation for persons with limited English proficiency and persons with hearing and physical disabilities who wanted to participate in the public hearing
- Included the option to submit comments verbally during the public hearings or in writing
- Offered the ability to participate in the public hearing virtually and to submit comments via email
- Provided links for accessing the full draft plan online on both the city website and the county website, and
- Included in the presentation during the public hearing a summary of the overall planning process, needs identified by stakeholders, key data findings from the Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

### ***Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at the public hearings:***

Written comments were received from the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness, the North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care collaborative applicant. A copy of the email comment is included in Appendix B. The suggested data revisions were incorporated in the final plan.

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

The city received a letter from United Community Ministries of its intent to apply for HOME-ARP funding. This request did not provide comment on the draft HOME-ARP plan but did include a budget and request for funding for the organization's emergency shelter. A copy of the letter is included in Appendix B but the city did not accept it as comment on the draft plan.

# Needs Assessment & Gaps Analysis

This section presents the results of the homeless needs and gaps analysis, drawing on statewide HMIS data, Point-In-Time (PIT) count information, and public federal data sources. Where appropriate, this information is contextualized with feedback from stakeholders within the Rocky Mount homeless service system.

## **Section 1: Housing Inventory**

Like many cities, there is a shortage of emergency and permanent supportive housing options in Rocky Mount. Significant upward trends were noted in the number of survivors of domestic violence requiring emergency housing, the average number of cumulative days of persons being homeless, and the number of first-time homeless individuals and families.

**Table 1. Homeless Needs Inventory**

Homeless													
REGION 9 (Rocky Mount, Edgecombe County and Nash County)	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# Beds	# Units	# Beds	# Units	# Beds					# Beds	# Units	# Beds	# Units
Emergency Shelter (DV)	12	3	34	34									
Emergency Shelter (non-DV)			26				40	8					
Transitional Housing	60	12	6	6	6	30	2	0	3				
Permanent Supportive Housing	3	1	13	13	4								
Other Permanent Housing (RRH)						64	17	1	28				
Sheltered Homeless						94	59	9	34				
Unsheltered Homeless							19*						

\*11 homeless persons in Edgecombe County and 8 homeless persons in Nash County.

Source: Region 9 Continuum of Care Annual Performance Reports (October 2021 – March 2022), including 2022 Point in Time Count

Table 2 on the following page details the lack of rental units affordable and available to households at 0-30% AMI and 31-50% AMI. According to HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, Rocky Mount has 11,450 rental units but only 1,920 of these units (16.8%) are affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. (In 2020, 30% of the area median income in the Rocky Mount MSA was \$12,807.) In addition, 1,710 of the 1,920 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI (89%) experienced one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units (more than 1.00 persons per room), or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Edgecombe County, there are 9,245 rental units with 2,484 of these (27%) affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. In addition, there are 1,485 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Nash County, there are 13,350 rental units with 2,849 of these (21%) affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. In addition, there are 1,595 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

For each jurisdiction, the Current Gap is the number of 0-50% AMI households that are living in a housing unit that is beyond their affordability range.

**Table 2. Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis**

CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Housing Gap
	# Units	# Households	# Households
Total Rental Units	11,450		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	1,920		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	2,240		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		1,710	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		1,535	
Current Gap*			2,890
EDGECOMBE COUNTY	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Housing Gap
	# Units	# Households	# Households
Total Rental Units	9,245		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	2,484		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	2,405		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		1,485	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		1,130	
Current Gap*			2,465
NASH COUNTY	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Housing Gap
	# Units	# Households	# Households

Total Rental Units	13,350		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	2,849		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	2,334		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		1,595	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		1,885	
Current Gap*			3,315

Sources: *Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), 2014-2018*

## **Section 2: Size and Demographic Composition of Qualifying Populations**

### ***1. Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The 2020 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count, which was conducted prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, identified 44 individuals experiencing homelessness in Edgecombe County, all of whom were residing in transitional housing units. This included 11 family households with children and 6 adult-only households. Nash County reported a total of 56 individuals experiencing homelessness (47 in Emergency Shelter and 9 in Transitional Housing) with 53 single adults and one family household with children.

During the 2021 PIT Count conducted during the Covid-19 pandemic, Edgecombe County had 17 individuals experiencing homelessness. These included 5 family households with children residing in transitional housing. Nash County had a total of 55 people experiencing homelessness: 43 adult-only households and three family households with children in emergency shelters. Six of the homeless adults were veterans.

The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) provided an Annual Performance Report (APR) for Region 9 for the period covering October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. The report revealed that 117 homeless persons (113 adults and 4 children) were served in three emergency shelters: Hands Up Ministries, Ripple Effects Group, and United Community Ministries. Among those for whom gender was reported, there were 78 males and 38 females. Eight individuals were veterans and 12 were chronically homeless. The racial/ethnic composition of those served was Black/African American 81%, white 15%, multi-racial 2%, Hispanic/Latino <1%.

The NCCEH APR also illustrated the physical and mental conditions of those experiencing homelessness. Noting that conditions may not be mutually exclusive, the following conditions were reported: physical disability 31%, mental health disorder 24%, chronic health conditions 15%, alcohol and drug use disorders 15%.

Income varied among individuals in emergency shelter. At entry, 41% of individuals had no income while 11% reported income of \$2,000 or more per month. Twenty-six percent reported receipt of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and 21% received Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), equivalent to \$841/month.

While the PIT count provides a one-night snapshot of the homeless population in a jurisdiction, the System Performance Measures for a CoC provide a more accurate performance overview of the number of households and individuals served through a homeless system. Two reports were reviewed for the Region 9 CoC: one for the 12-month period covering October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, and a second one for the six-month period of October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. Overall, the data for the latest *six*-month period revealed a significant rate of increase in the number of persons and households served in the regional homeless system when compared to the previous *twelve*-month period as detailed in the following chart.

**Table 3. Comparison of CoC Data Trends**

Oct 1, 2020 – Sep 30, 2021 (12 months)	Data	Oct 1, 2021 – Mar 31, 2022 (6 months)
406	Homeless persons	399
239	Homeless households	224
131	Average cumulative days being homeless	153
18%	Exiting to permanent housing	36%
13%	Returning to homelessness	5%
Male 56% / Female 44%	Sex	Male 63% / Female 37%
39% were aged 25-54	Largest age group	41% were aged 25-54
81%	Blacks/African Americans (47% of the general population)	80%
77%	1-person households	83%
16%	Single adult with children	10%
9%	Veterans	5%
14%	Victims of domestic violence	11%
6%	Persons fleeing domestic violence	4%
36%	With disabling conditions	31%
66%	First time homeless	50%
20%	Continuously homeless	42%
11%	Re-engaging with the homeless system from temporary housing	4%
91%	Served in Rocky Mount	91%
71%	Households served in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven or Transitional Housing	62%
25%	Households served in Rapid Re-Housing	34%
5%	Households served with Permanent Supportive Housing	4%

*Sources: Region 9 Continuum of Care System Performance Reports*

Significant upward trends noted in the comparison of the 12-month period beginning October 1, 2021 and the six-month period beginning October 1, 2021 revealed the following:

- The number of homeless persons served in the homeless system for the six-month period is comparable to the number served during the previous 12-month period, indicating a potential doubling of homeless persons served in 2022. The same trend is noted for the number of households.
- Males remain the larger, and growing, group among homeless persons.
- Blacks/African Americans continue to be disproportionally represented among the homeless.
- Single-person households represent the vast majority of the homeless.
- Veterans remain under 10% of the homeless population.

- For persons who are victims of, or fleeing from, domestic violence, early 2022 data indicate the potential for higher rates. Similar trends are possible among homeless persons with disabling conditions.
- Most notably, persons who were homeless for the first time during the twelve-month period accounted for 66% of all homeless served; during the following six-month period, the rate was 50%. If this trend held, then more persons are experiencing homelessness for the first time than in the previous year. Already the rate of persons who were continuously homeless during the six-month period more than doubled from the previous year.
- The rate of persons who re-engaged with the homeless system after leaving temporary living situations appears to be falling.
- Rocky Mount continues to be the primary location where homeless individuals and families receive services through the regional homeless system. This is expected since most supportive service providers are located in the city.
- Most persons were provided with Rapid Re-housing (e.g., motel vouchers) more recently. This was most likely due to the increased federal funding made available through the CARES Act.
- Households provided with permanent supportive housing have remained steady but at a very low rate. This could be indicative of a lower inventory and a lower turnover among available permanent supportive housing units.

## ***2. At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

Rocky Mount Housing Authority provided waitlist information as of June 21, 2022. There was a total of 247 families on the waitlist for public housing. Of these, 199 had incomes of 0-30% AMI and another 30 had incomes at 31-50% AMI. Thirty-four applicant families included members with a disability. Two-bedroom units were the most requested (43%) followed by one-bedroom units (36%) and three-bedroom units (20%). There was a total of 137 families on the waitlist for Housing Choice Vouchers of which 112 had incomes of 0-30% AMI and another 17 had incomes at 51-80% AMI. Forty-three applicant families included members with a disability. Two-bedroom units were the most requested (62%) followed by one-bedroom units (41%) and three-bedroom units (19%).

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

Among those in emergency shelter during the 2021 PIT count, there were 15 individuals with a history of domestic violence and three persons actively fleeing domestic violence.

The 2020 CoC System Performance Measures reported 25 individuals (14%) were survivors of domestic violence and not currently fleeing; another 10 individuals (6%) were survivors of domestic violence and currently fleeing from violence. The October 2021-March 2022 report identified 17 individuals (11%) were survivors of domestic violence and not currently fleeing; another 6 individuals (4%) were survivors of domestic violence and currently fleeing from violence.

In 2021, My Sister's House, Rocky Mount's only domestic violence shelter, provided shelter to 82 women and 48 children with an average length of stay of 20.17 days, providing 2,622 sheltered nights and 7,866 meals. Staff and volunteers fielded 598 crisis calls.

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



**Persons with Disabilities:** Among the 247 families waitlisted for public housing with Rocky Mount Housing Authority as of June 21, 2022, 34 applicant families included members with a disability. Among the 137 families waitlisted for Housing Choice Vouchers, 43 families included members with a disability.

### **Section 3: Current Resources Available to Assist Qualifying Populations**

**Emergency shelter:** The NCCEH APR reported individuals experiencing homelessness are served by three emergency shelters: Hand Up Ministries, Ripple Effects Group, and United Community Ministries. Transitional housing is provided by United Community Ministries and Lighthouse Home. My Sister's House offers shelter units and transitional housing assistance for survivors of domestic violence.

**Supportive services:** There are several community providers that provide case management and other supportive services as resources allow. Ripple Effects Group offers Project Bridge, which provides case management, transitional housing, financial literacy training, and mental health counseling. The REACH Center offers coordinated entry services and direct outreach services to engage individuals experiencing homelessness, food, critical health and safety supplies, and case management services.

The Lighthouse Home serves women, including those with substance abuse needs, and veterans.

The Mercer Foundation provides case management, financial literacy, credit counseling, life skills, and nutrition to vulnerable individuals, including veterans. It offers prevention resources as funding allows.

United Community Ministries provides supportive services such as case management, financial literacy, credit counseling, life skills, and nutritional resources. It has placed individuals into hotels and motels to provide short-term isolation/quarantine for shelter residents with a positive Covid-19 test.

Rocky Mount Housing Authority manages 754 units of public housing with 247 applicant families on its waitlist, which is closed. The Authority also manages a Housing Choice Voucher program for 232 families with 137 applicant families on its waitlist.

Tarboro Housing Authority, which is overseen by the Town of Tarboro Redevelopment Commission, manages and operates three public housing developments, one HCV complex, and 82 units of scattered site public housing.

The Nash Edgecombe Wilson (NEW) Community Action Agency provides Section 8 vouchers for the Down East HOME Consortium area.

**Rapid Re-housing:** The REACH Center provides Rapid Re-housing services in Nash and Edgecombe Counties, which includes short- and/or medium-term housing financial assistance of up to 24 months and housing stabilization services.

**Permanent supportive housing:** There are two PSH activities funded by the Continuum of Care within Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Eastpoint covers Edgecombe County and Trillium provides PSH in Nash County. Available APR data for the period of 10/1/2021 through 3/31/2022 provided by NCCEH for Region 9 identified 16 persons (14 adults and two children) served through PSH programs.

## **Section 4: Describe the Unmet Housing and Service Needs of Qualifying Populations:**

### ***1. Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

According to stakeholders, emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing are needed. Supportive services are needed in tandem with these but it's challenging to provide services to the homeless who are un-housed. One stakeholder reported having 15 applications on her desk for emergency shelter for households consisting of single mothers and their children.

The NC Commission of Indian Affairs was allocated 414 Emergency Housing Vouchers for which Nash and Edgecombe Counties can refer households. Region 9 is providing referrals for the vouchers but the barrier is finding units that are available and affordable when vacancy rates are so low and market rents are so high.

All stakeholders consulted for this process expressed the same overwhelming need: affordable rental housing. Rocky Mount collaborates with developers to invest its HOME funds in LIHTC rental housing to expand the inventory of affordable rental units. Stakeholders reported that many who are homeless are doubling-up with others because they cannot find affordable rental units. Large families requiring more than three bedrooms are particularly challenged to find adequately sized units they can afford.

According to stakeholders, intensive case management and wrap-around supportive services are required as soon as homeless individuals and families are placed in housing. The services should be provided for at least one year to assist in stabilizing them and decreasing their chance of recidivism. While numerous service providers are available in Rocky Mount, their capacity to provide adequate levels of supportive services is strained due to the increasing number of homeless persons.

Stakeholders stated their clients need low/no-barrier housing. Too often, landlords require high-level background checks or rental deposits equal to three times the monthly rent. In addition, homeless persons with disabilities have a greater challenge if their disability makes it difficult to manage their finances, apply for housing, and maintain their housing.

Ripple Effects Group recently initiated street outreach in Rocky Mount, the first time this service has been offered in Region 9 according to the NCCEH.

### ***2. At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

According to HUD CHAS data, Rocky Mount has 11,450 rental units with only 1,920 of these (16.8%) affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. (In 2020, 30% of the area median income in the Rocky Mount MSA was \$12,807.) In addition, there are 1,710 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Edgecombe County, there are 9,245 rental units with 2,484 of these (27%) affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. In addition, there are 1,485 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of

income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Nash County there are 13,350 rental units with 2,849 of these (21%) affordable to 0-30% AMI households who are considered at risk for homelessness. In addition, there are 1,595 renter households with incomes between 0-30% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

According to stakeholders, supportive services such as affordable childcare, employment training, and housing counseling along with tenant-based rental assistance are in great need for populations at-risk of homelessness.

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

According to My Sister's House, Rocky Mount's only domestic violence shelter, there is a need for resources to fund rent and utility deposits and a severe need for affordable rental housing. In the absence of these, almost all individuals and households who exit My Sister's House relocate to Wilson County, NC (south of Rocky Mount) where they are provided public housing units by Wilson Housing Authority.

According to stakeholders, many victims of domestic violence have high delinquent balances which must be paid in full before they can move to another unit. Some faith-based organizations provide funding to pay the delinquent debt but without financial assistance, their credit is ruined. There is also a need for more funding to cover motel/hotel rooms for persons fleeing when there are no emergency shelter beds available at My Sister's House as these individuals and families need immediate resources. Domestic violence prevention services are also needed.

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

**Unemployed:** The Covid-19 pandemic placed additional stress on the housing challenges in the Rocky Mount region. According to market data published by the CoStar group in April 2022, rental costs increased 15.8% in Nash County and 6.2% in Edgecombe County since 2019. Further exacerbating the struggles of vulnerable populations is an unemployment rate of 8.8% in Rocky Mount, which is much higher than the 3.7% reported for North Carolina and 3.3% in nearby Raleigh for the same period (source: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics; February 2022).

**Persons with Disabilities:** For persons with disabilities, accessible housing is a continuing and critical need, ranging from individuals in wheelchairs to medical beds and in-home oxygen service and service animals in order to maintain housing stability. Overall, there is a severe need for emergency housing and permanent housing that can accommodate persons with disabilities. This typically includes bathrooms equipped with grab bars, installation of handrails, walk-in showers and tubs, along with handicapped-accessible doors and cabinets. Other needs of this population to maintain housing stability are the same as everyone else: access to employment, affordable childcare, and access to public transportation. Education for landlords on fair housing laws along with tenant-landlord rights and responsibilities is needed to keep persons housed or to access housing denied to them due to their disability.

**At-risk of Eviction:** The North Carolina Housing Opportunities and Prevention of Evictions Program (HOPE) provided funding for rent and utility assistance through December 17, 2021. HOPE funds assisted a total of 9,451 households in Nash and Edgecombe Counties. Among the 4,232 households in Edgecombe County that received HOPE assistance, the average rent relief was \$4,820.31 with \$101.96 for utilities; in Nash County, 5,219 households received an average of \$4,558.45 in rent relief and \$149.50 in utility assistance.

Rocky Mount's City Utility Department has identified a continuing need for providing utility assistance to lower income households but needs additional staff capacity and funding to help these households maintain utility service and housing stability.

Legal services are needed to prevent evictions among lower income households.

**Hotline Referrals:** During the period from April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022, 211 Call Centers in Nash and Edgecombe Counties received 4,867 unique calls for service requests. Of these, 2,425 (49.8%) were for housing and shelter assistance. Rent assistance was the most frequently reported need (1,277 calls) followed by affordable housing (543 calls) and emergency shelter (399 calls).

**Other Populations:** Using CHAS data, the following unmet housing needs were identified for 31-50% AMI households. Rocky Mount has 11,450 rental units with only 2,240 of these (19.6%) affordable to 31-50% AMI households. (In 2020, 31-50% of the area median income in the Rocky Mount MSA was equivalent to \$12,808 - \$21,345.) In addition, there are 1,535 renter households with incomes between 31-50% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Edgecombe County, there are 9,245 rental units with 2,405 of these (26%) affordable to 31-50% AMI households. In addition, there are 1,130 renter households with incomes between 31-50% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

In Nash County, there are 13,350 rental units with 2,334 of these (17.5%) affordable to 31-50% AMI households. In addition, there are 1,885 renter households with incomes between 31-50% AMI who have one or more of the following housing problems: cost burden (paying more than 30% of income on housing costs), severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of income on housing costs), living in overcrowded units, or lacking a kitchen or complete plumbing facilities.

#### **Section 5: Identify Gaps Within the Shelter, Housing Inventory, and Service System:**

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data indicates the available emergency shelter facilities has low utilization rates, identifying a need for existing shelters to lower barriers to allow households with high needs to enter shelters appropriately. The largest shelter and transitional housing projects in Rocky Mount, United Community Ministries, had a 42% utilization rate for its transitional housing program and a 55% utilization rate for its emergency shelter program. This means beds are going unused while individuals remain on waiting lists or unsheltered.

**Supportive services:** The need for greater system capacity, staffing, and training is a challenge experienced by providers engaged in the consultation process. Improving street outreach efforts and then providing appropriate referrals to workforce development, financial literacy, and other wrap-around services are needed to ensure that families can be self-sufficient. Individuals and families need access to legal services to prevent evictions and receive counsel when faced with poor living conditions or other civil matters. The need for mental health and substance abuse services is particularly strong. Providing services in rural areas and for transient individuals increases the difficulties of engaging consumers. Additional HMIS data collection training is also needed.

**Affordable housing:** Market rate rents continue to increase and are too high for people experiencing homelessness and working toward achieving stable housing. Demand is high for affordable one-bedroom units to accommodate permanent housing placement for single adults experiencing homelessness and three-bedroom units for larger families.

Stakeholders shared concerns about the quality of the existing affordable housing stock, particularly as it relates to the safety and health of individuals with disabilities. The lack of landlord participation in rental housing programs limits access to affordable units available to Housing Choice Voucher holders and for Rapid Rehousing programs. Additional barriers for Qualifying Populations include poor rental histories and poor credit histories, which further complicate the ability to obtain affordable housing.

**Permanent supportive housing:** There is a gap in PSH units for all Qualifying Populations.

**Rental assistance:** Rocky Mount Housing Authority has 247 families on its waitlist for public housing, of which 199 are at 0-30% AMI and 30 are at 31-50% AMI. There are 137 families waiting for Housing Choice Vouchers, of which 112 are at 0-30% AMI and 17 at 31-50% AMI. Compounding the length of time an applicant must wait to receive an HCV is the difficulty in finding an affordable rental unit with a landlord willing to accept the voucher. Due to increased rents, landlords require rents that are higher than the HUD payment standard allowed for the Rocky Mount Housing Authority. This has the effect of pricing out lower-income households with rent vouchers from obtaining affordable units.

**Emergency Shelter:** On the night of the 2022 PIT count, the utilization rate of available emergency shelter beds was 60%.

**Capacity building** was a need identified by several stakeholders. Service providers need more resources to promote low-barrier/Housing First practices. Improved coordination among service providers would streamline the ability to provide services from street outreach all the way to permanent housing.

#### **Section 6: Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:**

Based on stakeholder consultations and data analysis, rental housing that is affordable to individuals and households at 0-30% AMI is the priority need. An inadequate inventory of deeply subsidized housing for Qualifying Populations is a priority due to low vacancy rates and higher rental rates. Coupled with this is a priority for supportive services, homeless prevention, and housing counseling to assist homeless individuals and families to access housing and become stably housed, and to prevent homelessness among persons and families who are at greatest risk.

### **Section 7: Explain How the PJ Determined the Level of Need and Gaps**

In addition to valuable information obtained through several stakeholder consultations, several data sources were used to describe the housing and service needs among the Qualifying Populations. These included:

- The 2020 and 2021 Point-In-Time counts for the Region 9 Continuum of Care
- System Performance Reports for 2020 (October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021) and a partial report for 2021 (October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022) for the Region 9 Continuum of Care
- NC 2-1-1 Counts data for Edgecombe and Nash Counties
- Waitlist data for public housing and Housing Choice Voucher applicants from Rocky Mount Housing Authority
- HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data

# HOME-ARP Activities

## **Section 1: Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors**

Rocky Mount will solicit applications from developers, service providers, and/or subrecipient organizations to administer eligible activities and/or develop shelter and housing. One or more RFPs will be issued. Each RFP will, at a minimum, specify eligible applicants, eligible activities, minimum and maximum funding amounts, application thresholds, and underwriting criteria, and will provide instructions on how to submit an application. In addition to soliciting applications through a HOME-ARP RFP, the city may provide HOME-ARP funding to applicants that have applied for LIHTC projects proposed in locations where an unmet need for Qualifying Populations was identified through the needs assessment. Each RFP issued will be specific in describing the unmet needs identified through stakeholder consultations and data analysis.

## **2. Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:**

Rocky Mount will not directly administer HOME-ARP activities beyond program administration and planning.

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

No HOME-ARP administrative funds have been provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan.

*Table 3. Use of HOME-ARP Funding*

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ #		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ #		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ #		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 1,255,006		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ #	# %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ #	# %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 221,471	# %	15%
<b>Total HOME ARP Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 1,476,477</b>		

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

The HOME-ARP budget was determined by the priority needs identified through the stakeholder consultation process and data analysis. Rocky Mount will distribute 85% of its HOME-ARP allocation for the development of affordable rental housing. An overall lack of affordable rental units was one of the most frequently identified unmet needs among stakeholders. High market rents make it extremely difficult



for service providers to find units that are affordable and in decent condition for the Qualifying Populations.

As part of the RFP process, the city will award higher scoring to applicants that partner with local service providers and/or seek supportive service funding from state agencies (e.g., Department of Health & Human Services).

**5. 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:**

Based on stakeholder consultations and data analysis, Rocky Mount identified priority needs among the Qualifying Populations are affordable and supportive housing solutions.

# HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

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

Rocky Mount estimates that it can support the development of 4-5 new rental housing units, depending on the financing structure of the developments. This goal was based on an estimated total development cost of \$250,000/unit. The amount allocated to new housing development also includes pre-funding of operational reserves for the Qualifying Populations to be assisted.

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

The development of 4-5 new permanent affordable rental units will further Rocky Mount's mission to provide affordable housing for the Qualifying Populations. These units will provide housing for the most vulnerable residents in community-based settings meant to stabilize their housing situation and improve their quality of life. Additionally, the budget reflects the deep subsidy needed to provide affordable housing for at least 15 years to the lowest-income Qualifying Populations.

# Preferences

**Section 1: 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:**

To ensure the most vulnerable households are served, Rocky Mount will provide access for all Qualifying Populations for its HOME-ARP activity with a preference for the homeless and persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.

**Section 2: If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:**

The Needs Assessment & Gap Analysis revealed the lack of housing options for households experiencing homelessness in Rocky Mount. An inadequate inventory of deeply subsidized housing for Qualifying Populations is a priority due to low vacancy rates, higher rental rates and difficulty in finding safe and affordable units, particularly for the homeless and persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.

# Referral Methods

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

Rocky Mount intends to use a project-specific waiting list for its HOME-ARP activities, providing access to apply for placement for all Qualifying Populations with a preference for the homeless and persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking. In an effort to ensure equity in the process, the city will establish a system to ensure households with the greatest needs have access first.

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

Once its plan is approved, Rocky Mount will reach out to and partner with the Coordinated Entry System in NC BoS R09 to support efforts to prioritize vulnerable households and streamline the referral process. If necessary, the city will supplement these efforts with referrals from regional service provider organizations in order to provide access to all Qualifying Populations. These efforts will be finalized as part of the policy development phase.

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

Once its plan is approved, Rocky Mount will reach out to and partner with the Coordinated Entry System in NC BoS R09 to support efforts to prioritize vulnerable households and streamline the referral process. If necessary, the city will supplement these efforts with referrals from regional service provider organizations in order to provide access to all Qualifying Populations. These efforts will be finalized as part of the policy development phase.

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

Once its plan is approved, Rocky Mount will reach out to and partner with the Coordinated Entry System in NC BoS R09 to support efforts to prioritize vulnerable households and streamline the referral process. If necessary, the city will supplement these efforts with referrals from regional service provider organizations in order to provide access to all Qualifying Populations. These efforts will be finalized as part of the policy development phase.

# Limitations in a HOME-ARP Rental Housing

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

Rocky Mount will not limit eligibility to any HOME-ARP-funded eligible activity.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

## Appendix A: Stakeholder Consultation Materials

Rocky Mount, NC / Down East HOME Consortium  
Annual Action Plan and HOME-ARP Program  
Stakeholder Chart for Stakeholder Consultation

Type of Organization	Contact Name	Title	Name of Organization
CDBG Program	Cornelia McGee	Interim CD Director	Community Development Dept.
HOME Program	Mabel Taylor-Jones	HOME Coordinator	Community Development Dept.
Planning Dept.	William Deaton	Planning Director	Rocky Mount Planning and Development Dept.
Public Housing Authority	Kelvin Macklin	Director	Rocky Mount Housing Authority
	Carol Johnson	Section 8 Administrator	Rocky Mount Housing Authority
Affordable Housing Providers, CHDOs	Joyce Dickens	CEO	Rocky Mount/Edgecombe Development CDC
	Julius Moody	Director	Nash Edgecombe Economic Development Corp.
	Kelvin Macklin	Director	Rocky Mount Housing Authority
	Carol Johnson	Section 8 Administrator	Rocky Mount Housing Authority
	Kevin Cheshire	CEO	Princeville Housing Authority
	Ray Green	Executive Director	Tarboro Housing Authority
Advocacy Organizations for Persons with LEP	Aida Solorzano	Instructor	Nash Community College
	Juvencio Rocha-Peralta	Executive Director	Association of Mexicans in North Carolina, Inc (AMEXCAN)
Public transit agency	Todd Gardner	Transit System Manager	Rocky Mount Transit
Advocacy Organizations for Persons with Disabilities	Jeffrey Walston	Human Relations Specialist	Human Relations Dept/Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities
			Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services - State of North Carolina
	Elizabeth Newcombe	Vocational Rehabilitation Unity Manager	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services - State of North Carolina
Advocacy Orgs / Immigrants & Refugees	Mace Robinson	Executive Director	American Red Cross - Frederick E. Turnage Chapter
Fair Housing Advocacy Organizations /Human Relations Commission	Archie Jones	Human Relations Director	City of Rocky Mount Human Relations Department
	Bill Rowe	General Counsel/Director of Advocacy	North Carolina Justice Center
	Jack Holtzman	Co- Director	The Fair Housing Project of Legal Aid, North Carolina
CDC's, Neighborhood Organizations	Kelvin Macklin	Director	South Eastern NC CDC
	Joyce Dickens	CEO	Rocky Mount/Edgecome Development CDC
	Susan Perry Cole	President/CEO	NCACDC
	Susan Perry Cole	Chair	Workforce Housing Advisory Commission
	Yolanda Taylor	Managing Attorney	Legal Aid of NC, Inc.
	Lauren Brasil	Supervising Attorney	Legal Aid of NC, Inc.
	Ruth Bullard	President	Around the Y Neighborhood Association
	Edward Crews	President	Beaver Pond Neighborhood Association
	Dorothy Tucker	President	Battleboro Neighborhood Association
	Winslow Hagans	President	Berkshire Neighborhood Association
		President	Bunn Farm Neighborhood Association
	Michael Parker	President	Cedarbrook Neighborhood Association
	Georgia Person	President	Downeast Neighborhood Association
	Raymond Gantt	President	Edgemont Neighborhood Association
	Daphne Trevathan	President	Happy Hill Neighborhood Association
	Antoinette Cutler	President	Hillsdale Neighborhood Association
	Mae Parker	President	Holly Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27801
	Naoimi Wright	President	Little Falls Neighborhood Association
	Dorothy Lancaster	Treasurer	Little Raleigh Neighborhood Association
	Robert Davis	President	Meadowbrook Neighborhood Association
	Brenda Cooper	President	South Rocky Mount Neighborhood Association
	Tamisha Patterson	President	Southeastern Rocky Mount Neighborhood Association
	Barbara Johnson	President	Villa Place Neighborhood Association
	Neil Justice	President	Wedgewood Neighborhood Association
	Carol Reda	President	West Haven Neighborhood Association
	Martha Gray	President	Williford Neighbordhood Association
	Pete Armstrong	President	North Green Neighborhood Association



Rocky Mount, NC / Down East HOME Consortium  
Annual Action Plan and HOME-ARP Program  
Stakeholder Chart for Stakeholder Consultation

Type of Organization	Contact Name	Title	Name of Organization
Social Service Orgs, Homeless Assistance Orgs, Continuum of Care Liaison, Special Needs Populations, etc.	Shirley Wiggins	President	Germantown Neighborhood Association
	Constance Thompson	President	Springfield/Leggett Rd. Neighborhood Association
	Ron Green	Director	Boys & Girls Club of Nash/Edgecombe Counties
	Linda Brinson	Director	United Community Ministries
	Dennis Wick	Operation Manager	Christian Fellowship Home of Nash/Edgecombe Counties, Inc.
	Emily Lemus	Executive Director	My Sister's House (Domestic Violence Provider)
	Doris Howington	Director	The Wright Center
	Jan Warren	Director	Meals on Wheels
	David and Amber Phelps	Director	Salvation Army
	Brenda Cogdell	Director	Tri-County Industries
	Jesse Lewis	Director	Peacemakers of Rocky Mount
	Dorothy Hinton	Executive Director	Communities in Schools
	James Mercer	President	The Mercer Foundation (Veterans services provider)
	Vanessa Scaife	Director	The Lighthouse Home (Veterans service provider)
	Keisha B. Spivey	Executive Director	Ripple Effects Group
	Brian Alexander	Project Director	NC Coalition to End Homelessness(Continuum of Care)
	Allie Card	Project Specialist	NC Coalition to End Homelessness(Continuum of Care)
	James Stroud	Executive Committee Member	Continuum of Care Region 9
	Trishonda Roberson	Executive Director	REACH Center, Region 9 (Coordinated Entry lead)
	Kevin Chesire	CEO	Princeville Housing Authority
Economic Development Orgs, Business Groups			Tarboro Community Outreach
	David Farris	Chamber President	Rocky Mount NC Area Chamber of Commerce
	Norris Tolson	Director	Carolinas Gateway Partnership
Municipal Depts - Engineering / Public Works / Parks & Rec / Code Enforcement / Police	Alan Matthews	City of Rocky Mount Economic Development	Rocky Mount NC Area Chamber of Commerce
	Peter Varney	Interim City Manager	City of Rocky Mount
	Brad Kerr	Public Works Director	City of Rocky Mount
	Joel Dunn	Parks & Recreation Director	City of Rocky Mount
	Robert Hassell	Police Chief	City of Rocky Mount
	Kena Cofield-Jones	Human Resources Director	City of Rocky Mount
		Finance Director	City of Rocky Mount
	Chris Beschler	Energy Resources Director	City of Rocky Mount
		Assistant City Manager	City of Rocky Mount
	Elton Daniels	Assistant City Manager	City of Rocky Mount
	Cornelia McGee	Community Development Interim Director	City of Rocky Mount
	Corey Mercer	Fire Chief	City of Rocky Mount
	Pam Casey	City Clerk	City of Rocky Mount
	Brenton Bent	Water Resources Director	City of Rocky Mount
	Gregory Cotten	Chief Technology Officer	City of Rocky Mount
	Latasha Hall	Director of Business & Collections Services	City of Rocky Mount

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Name of Organization</b>
Whitakers	Esterine Pitt	Town Administrator	Town of Whitakers
Dortches	Nancy Nixon	Town Administrator	Town of Dortches
Edgecombe County	Katina Braswell	Planning Director	Edgecombe County
Middlesex	Lou Harvey Lewis, Jr.	Mayor	Town of Middlesex
Nash County	Tyson Adam	Planning Director	Nash County
Nashville	Randy Lansing	Town Manager	Town of Nashville
Bailey	Joel Killion	Town Administrator	Town of Bailey
Pinetops	Fred Ventresco	Town Administrator	Town of Pinetops
Princeville	Glenda Knight	Town Administrator	Town of Princeville
Sharpsburg	Tracy Sullivan	Town Clerk	Town of Sharpsburg
Spring Hope	Andrew Delonno	Town Manager	Town of Spring Hope
Tarboro	Troy Lewis	Town Manager	Town of Tarboro
Conetoe	Kelly Hunter	Town Clerk	Town of Conetoe

Revised 11/22/2022



## **City of Rocky Mount**

# **HOME-ARP Stakeholder Discussions**

Please join us to discuss the \$1,476,477 of HOME-ARP funds received by the City of Rocky Mount and the Down East HOME Consortium, the Qualifying Populations that may receive assistance, and eligible uses of program funding. Stakeholders will be asked how these funds may address community housing needs and gaps in services related to this program.

For additional details about HOME-ARP, [view this video](#).

### **Stakeholder Session #1**

**June 7, 2022 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

**Meeting link: <https://meet.goto.com/922339445>**

**Join via phone: +1 (646) 749-3122**

**Access code: 922-339-445**

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### **Stakeholder Session #2**

**June 8, 2022 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Meeting link: <https://meet.goto.com/281836949>**

**Join via phone: +1 (571) 317-3112**

**Access code: 281-836-949**

For additional information, please contact:

Ms. Cornelia L. McGee, MPA

Interim Director of Community Development

City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina

[cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov)

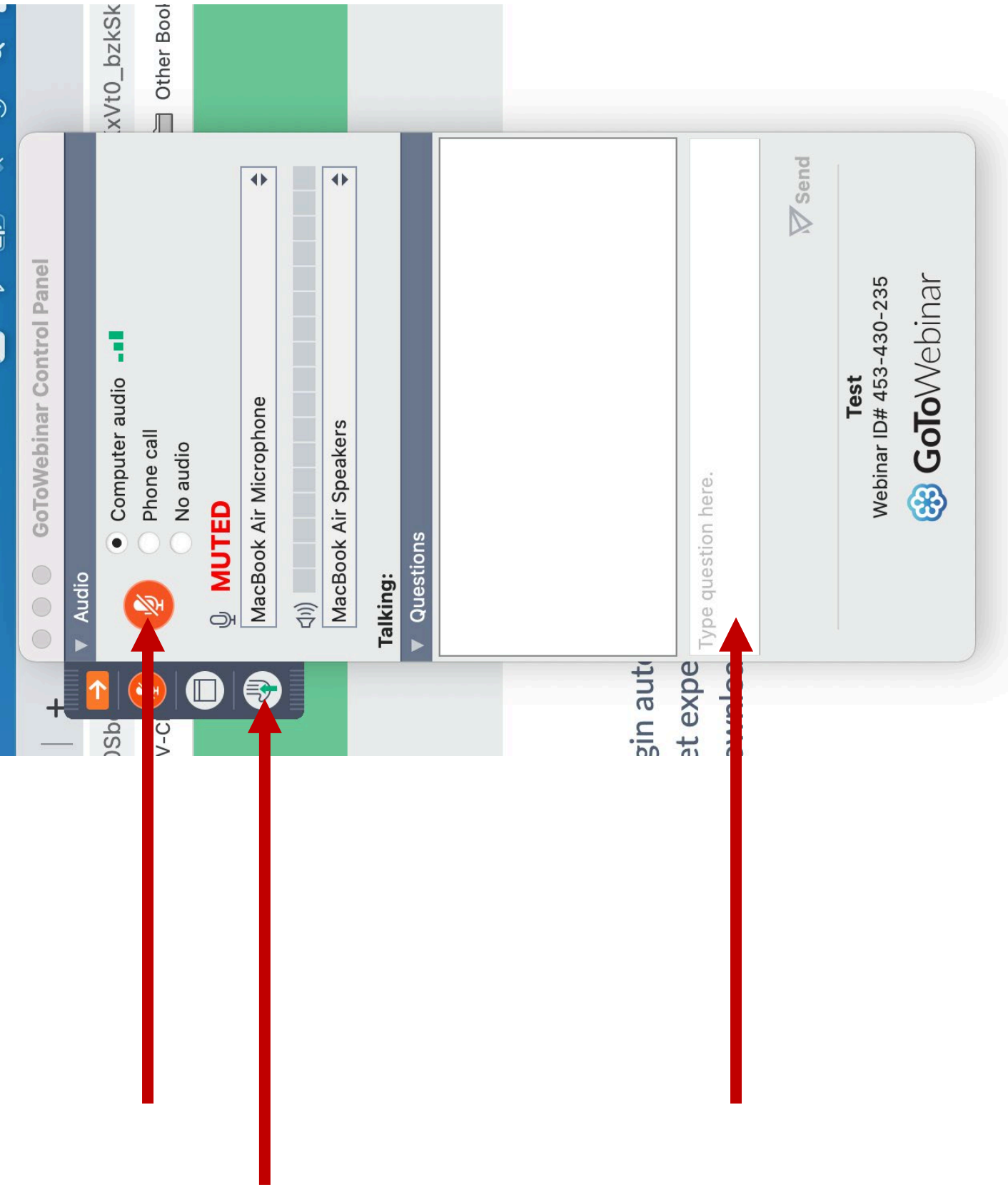


# HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

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## How to use the GoToWebinar features:

1. You will all be muted during the presentation. When we get to the questions and answer portion of the presentation, we will unmute you.
2. If you want to ask a question, please use the “raise a hand” feature so we know who to unmute.
3. Throughout the presentation, feel free to use the “Questions” feature. You can submit questions for everyone to see or just the presenters. We will read the questions and provide answers during the Q&A.



# AGENDA

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What is HOME-ARP?

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The application process

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Qualifying populations

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Developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

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Eligible activities

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What can we do now?

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# THE HOME- AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP)

## **SEC. 3205. HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM.**

Provides \$5 billion of supplemental HOME funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and other vulnerable populations by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter.

# HOME-ARP

- Allocated via HOME formula, highly targeted to poverty, renters in poverty; cost, availability and condition of housing stock
- Jurisdictions that qualified for HOME allocation in FY 2021 will receive HOME-ARP allocation

Allocations were announced and posted on HUD Exchange on April 8<sup>th</sup>

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/HOME-ARP.pdf>



# ACTIVITY CAPS



Up to 15% of funds can be used for Admin and planning for PJs or subrecipients



Up to 5% of funds can pay for operating costs (e.g. salaries, insurance, utilities, etc.) for CHDOs and other non-profits undertaking HOME-ARP activities



An additional 5% for capacity building costs to allow PJs to expand capacity of CHDOs or other non-profits

# APPLICATION PROCESS

01

Sign and return your HOME-ARP Grant Agreements to HUD.

02

PJs will develop and submit in IDIS a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan as part of a substantial amendment to their FY 2021 AAP

03

Once the grant agreement is returned, HUD will release in IDIS, 5% of the total grant amount for a portion of the administration and planning.

04

Grants expire September 30, 2030.

# QUALIFYING POPULATIONS

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# QUALIFYING POPULATIONS

Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary;

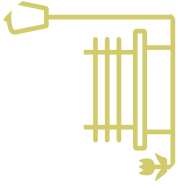
In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;

Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria.

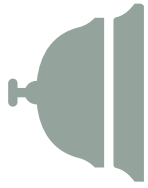
# HUD DEFINITION HOMELESS



an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;



an individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;



an individual or family living in shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements



an individual who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;



an individual or family who will imminently lose their housing, including housing they own, rent, or live in without paying rent, are sharing with others, and rooms in hotels or motels

# HUD DEFINITION AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

Income at or below 30% AML;  
Lacks sufficient resources to attain  
housing stability; AND



**Multiple Moves:** Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance



**Doubled Up:** Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship



**Hotel/Motel:** Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals



**Overcrowded Housing:** Lives in a single room occupancy (SRO) or efficiency apartment unit where two or more persons reside or where there are more than one-and-a-half persons per room



**Exiting Institution:** Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g., jail, prison, psychiatric hospital, etc.);

# PLANNING FOR HOME-ARP

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Who are the key players and what you should start doing now.

# PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS (PJs)

State and local government agencies that administer HOME funds. PJs are given broad discretion in determining how HOME funds are spent, although there are prohibited activities. HOME projects and activities in nonmetropolitan and rural areas are generally funded through state PJs.



# PJS RESPONSIBILITIES

Managing the day-to-day operations of the HOME-ARP program

Ensuring that HOME-ARP funds are used in accordance with all program requirements and written agreements

Completing and submitting the Allocation Plan

Set up written agreements, policy and procedures and other grant management activities

Taking appropriate action when performance problems arise

# CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC)

The CoC is the planning body made up of stakeholders in a community with an interest in preventing and ending homelessness within their geographic region. They are responsible for operating the homeless system in a community to provide for crisis and housing services to people experiencing homelessness.

# COC RESPONSIBILITIES

Coordinating community funding and services for people experiencing homelessness

Strategically coordinating all public and private funding sources in a community to address the needs of persons experiencing homelessness

Developing targeted partnerships with housing providers and supportive services providers

Utilizing data to improve the homeless system and ensure that homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring

# COC INVOLVEMENT IN HOME-ARP

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PJs will need to work with local CoCs to identify community priorities for HOME-ARP projects.

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Can provide data to support the needs of the community, which will be required in the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

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Possible partners for the supportive services provided to residents of HOME-ARP projects

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Be an advocate for your project (or adversary)

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Operate the Coordinated Entry, which could be used as a source for referrals

# DEVELOPING THE HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN

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# COMPONENTS OF THE ALLOCATION PLAN



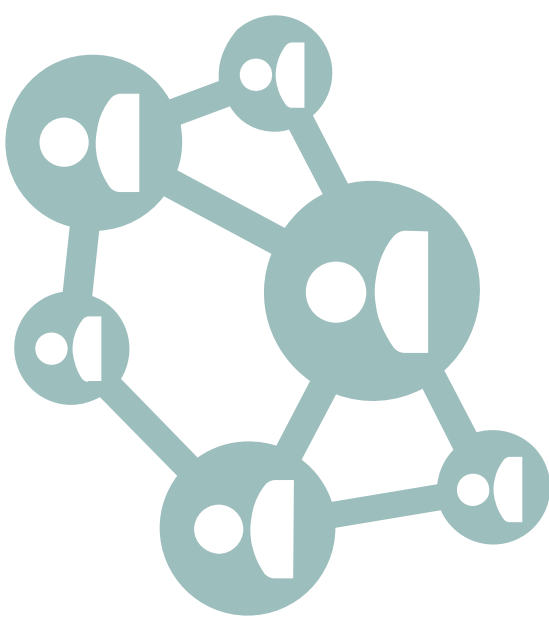
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# CONSULTATION

PJs must consult with agencies and services providers whose clientele include HOME-ARP qualifying populations to identify unmet needs and gaps in housing and service delivery systems.

At a minimum these include:

1. CoCs serving the jurisdictions geographic area
2. Homeless and domestic violence service providers
3. Veteran's groups
4. Public housing agencies
5. Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
6. Public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

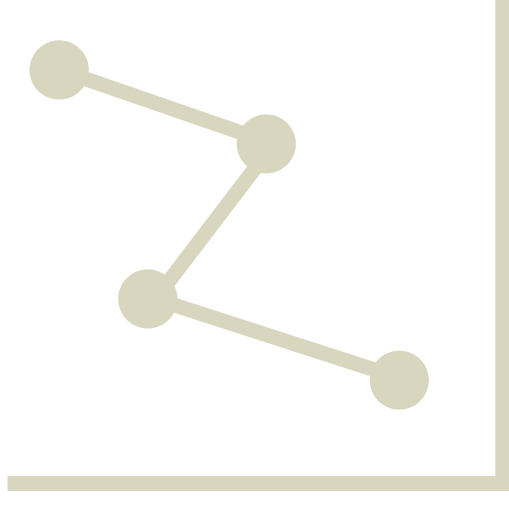


# NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS

The PJ will need to conduct a needs assessment and gap analysis, rooted in data. Part of the analysis must include the size and demographics of the qualifying population and the unmet need in housing and services.

In addition, the plan must:

1. Identify the characteristics of housing associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness if the PJ will include such conditions under HUD's definition of "other populations."
2. Identify priority needs for qualifying populations; and,
3. Explain how level of need and gaps in its shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems was determined.



**The data *MUST* drive the decision on how HOME-ARP funds will be allocated.**



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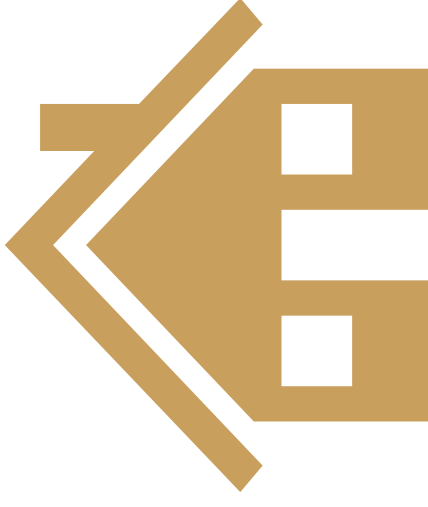
# HOME-ARP ACTIVITIES

Describe how a PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs.

Indicate the amount of HOME-ARP planned for each eligible activity type.

Demonstrate that no more than 5% of the allocation will be used for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and no more than 15% for administrative costs.

Include a description on 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.



# ACTIVITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS



## HOME-ARP Production Goals:

The plan must estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce and describe a specific affordable rental housing production goal and how it will address the PJ's priority needs.



## Preferences:

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



## HOME-ARP 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 HOME-ARP funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines in accordance with 24 CFR 92.206(b).

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# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At a minimum a PJ must:

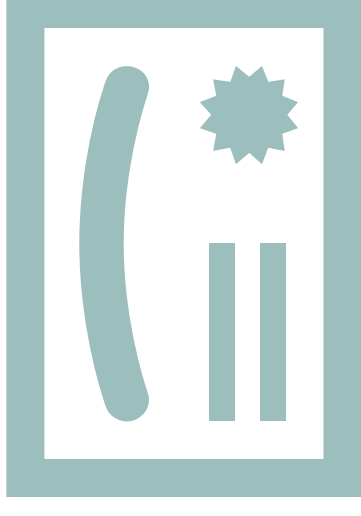
1. Provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity for public comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan for at least 15 days.
2. Follow its adopted requirements for “reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment” for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan.
3. Hold at least one public hearing during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan prior to submitting the plan to HUD



# CERTIFICATIONS AND SF-424S

Submit an SF-424, SF-424B, and SF-424D and the required certifications with the HOME-ARP allocation plan, including the following:

1. Affirmatively Further Fair Housing
2. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan
3. Anti-Lobbying
4. Authority of Jurisdiction
5. Section 3
6. HOME-ARP specific certification that a PJ will only use HOME-ARP funds consistent with ARP and the HOME-ARP Notice for eligible activities and eligible costs.



# ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

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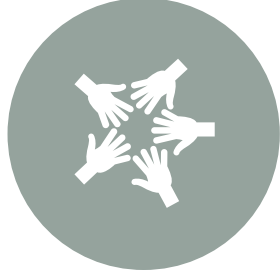
# FIVE ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES



PRODUCTION  
OR  
PRESERVATION  
OF AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING



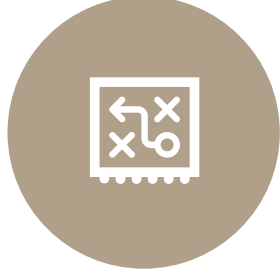
TENANT-BASED  
RENTAL  
ASSISTANCE  
(TBRA)



SUPPORTIVE  
SERVICES,  
HOMELESS  
PREVENTION  
SERVICES, AND  
HOUSING  
COUNSELING



PURCHASE AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF NON-  
CONGREGATE  
SHELTER



NONPROFIT  
OPERATING  
AND CAPACITY  
BUILDING

# RENTAL HOUSING

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- HOME-ARP funds may be used to acquire, construct and rehabilitate rental housing for occupancy by individuals and families that meet one of the Qualifying Populations.
- HOME-ARP rental housing may include single family or multifamily housing, transitional or permanent housing, group homes, single room occupancy (SRO) units, and manufactured housing.

# TENANT BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

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- HOME-ARP funds may be used to provide tenant-based rental assistance (“HOME-ARP TBRA”) to individuals and families that meet one of the Qualifying Populations
- A PJ may assist a qualifying household by providing payments towards housing and housing-related costs, such as rent, security deposits, utility deposits, and utility costs



# SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

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- HOME-ARP funds may be used to provide a broad range of supportive services to individuals and families that meet one of the qualifying.
- Supportive services may be provided to individuals and families who are not already receiving the services (limited) through another program. PJs may establish a separate supportive services activity or activities or may combine supportive services with other HOME-ARP activities.

# NON- CONGREGATE SHELTER

---

- HOME-ARP funds may be used to acquire and develop non-congregate shelter for individuals and families that meet one of the Qualifying Populations.
- NCS provides private units or rooms as temporary shelter to individuals and families and do not require occupants to sign a lease or occupancy agreement.
- This activity may include the construction of new structures or the acquisition and/or rehabilitation of existing structures (such as motels, nursing homes, or other facilities) to be for use as HOME-ARP NCS.

# NONPROFIT OPERATING AND CAPACITY BUILDING ASSISTANCE

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- HOME ARP funds may used (up to 5% of HOME-ARP allocation) to pay operating expenses of CHDOs and other nonprofit organizations that will carry out activities with HOME-ARP funds.
- A PJ may also use up to an additional 5% of its allocation to pay eligible costs related to developing the capacity of eligible nonprofit organizations to successfully carry out HOME-ARP eligible activities.
- In any fiscal year, for both the operating assistance or capacity building assistance provided to non-profits may not exceed the greater of 50% of the general operating expense for the non-profit for that fiscal year, or \$50,000.
- If an organization receives BOTH in a fiscal year, the total amount a non-profit may receive is the greater of 50% of their operating expense for that year or \$75,000.

# WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

PJs, CoCs and other community partners can begin to collect data and identify the community's priorities.

1. HMIS data on who is experiencing homelessness in the community
2. Review current community plans or gaps analysis
3. Identify additional sources of funding for the project
4. Develop prioritization tools for potential projects

**QUESTIONS?**

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## HOME-ARP PROGRAM

Rocky Mount

North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness – March 15th

Staff: Allie Card and Brian Alexander

### Introductions

- NCCEH helps CoC's meet their admin and reporting needs.
- Serves as the CoC lead for the Balance of State – 79 of NC's 100 counties
- 6 staff members work with these 79 counties to meet HUD requirements, apply for CoC and ESG funding, implement best practices, serve as the HMIS leads for 81 counties
  - NCCEH provided technical assistance to Region 9 to bring their coordinated entry system online
  - Region 9 has good HMIS data quality and should be able to obtain a by-name list

### Familiarity with HOME/HOME-ARP

- Currently working with HC Housing Finance Agency re the state's \$65 million allocation of HOME-ARP
- Brian used to administer HOME programs in Buncombe County (TBRA)
- Shaun explained the eligible populations, uses for HOME-ARP and some of the differences between regular HOME and HOME-ARP

### Data Request

- By end of March
  - 2021 Housing Inventory Count
  - 2020 Point in Time Count – the 2021 PIT is incomplete since there was no unsheltered count
    - Region 9 has historically undercounted in the PIT. It has been very challenging to organize around it
- By Mid-April
  - System Performance Measures data. NCCEH is currently pulling similar data for the state housing finance agency. This data is run at the CoC level- may not be able to run at the Region level.
  - By-Name List for the last 6 months. (Includes people in the coordinated entry system and the state's rehousing program)
- Brian recommended connecting with NCCADV for domestic violence data by county. There are no ESG-funded DV projects/agencies in Region 9.

### Other Stakeholders

- The REACH Center -CE lead for region 9 and permanent housing provider.
- Managed Care Organizations in Rocky Mount/ Edgecombe/Nash:  
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/providers/lmemco-directory>

- Trillium Health Resources (Nash)
- Eastpointe (Edgecombe)
- Community Link – private non-profit

#### Feedback

- Brian emphasized the importance of using HOME-ARP on supportive services and making sure partners are using low-barrier/housing-first best practices.
- HOME-ARP capacity building resources will be essential to ensuring successful implementation of services. Suggested contracting with agencies using admin dollars/ giving admin to the community to build capacity. Also suggested using TBRA for rapid rehousing.

#### Next Steps

- Is Rocky Mount using ARPA funds for affordable housing?
- Share listening session flyer
- Connect with NCCADV
- Connect with Regional Committee James Stroud and share listening session information with for distribution to Region 9 partners. Brian recommended attending a committee meeting to present on HOME-ARP



## **HOME-ARP PROGRAM**

Rocky Mount

Princeville Housing Authority – April 1st

### **Call with Princeville Housing Authority – April 1, 2022**

#### **HOME-ARP and 2022 Annual Action Plan**

Maria Dewees spoke with Kelly Church on 4.1.2022 at 1:40pm regarding the 2022 Annual Action Plan and HOME-ARP funds.

Ms. Church is an employee with the Winston Salem Housing Authority, which is serving as the managing agent for the Princeville Housing Authority. Ms. Church stated that their office has had very limited involvement with the Princeville Housing Authority recently. The 50 units that the Princeville Housing Authority previously managed were sold a few weeks prior on March 17, 2022. Thus, Princeville Housing Authority is not currently managing any public housing units.

Maria explained the purpose of reaching out and engaging stakeholders regarding the HOME-ARP funds. Ms. Church did not think that setting up a future meeting to discuss the funds would be useful since their office has had such limited interaction with Princeville but did mention that the Housing Authority could benefit from acquisition funding to purchase land for future development. When asked for more details on this need, she said she was unsure of any specific plans under consideration.





## HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN Consultation

City of Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 12<sup>th</sup> 10AM

### Attendees:

Shaun Bollig -M&L

Maria Dewees -M&L

Alecia Amoo -Legal Aid of North Carolina and Community Academy Steering Committee

Sharon Evans -Community Academy Steering Committee and resident of Hillsdale

Cornelia McGee -City of Rocky Mount

Mabel Taylor -City of Rocky Mount

Dr. Kim Eng Koo -Community Academy Steering Committee and Rocky Mount Racial Justice Group

India [organization affiliation not identified]

Trishonda Roberson -REACH Center

Kalana Hamm -REACH Center

Shaun Bollig presented the HOME-ARP and the 2022Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the listening session discussion by asking attendees what housing or community development improvements are needed in the community.

Alecia Amoo shared a question in the chat box asking if there are any limitations on the HOME-ARP for the production or preservation of affordable housing. Mr. Bollig responded that funds cannot be used for homeownership activities, must serve the HOME-ARP qualifying populations and noted there is a minimum affordability period of 15 years for new affordable housing development projects funded with HOME-ARP.

Dr. Kim Eng Koo stated that she has attended M&L's previous HOME-ARP kickoff meeting and presentations at the City Council about housing. She wanted to emphasize the importance of focusing on the communities in Rocky Mount that have been marginalized, particularly in Edgecombe County. Progress in these communities has been slow and the resources available are inadequate to meet community needs. Is there any way to ask for larger allocations to address the housing crisis, especially given increasing inflation? Rocky Mount is considering passing a \$15.00 minimum wage. At the same time, there is an ongoing housing crisis that is not being addressed. Communities in the past have not been fairly considered for funds.

Mr. Bollig replied that these federal funds are formula-based grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). They are entitlement programs, meaning they are not competitive but rather are allocated based on a formula determined by HUD. The HOME-ARP funds and the allocation planning process emphasizes a community's most vulnerable residents such as populations experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. It is important to understand disparities in a



community and how they might inform the allocation plan. If there are barriers for racial and ethnic minorities accessing resources, we need to acknowledge these barriers in the preparation of this plan and we hope to ameliorate those barriers through the funded activities.

Sharon Evans asked for clarification that there are three separate programs and grants.

Mr. Bollig confirmed that there are three grants. The Annual Action Plan focuses on annual CDBG and HOME grants. These are separate from the HOME-ARP allocation, which is a one-off allocation.

Ms. Evans asked if M&L has the formula for the grants. Mr. Bollig explained that we don't have the specific HUD formulas. For the FY 2022 CDBG and HOME grants, we have the prior year amounts which we are using as estimates for planning purposes. Ms. Evans stated she would like to see more investment in the Hillsdale Community in Edgecombe County. There has been no activity in her area.

Mr. Bollig asked what housing resources are most needed, particularly for people experiencing homelessness. Ms. Evans replied that home maintenance is needed (things like plumbing and roofing repairs). Ms. Evans stated that there are many homes that have not been taken care of. People are doubling up and moving in from other communities. Her community was heavily affected by flooding in the late 90's resulting in many vacant lots that are not buildable. Existing structures need assistance with maintenance. Someone recently in her community moved a modular home. She wants to make sure they are zoned to not allow that in her community.

Mr. Bollig inquired about landlord participation and engagement. Are they engaged to help house people experiencing homelessness? Do landlords work with rent assistance programs like housing choice vouchers?

Trishonda Roberson commented that her agency is having difficulty housing large families with children as well as single individuals. The REACH Center works with landlords who have voiced concerns about maintaining and repairing their properties once a client has moved out. The REACH Center works closely with landlords when they have clients who face barriers to housing such as criminal history or bad credit, they are seeing landlords ask for larger security deposits. This poses an added barrier to finding housing for these clients.

Mr. Bollig asked the attendees to discuss veteran and domestic violence providers' needs. Ms. Roberson noted that the Volunteers of American (VOA) provides housing assistance to veterans for about 3 months. For many, this is not enough for long-term housing stability.

Mr. Bollig asked if there are administrators of HUD VASH Assistance.

Dr. Koo stated that the outside pressure of rising housing costs and the growth experienced in the Triangle can be felt in Rocky Mount. There are increasing costs in rent and for-sale housing. People who are not from Rocky Mount are moving in and raising housing prices. She has observed community groups being very active around affordable housing and building support for a housing

bond. However, a bond has not been passed.

Mr. Bollig stated that while a housing bond is outside of the scope of what can be addressed with these federal funds, the plans we are discussing will serve to map the housing needs in the community in a wholistic way to keep people stably housed.

Maria Dewees added that the federal HOME program is the largest federal block grant for affordable housing development and the HOME-ARP is intended to be a transformational opportunity.

Kalana Hamm stated that there is a need for funding to pay for hotel rooms and that more rooms at the domestic violence shelter are needed. There is only one domestic violence shelter and clients need immediate resources.

Mr. Bollig asked if there are providers in the area that serve rural or low-capacity areas and if there is anything that could be done to better support them. Ms. Roberson stated that capacity building, training, staffing and funding for services is a substantial need. Ms. Hamm noted that a lack of documentation can be a barrier for clients seeking housing. Things like birth certificates and social security cards etc. are needed when applying and can pose a barrier. Enhanced coordination among social workers and people working to house those experiencing homelessness would help.

Mr. Bollig asked the group to discuss any fair housing barriers they have observed. Dr. Koo highlighted the importance of historical context and the ripple effects of decades of oppression and racial discrimination when discussing fair housing. She strongly feels that to correct this injustice will require focusing on groups that have been marginalized. There is a fair amount of resistance to making changes that would benefit people who have been marginalized in the past. Dr. Koo stated that there has been an effort recently by private investors to take away the local government's ability to use public money for affordable housing. She stated that she does not want neighborhoods gentrifying. Planners need to recognize the difference between equity and equality. Ensuring equity will require paying special attention to those who are at the back of the line and moving them forward.

Mr. Bollig asked attendees to describe housing barriers for people with disabilities. Ms. Hamm noted that people in the shelter system have disabilities, which may increase barriers to permanent housing. For example, learning disabilities pose a challenge because it can be difficult for these clients to manage budgets and paperwork to get into housing. Some clients take longer to complete documents and require thorough explanation to help them through the process.

Mr. Bollig asked participants to describe the resources available to help get residents housed. Is there case management? Ms. Hamm replied that yes, resources are available, but capacity is limited. Typically, it takes 2 hours to process paperwork for up to 8 clients. Recently, she was working with a client who has a disability and has experienced trauma, who required 3 hours of intensive one-on-one work to complete her housing application. Capacity is needed to support these clients.

Mr. Bollig asked what other services are needed. Ms. Amoo responded that legal services are needed. Legal Aid provides resources and legal services for low- and moderate-income households in civil matters. There is a need for eviction prevention and more safe and affordable housing units for renters. Many of the renters she works with face poor housing conditions and have landlords who do not make repairs. Tenants in this situation find that they cannot leave because they cannot find alternative housing options that are safe, decent and affordable.

Mr. Bollig asked what resources are available for rent assistance? Ms. Amoo responded that the state-wide HOPE Program offered rent and utility assistance. The application for the HOPE program has now closed. Other organizations in the past have provided support, such as HOPE station in Wilson to prevent homelessness. Resources are limited. It has been challenging more recently for renters to find assistance. Ms. Roberson noted that the REACH Center has assisted with rent, utilities and food. Salvation Army also provides rent and utility assistance.

Mr. Bollig asked if the REACH Center provides referrals to those resources.

Ms. Roberson replied that it depends on which programs someone needs assistance for. The REACH Center also provides partial payments. Referrals can come from other agencies or the clients can call themselves. Resources for homelessness prevention are needed for people who are not yet at the point of eviction but who are trying to maintain their housing. Rapid Rehousing is available through referrals.

Mr. Bollig asked if there is demand for affordable rental units to accommodate the qualifying populations under HOME-ARP? Ms. Hamm replied yes, a lack of rentals available is a major issue. People may hold a housing choice voucher but if there is no affordable housing then they are not useable. It is difficult to find landlords willing to rent to voucher holders. The fear is that the voucher will run out before the housing is available. Voucher holders have 90 days to find housing.

Dr. Koo asked what we are we planning to do with the data we are gathering?

Mr. Bollig replied that HUD requires grantees to gather this data, particularly on the qualifying populations, to inform the HOME-ARP allocation plan and the Annual Action Plan. We will also be using data from the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness to illustrate the homelessness needs. Once the needs are clear, the grantee will decide how they would like to allocate the funds. These funds are available until 2030.

Dr. Koo noted that some of the activities seem vague or open to interpretation. How do we ensure that the funds do not get used up for just one eligible use? Mr. Bollig replied that certain uses have caps on funding. For example, capacity building is limited to 5% of the grant.

Dr. Koo asked for the definition of non-congregate shelter. Mr. Bollig explained that non-congregate shelter is a type of emergency shelter that is different from the typical dormitory-style shelters because it provides accommodations with private space, including private bathrooms for residents. A



typical example would be a motel with rooms being used as a shelter. This style of sheltering became widespread during the Covid-19 pandemic to try and limit the spread of the virus.

Mr. Bollig highlighted next steps. These comments will be considered when drafting the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Another round of conversations with stakeholders will be scheduled for early June. The Annual Action plan for HOME and CDBG is scheduled to go on display in May and should be submitted to HUD by the end of June. A draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is expected in September and will be open to public comment. We expect that the final Allocation Plan draft will be submitted to HUD in October 2022.



## HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 13th 10AM

### Attendance:

Shaun Bollig -M&L

Maria Dewees -M&L

Marjorie Willow - M&L

Mabel Taylor -City of Rocky Mount

Sharon Evans -Community Academy Steering Committee

Sue Perry Cole -Community Academy Steering Committee

Shaun Bollig and Marjorie Willow presented the HOME-ARP and the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the discussion by asking participants to share their thoughts about the community's housing and community development needs.

Ms. Sue Perry Cole stated that cost burden was the most significant housing problem identified in the Consolidated Plan. The inflation rate and housing costs and food costs are major drivers of high inflation. Housing costs are soaring. This is going to particularly impact the poorest households who spend the largest share of income on housing and food. She is most interested in serving the under resourced communities cited in the 2014 Crossroads to Prosperity study.

Mr. Bollig asked Ms. Perry Cole to elaborate on how these communities are under resourced. Ms. Perry Cole replied that they are under resourced due to policies and practices of institutions including the City of Rocky Mount, which in years past has not invested in these communities. This is why they are heavily deteriorated and why there is a concentration of problems in these neighborhoods. There is an imbalance in these neighborhoods in comparison to the western part of the city. These communities are segregated and have the highest poverty rates. Many of them are clustered around the central city area.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of investments could benefit these communities, such as infrastructure or housing investments. Ms. Perry Cole noted that investments in home rehabilitation would benefit these communities since much of the housing is deteriorating and the low-income homeowners cannot afford to do their own improvements or maintenance. Vacant lots in the area could be assembled and perhaps new housing could be built there.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of housing units are in greatest demand? Ms. Perry Cole stated that many people are not able to afford homeownership, thus multifamily housing is going to be a challenge. While homeownership is good, many people cannot afford it and are priced out of the market. The community needs larger bedrooms for lower-income families.



Ms. Sharon Evans reiterated that they are in a special flood zone in Hillsdale and thus have a lot of vacant unbuildable lots. But there are homes that need rehabilitation. Rent assistance is also a great need in the area.

Marjorie Willow asked if there are vacant homes in the flood plain that would be suitable for demolition? Ms. Evans replied that homes in her area that are vacant but are not being torn down and rebuilt. There was a plan at one time where the city identified vacant homes that could be torn down but in Hillsdale there are not many homes like this. Ms. Perry Cole stated that there is such a concentration of vacant and dilapidated housing that if the city tore them all down there would be nothing left except for rubble. Not every home needs to be torn down. The Council has been thoughtful about what homes to demolish, especially in the under resourced neighborhoods.

Ms. Willow asked if these properties have been abandoned because of ownership issues, title issues, multiple heirs or legal issues that prevent acquisition and resale. Ms. Perry Cole stated that the cycle of devastation in these neighborhoods makes it difficult to attract investment. It is not easy to reverse these trends. Some properties are owned by out of state owners. There was no program to address this issue of properties sitting vacant.

Ms. Perry Cole requested to make additional comments regarding Rocky Mount's 2021 Action Plan and the strategies identified in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing to overcome fair housing barriers. She highlighted three specific goals in the 2021-2023 Consolidated Plan: 1) increase access to quality affordable housing, 2) eliminate blight 3) strengthen fair housing. She agrees with the priority area of increasing access to quality affordable housing. In the 2021 Action Plan there is a statement acknowledging that the resources in the plan will not address all needs and for this reason the city will be working on a dedicated affordable housing bond. Both the Community Academy Steering Committee and Legal Aid advocated for the affordable housing bond, listing a timeframe of 2021. To her knowledge, there has not been progress towards implementing an affordable housing bond. The city has not taken meaningful action to secure sufficient, dedicated funding to address housing needs, particularly in underserved communities. The HOME and CDBG resources are a drop in the bucket relative to needs. For example, the city conducted an inventory count of over 1,000 dilapidated and abandoned properties. The city should move forward with the housing bond. A larger financing source is needed.

Ms. Perry Cole is concerned that there will be movement of lower-income households into the Rocky Mount community who are being priced out of the Triangle. The community needs to prepare for this surge of housing need. The 2020 Census showed that Rocky Mount has a declining population. Unemployment in Rocky Mount is 6% compared to 3% state-wide. All of considerations highlight the need to move forward with a housing bond.

One of the limitations of CDBG is that the funds cannot be used to create new affordable housing but they can be used for infrastructure and public facilities. Are there related needs that could help facilitate revitalization? Are there investments that could be made to support affordable housing or to

support the overall neighborhood revitalization?

Ms. Perry Cole replied that most of these neighborhoods have water and sewer. The rehabilitation program is very important to these communities facing dilapidated conditions.

Ms. Perry Cole asked what public services funding can be used for. Mr. Bollig replied that legal aid, case management services for vulnerable households, fair housing services, housing counseling, financial literacy, youth services, senior services, and employment training are eligible public services under CDBG. Ms. Perry Cole noted that employment training could help address Rocky Mount's high unemployment rate.

Ms. Perry Cole voiced support for tenant-based rental assistance and housing counseling.

Mr. Bollig asked Ms. Perry Cole what the relationship is like between community groups and landlords, particularly landlords renting to low-income households. Ms. Perry Cole replied that some landlords have habitual problems with their properties. Ms. Evans has identified several property owners who are located outside of Rocky Mount because mail about city events was going to the out-of-town owners rather than the current residents.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ms. Perry Cole or Ms. Evans are aware of fair housing complaints in the community. Ms. Perry Cole stated that her organization focuses on systemic change rather than individual complaints.

Mr. Bollig asked how the HOME-ARP funds can best promote housing stability, particularly for those who are homeless or at greatest risk of homelessness. Ms. Perry Cole replied that while it's not her area of expertise she believes supportive services are needed, especially in this tight housing market. Housing counseling is needed. She would also like to see the funds be used to address escalating domestic violence during the pandemic.

Mr. Bollig asked if attendees see a need for supportive services for DV survivors, housing units or both. Ms. Perry Cole replied that with these market conditions, there is going to have to be more transitional housing. Folks may not be financially prepared to get into housing in the private market housing market.

Mr. Bollig asked if the attendees could speak to homeless veterans' needs. Ms. Perry Cole replied that Rocky Mount has a recently formed group that focuses on veterans. She stated that there is a problem of veteran homelessness in Rocky Mount. Ms. Mabel Taylor noted that Lighthouse Home and the Mercer Foundation engage veterans and are included in the stakeholder engagement list.

Ms. Willow requested a copy of the inventory report about vacant and dilapidated homes to help identify focus areas for rehabilitation, demolition, and other initiatives.





Mr. Bollig highlighted next steps. These comments will be considered when drafting the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Another round of conversations with stakeholders will be scheduled for early June. The 2022 Annual Action plan for HOME and CDBG is scheduled to go on display in May and should be submitted to HUD by the end of June. A draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is expected in September and will be open to public comment. We expect that the final Allocation Plan draft will be submitted to HUD in October 2022.

Ms. Perry Cole restated the need for a dedicated affordable housing bond and the need for considerable investment in housing and community development initiatives.



## HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 13th 3PM

### Attendance:

Shaun Bollig -M&L  
Maria Dewees -M&L  
Marjorie Willow -M&L  
Allie Card- North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness  
Eric Spivey- Ripple Effects  
Keisha Spivey -Ripple Effects

Shaun Bollig presented the HOME-ARP and the 2022 Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the listening session discussion by asking attendees what the most critical gaps or needs are in the local housing and service system.

Keisha Spivey stated that one of the greatest issues is a lack of emergency shelter in the community. Her organization works with homeless clients needing emergency shelter. Outside of Ripple Effects, Rocky Mount has one shelter that serves 9 to 11 families at a time. Ripple Effects also has properties but not nearly enough to meet the needs of the unsheltered population.

Mr. Bollig asked what other housing resources are in demand throughout the community. Ms. Spivey replied that permanent supportive housing is another big need.

Mr. Bollig asked about the need for supportive services. Ms. Spivey replied that many agencies provide supportive services like case management for people experiencing homelessness. But without shelter, it is difficult to provide wrap-around services and referrals because clients are transient. While many organizations seek to provide these services, it is difficult to do well when clients are not housed.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of units are in greatest demand? Ms. Spivey replied that single individuals and smaller families with a single parent need units. She has 15 applications on her desk for households with a mother and children who have filled out applications for emergency shelter or something more permanent that Ripple Effects does not have capacity to house.

Mr. Bollig asked about the availability of housing choice vouchers and if landlords are participating in the program.

Allie Card stated that the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness is involved with emergency vouchers; these are not specifically housing choice vouchers but the Commission of Indian Affairs,



which falls under the Department of Administration was allocated 414 vouchers. They have opened referrals outside of their normal jurisdiction which is 7 counties. Region 9 and specifically Rocky Mount are providing referrals for emergency housing vouchers. The vouchers are available but the barrier is finding units that are available. Low vacancy rates are an issue and there is limited housing stock in general.

Mr. Bollig asked what permanent supportive housing (PSH) looks like in the greater region. Ms. Spivey replied that she is not seeing any PSH available to groups beyond the elderly population. Ripple Effects is gathering data in this area to better understand the available resources. Her organization would like to be able to provide permanent supportive housing to their clients.

Ms. Card noted that of the CoC-funded PSH projects, there are two funded within Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Eastpoint is the agency that covers Edgecombe and Trillium covers Nash County. Community Link also has a PSH program in some of the other Region 9 counties. The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness may be able to provide more data on PSH programs.

Mr. Bollig asked if there is a need for greater organizational capacity among providers offering services? Ms. Spivey responded that it would certainly be beneficial for this region. She would like to see agencies provide services from start to finish, like from engaging during street outreach to making placements to permanent supportive housing. She recently visited Homeward Bound in the City of Asheville and believes that the services offered there are what Rocky Mount needs.

Ms. Card agreed that there is not enough system capacity which may speak to the nature of the more rural and spread-out communities being served. There are many grassroots organizations and it could be difficult to coordinate groups. Historically Region 9 has not funded street outreach until recently with Ripple Effects.

Ms. Spivey added that Ripple Effects has worked closely with the REACH Center and other agencies. She agreed with Ms. Card that there is a need for more coordination. Mr. Bollig noted that the REACH center has also participated in the listening sessions.

Mr. Bollig pivoted the conversation to discuss CoC related topics. He asked how street outreach works in the community.

Ms. Spivey spoke about how Ripple Effects conducts street outreach. They have partnered with the local police department and local churches to visit encampments and host popups to connect with clients. They provide meals and personal care items, and collect HMIS data. They assess needs and build relationships with homeless residents. Due to this relationship, residents are referring other unsheltered people they know to Ripple Effects services.

The Ripple Effects staff added 22 people to the Coordinated Entry system last month through a pop-up event at the Walmart in Rocky Mount. At these events, they provide food, necessities, and



referrals for the city's unsheltered population. The event originated because the manager who oversees the parking lot had issues with panhandling. In the last month, Ripple Effects has been able to connect four people with housing vouchers and house two families.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ripple Effects engage with survivors of domestic violence or veterans.

Ms. Spivey said yes, Ripple Effects has transitional homes. Long-term, they would like to create transitional homes for veterans and survivors of human trafficking to provide wrap around services.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ripple Effects relied on hotels and motels during the pandemic?

Ms. Spivey replied that Ripple Effects did not have funding for hotels and therefore partnered with the REACH Center for hotel funding and emergency vouchers. This year, because of street outreach funding, Ripple Effects has been able to provide more services. Churches and businesses have also funded Ripple Effects' efforts.

Mr. Bollig asked participants to describe ways to improve housing for people with disabilities.

Ms. Spivey spoke about Ripple Effects' clients with disabilities who are on a limited fixed income. It can be difficult for clients on a fixed income to move to permanent housing. Furthermore, some landlords who rent to Ripple Effects clients do not maintain the properties. These tenants, however, have limited housing options because they cannot afford anything else.

Mr. Bollig asked how fair housing issues present among communities that Ripple Effects serves. Ms. Spivey sees fair housing issues in the way clients are treated by landlords and not given opportunities. She noted that often it is only when someone from the Ripple Effects team advocates for a client that the tenant can secure housing. Advocates help break down barriers in communication between tenants and landlords by providing support with skills needed to engage with a landlord.

Mr. Bollig asked how Ms. Spivey and Ms. Card would like to see the HOME-ARP and HOME/CDBG funds spent.

Ms. Spivey stated that the best way to spend the funds would be in a way that creates opportunities for stable supportive housing. She would like to see increased partnership between agencies. Enhanced collaboration would also ensure that the people who are being served have more of a voice at the table. Although it is not an eligible HOME-ARP activity, she also stated that homeownership opportunities would be important, citing the stability of homeownership compared to renting. Ms. Spivey noted that in her experience, clients can get "stuck" in programs. Funding should ensure that people experiencing homelessness are able to advance to stable housing and not return to homelessness. Wrap around services would support homeless households as needed.

Ms. Card said the funding should be used to make more affordable units available, whether through intense landlord recruitment or building affordable housing. She supports using funds for ongoing supportive services to maintain housing stability. Ms. Spivey would also like to see increased capacity for community housing development organizations. She would like Ripple Effects to one day own an



apartment complex with wrap-around services such as medical and mental health services. A project like this would transform the region.



## HOME-ARP PROGRAM Continuum of Care (CoC) Consultation

City of Rocky Mount

April 20<sup>th</sup> 10AM

### Attendees:

Shaun Bollig – M&L

Maria Dewees – M&L

Roland Max Avent

Keilana Ham -REACH Center

Trishonda Roberson -REACH Center

James Stroud – Balance of State Continuum of Care (Region 9)

Shaun Bollig began the meeting by asking attendees to introduce themselves. James Stroud gave an introduction of the Tar Heel Regional Committee (Region 9) of the Balance of State. The Regional Committee serves as the Continuum of Care lead for Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville, Halifax, Nash, Northampton, Vance, and Warren Counties. Mr. Stroud noted that given the housing needs in the region he is interested learning how to tap into HOME-ARP funding to prevent homelessness. Trishonda Roberson and Keilana Ham introduced the REACH Center. Their work emphasizes preventing homelessness and they have been more involved in housing issues in the last two years due to the pandemic. The REACH Center oversees the coordinated entry process for Rocky Mount and is working to make access to services low barrier and streamlined.

Mr. Bollig presented an overview of the HOME-ARP program.

Mr. Stroud asked how agencies will apply for funding. Mr. Bollig shared that the client is in the early stages of developing an Allocation Plan. Once the client has drafted the Allocation Plan identifying the community's highest housing and service needs, HUD will review and approve the plan. The details of the funding process have not yet been announced.

Mr. Stroud asked how many other groups M&L is engaging during the planning process. Mr. Bollig replied that the HOME-ARP program requires engagement with many stakeholders, including fair housing organizations, the Continuum of Care, legal aid providers, domestic violence and veterans' service providers, and public housing authorities. The public will also have the opportunity to comment on the Allocation Plan once completed.

Mr. Bollig asked the attendees to describe the most critical gaps they see in the Region 9 Continuum of Care area. Ms. Roberson replied that a lack of emergency shelter beds and shortage of transitional housing options especially for those coming out of domestic violence shelters are critical needs. Ms. Ham added that there is not enough space in the domestic violence shelter in Rocky Mount. Ms. Roberson stated that affordable housing is a need across North Carolina since most market-rate rents are too high for people exiting homelessness.



Mr. Bollig asked if the lack of affordable rental housing is affecting the length of stay in the emergency shelters. Ms. Roberson replied that yes, this is the case even for people who have emergency housing vouchers; they may qualify, but the rent is so high that the voucher does not cover the entire rental cost. They may find an apartment for \$800 but the voucher will only cover \$600, for example. Ms. Ham stated that she is seeing need among single individuals without children. Even if they have a voucher, they cannot rent a two-bedroom unit.

Mr. Bollig asked the attendees to describe permanent supportive housing in Region 9. Ms. Roberson stated that Region 9 does not have much permanent supportive housing. Mr. Stroud agreed that there is not a lot of PSH and noted that landlords often will not accept housing vouchers.

Mr. Bollig asked if certain populations face more difficulty finding housing. Ms. Roberson replied that large families can be difficult to place into permanent housing as well as justice involved individuals with criminal records.

Ms. Dewees asked if there are initiatives to engage landlords. Ms. Ham replied that the REACH Center has engaged landlords through the HOPE Program for rent assistance. In her role, she also looks online for housing and looks for landlords to engage in the community to rent to REACH clients.

Mr. Bollig asked how Rapid Re-Housing programs work in the area. Ms. Roberson replied that the REACH Center oversees Rapid Re-Housing for Region 9. The issue is not having enough units and not having enough landlords willing to participate in the program. When units are available, rent is very high. It is difficult to move a family out of the Rapid Re-Housing program over time.

Mr. Bollig asked the group what the biggest risk factors are for maintaining housing stability once households find housing. Ms. Roberson replied that wraparound services are essential for REACH's clients. Workforce development, financial literacy, and other wrap-around services are needed to ensure that families can be self-sufficient. The hope is that a family eventually moves from homelessness to homeownership and that the permanent supportive housing units are freed up for other families. Mr. Stroud added that his agency is a HUD-certified housing counseling agency. They also provide financial literacy services.

Mr. Bollig asked what other supportive services should be available that are not currently being provided? Ms. Roberson stated that mental health services are needed, especially for clients dealing with trauma as a result of covid, in addition to job training and education opportunities for trades such as HVAC technicians and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs). There is demand for childcare and transportation services in more rural areas. Ms. Ham noted that mental health and substance abuse services are needed. In addition, services for seniors are lacking.

Mr. Bollig asked if residents who find permanent housing need life-skills coaching for maintaining their unit or engaging with their landlord. Ms. Roberson confirmed that there is a need for these services.

Mr. Bollig asked what capacity needs exist among service providers. Ms. Roberson replied that case management training and homeless data collection training is needed, along with building teams to engage with homeless clients. Mr. Bollig asked if there has been turnover among staff recently. Ms. Roberson stated that she could not speak to this specifically.



Mr. Bollig asked if there a strategy for engaging at-risk populations in rural parts of Region 9. Ms. Roberson said that the REACH Center is connecting with partner agencies in each county and doing outreach to identify people experiencing homelessness and connect them to services. Mr. Stroud added that Region 9 is in the process of doing a needs assessment to assess community needs. The assessment is nearly complete.

Mr. Stroud asked if the client offers a scholarship or grant to assist with the needs assessment. Mr. Bollig stated he would defer to the City of Rocky Mount regarding funding for the needs assessment. He encouraged attendance at the June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup> stakeholder sessions to identify the needs they are seeing. The HOME-ARP process intends to bring stakeholders together and create new opportunities with this funding.

Mr. Bollig asked if there are vulnerable populations, groups or subgroups who are underserved by the current system. Ms. Roberson replied that people with limited English proficiency, the elderly, and domestic violence survivors are underserved.

Mr. Bollig asked if youth transitioning out of foster care are underserved in Region 9. Ms. Roberson replied that the REACH Center has not specifically worked with this population but that they have upcoming meetings scheduled with school system staff to discuss youth who have been identified as homeless.

Mr. Bollig asked if within the Continuum of Care there are other stakeholders who should be a part of the discussion. Ms. Roberson recommending speaking with the alternate leader of the Region 9 Balance of State Committee. She will e-mail her contact information to M&L.

Mr. Bollig asked if the Coordinated Entry System can identify qualifying populations as specified by the HOME-ARP programs. Ms. Roberson replied that yes, they can identify veterans, how long clients have resided in shelter, or if they are disabled. They are able to prioritize clients this way for services. Mr. Bollig noted that at a later point in the process, Rocky Mount would need to identify how coordinated entry would be used in the prioritization of resources.

Ms. Dewees asked the attendees to share how they would like to see the funding spent. Ms. Roberson replied that she would like to see housing rehabbed into transitional housing that would also provide wraparound services. Ideally, she would like clients to move from homelessness all the way to homeownership. Ms. Bollig noted that a challenge is that HOME-ARP does not allow transitional housing but that permanent supportive housing could be an eligible use.

Mr. Stroud asked what the timeline is for the Allocation Plan and for accessing the funds.

Mr. Bollig replied that the draft Allocation Plan will be ready by September with a 15-day comment period. There will be a public hearing in September and the plan should be submitted to HUD by October. HUD has 45 days to review the plan, so it will be roughly around the end of the year when we hear back from HUD. Stakeholder engagement is going to guide the planning process.





## HOME-ARP PROGRAM

Rocky Mount

Edgecombe County Health Department: May 2nd

Call w/ Thomas Stebner

- The Health Department provides services to those at risk of homelessness or homeless individuals if they don't have the means to access healthcare
- Health Department does not provide mobile outreach services
- Edgecombe County is completing a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA); hope to have this adopted in June 2022
- The lack of affordable housing is a need in both Edgecombe and Nash Counties
- Increased housing costs place additional burdens on households that are already at risk

**Note:** Thomas offered to follow up with data points related to community health needs. He noted that Nash County is also completing an updated CHNA and should be able to provide comparable data.

## HOME-ARP PROGRAM

Rocky Mount

Downeast HOME Consortium Listening Session: May 2nd

### DEHC Comments

- Princeville is working to address gaps in its housing system by creating additional housing units at two large plots of land.
- Recommendation to follow up with Nash Edgecombe Wilson Community Action Agency (NEW) regarding a community survey recently that was conducted.
- Conetoe discussed a mobile home community that has fallen into disrepair and wondered if these funds could be used to rehabilitate units into affordable housing?
- Copies of the HOME-ARP presentation were shared with DEHC members to review and prepare for future allocation plan discussions.
- The DEHC membership agreed to invite M&L to future meetings to discuss community needs, HOME-ARP eligible activities, and creation of the allocation plan.

## HOME-ARP PROGRAM

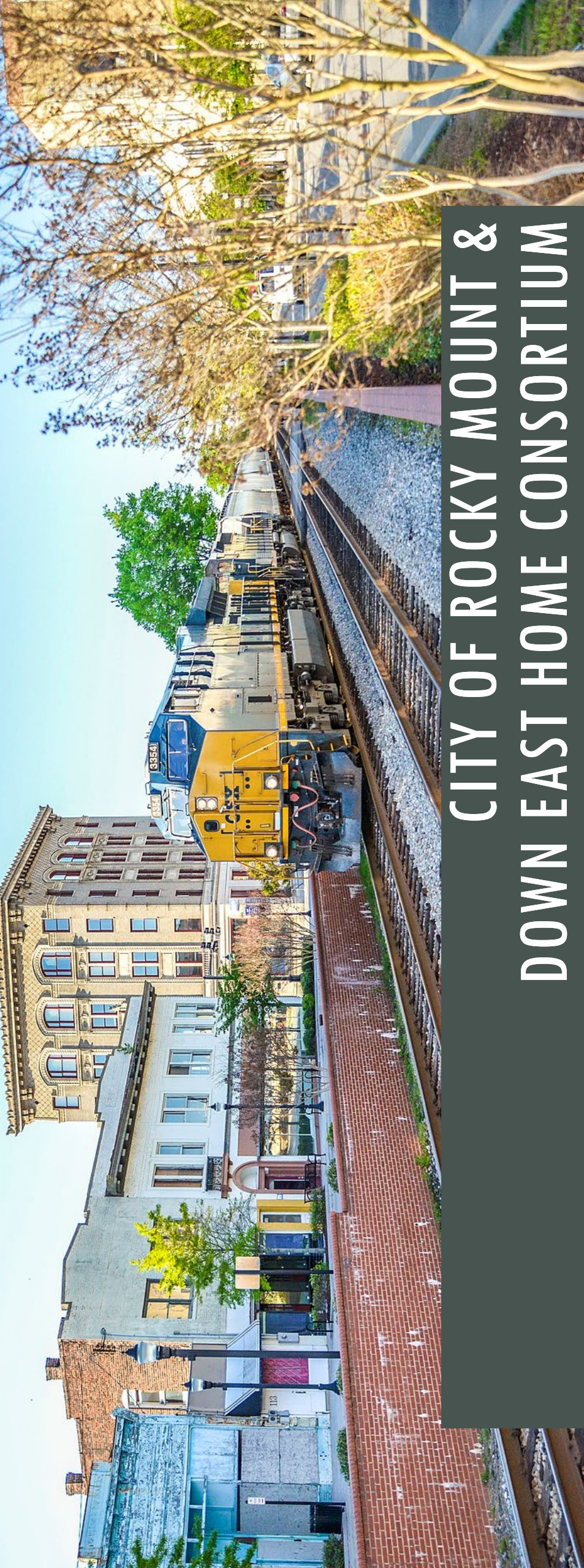
Rocky Mount

Mercer Foundation (James Mercer): May 10th

### Comments regarding unmet housing needs for Veterans

- There is a lack of available, affordable rental units for Veterans.
- The housing system needs greater landlord engagement. Many landlords won't lease to Veterans that have a poor rental history. It would be helpful to have meetings to engage landlords and encourage second chances, as well as landlord incentives.
- There are rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing programs for Veterans in other parts of Region 9 but not in Nash and Edgecombe Counties.
- Veterans need supportive services for substance abuse, employment/job training, and counseling. Life skills support and assistance finding affordable units is also needed. The Mercer Foundation has worked with Trillium and Eastpointe on service provision in the past.
- Single male Veterans are currently only served by transitional housing; there are no programs for Veteran family households or those with children.
- Very few resources are available for preventing Veterans from entering homelessness.
- HUD-VASH assistance is very limited; many have applied for assistance, but few have been approved.
- In 2021, the Mercer Foundation received a grant for utility and rent assistance from the City of Rocky Mount.





# CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT & DOWN EAST HOME CONSORTIUM

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan  
Round 2 Discussion Sessions with Stakeholders  
June 7-8, 2022



SM

ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

# AGENDA

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What is HOME-ARP?

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HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations

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Themes from Round 1 Listening Sessions & Stakeholder Outreach

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Data Review for Qualifying Populations

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Discussion of Eligible Activities

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Wrap-up and Next Steps

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# THE HOME- AMERICAN RESCUE PROGRAM (ARP)

## SEC. 3205. HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM.

Provides \$5 billion in HOME funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and other vulnerable populations by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter

**Rocky Mount & DEHC Allocation:  
\$1,476,477**

# QUALIFYING POPULATIONS

Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary

Other populations who do not qualify under any of the populations above but meet one of the following criteria:

- (a) Other families requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness
- (b) Those at greatest risk of housing instability

# THEMES FROM ROUND 1 LISTENING SESSIONS

## **Unmet housing needs:**

- More safe, decent, and affordable rental units
- Resources for rental assistance to prevent homelessness
- To engage landlords with affordable units for vulnerable populations
- Additional emergency shelter capacity



# THEMES FROM ROUND 1 LISTENING SESSIONS

(CONTINUED)

## **Unmet supportive service needs:**

- Case management
- Searching for/obtaining affordable housing
- Assistance to obtain critical documents
- Job training/education support
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Mental and behavioral health services
- Drug and alcohol treatment/counseling services

# KEY DATA POINTS

- Renter households at 0-30% AMI experiencing one or more severe housing problems:
  - Rocky Mount: 1,710
  - Edgecombe County: 1,485
  - Nash County: 1,595
- Rental costs increases since 2019 (data published by CoStar Group, April 2022)
  - Edgecombe County: 6.2%
  - Nash County: 15.9%
- Households that received NC HOPE Program rental assistance:
  - Edgecombe County: 4,232 - average rent relief was \$4,820 with \$102 for utilities
  - Nash County: 5,219 – average rent relief was \$4,558 with \$150 for utilities

# KEY DATA POINTS

- Rocky Mount – 117 persons experienced homelessness (10/1/2021 – 3/31/2022) in Emergency Shelters
  - 78 males, 38 females, 1 unreported
  - 8 Veterans
  - 95 Black/African-Americans
  - 1 Hispanic
- Region 9 System Performance Measures reported 148 individuals experiencing homelessness:
  - 119 Black/African-Americans
  - 117 single person households
  - 70 households experienced homelessness for first time
  - 8 Veterans
  - 23 survivors of Domestic Violence
  - 21 Chronically Homeless

# FIVE ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES



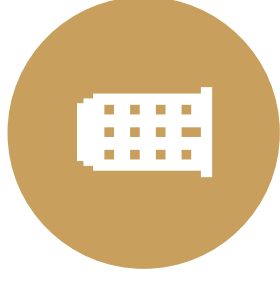
PRODUCTION  
OR  
PRESERVATION  
OF AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING



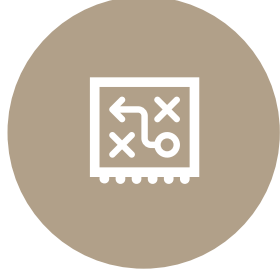
TENANT-BASED  
RENTAL  
ASSISTANCE  
(TBRA)



SUPPORTIVE  
SERVICES,  
HOMELESS  
PREVENTION  
SERVICES, AND  
HOUSING  
COUNSELING



PURCHASE AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF NON-  
CONGREGATE  
SHELTER



NONPROFIT  
OPERATING  
AND CAPACITY  
BUILDING

# DISCUSSION

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# NEXT STEPS

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Comments will be considered when drafting the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

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Eligible activities to be included in the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

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15-day public comment period on the Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan tentatively scheduled for September

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A public hearing will be scheduled during the 15-day public comment period

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Submission of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD anticipated in October 2022

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## Appendix B: Public Participation Materials

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT & DOWN EAST HOME CONSORTIUM**

**A PUBLIC HEARING AND A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WILL BE HELD TO OBTAIN COMMENTS ON THE 2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

The Annual Action Plan is the City of Rocky Mount's and the Down East HOME Consortium's application and distribution plan for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) Block Grant Programs (CDBG and HOME). The City received an additional funding allocation through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to be administered through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to perform activities that must primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. These funds are governed by HUD CPD Notice 21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program issued September 13, 2021.

The City conducted an extensive stakeholder consultation process to identify unmet housing and service needs among qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. Based on this information, the City has identified the following priority needs:

- Affordable and accessible rental housing to individuals and households at 0-30% AML.
- Supportive services to prevent homelessness among persons and families who are at greatest risk.

Rocky Mount's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan proposes the following eligible activities and budget amounts to be implemented in the City and Edgecombe County:

Development of affordable rental housing	\$ 1,255,006
Administration and planning	\$ 221,471
Total Allocation	\$ 1,476,477

Two public hearings will be held for the purpose of obtaining public input. Both locations are accessible to persons with physical disabilities.

City Council of the City of Rocky Mount  
November 28, 2022 at 4 pm  
Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building  
331 S. Franklin Street  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
City Council Chamber on the Third Floor

Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners  
December 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm  
Edgecombe County Administration Building  
201 St. Andrews Street  
Tarboro, NC 27886  
Commissioners Room on the Second Floor

The public hearing held before the City Council of the City of Rocky Mount will be accessible via [www.rockymountnc.gov](http://www.rockymountnc.gov). The public hearing held before the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners will be accessible via <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83017747430?pwd=cm56WTN2Sig4cS8yVnRzcE1WQWJhZz09>. The public may also listen to the meeting by calling 1-929-205-6099, entering 830 1774 7430 as the meeting ID, and 662781 as the passcode.

A draft of the Substantial Amendment, which includes the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, will be available for public comment beginning November 12 through December 5. Oral and written comments will be accepted during the public hearing. Written comments are encouraged and should be received at the following location no later than December 5, 2022 to be considered:

Ms. Cornelia L. McGee  
Interim Director of Community Development  
331 S. Franklin Street, Post Office Box 1180  
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180  
[Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov)

Persons with limited English proficiency needing language assistance for the public meetings should provide written request to the Department of Community Development no later than 48 weekday hours prior to the day of a public meeting.

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations to participate in public meetings should call (252) 972-1178 no later than 48 weekday hours prior to the day of the meeting. The City will mail copies of public meeting notices to persons who are homebound and request such accommodation no less than seven days prior to the public meeting.

Equal Housing and  
Equal Employment Opportunity





**From:** [Mabeleen Taylor-Jones](#)  
**To:** [Marjorie Willow](#)  
**Cc:** [Cornelia McGee-Anthony](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: CRM & DEHC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, December 1, 2022 3:01:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-2inzhe32.png](#)  
[Outlook-lqd3n1u4.png](#)

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Good afternoon Marjorie. I hope your Thanksgiving was great. We have received some feedback from the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan from the stakeholder noted below. He has a wealth of information that needs to be revised. If you have further questions or concerns, please let us know. Have a great remainder of your day.

**Mabel Taylor-Jones, HOME Coordinator**

Community Development Dept.  
331 S. Franklin Street - PO Box 1180  
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180  
Office: (252) 972-1147  
Fax: (252) 972-1581



**\*Please note that email sent to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.**

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**From:** Allie Card <allie.card@ncceh.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** Mabeleen Taylor-Jones <mabel.taylor-jones@rockymountnc.gov>; Brian Alexander <brian@ncceh.org>  
**Subject:** Re: CRM & DEHC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mabeleen,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the CRM & DEHC HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. We deeply appreciate the time and effort put into this work. Below are comments and input on behalf of NCCEH, the NC BoS CoC collaborative applicant.

Page 8: The number of PSH units available listed in the chart does not reflect the NC Balance of State CoC count for these units in the 2022 Housing Inventory Count. The actual count is 3 beds and 1 unit for families (at least one adult and one child under 18) and 13 beds in 13 units for adult-only households. The number of unsheltered individuals in the chart shows data not

available. The number of people living unsheltered in the 2022 PIT count is 11 people in Edgecombe County and 8 people in Nash County.

Page 13: There is no mention of Rapid Rehousing Services in section 3. The REACH Center provides Rapid Rehousing Services in Nash and Edgecombe Counties, which includes short- and/or medium-term housing financial assistance up to 24 months and housing stabilization services.

Page 14: The first full paragraph has some incomplete/inaccurate information. Here is the suggested language -

*The NC Commission of Indian Affairs was allocated 414 Emergency Housing Vouchers for which Nash and Edgecombe Counties can refer households.*

Page 16: Under Section 5, first paragraph, HMIS data does not necessarily indicate that there is a need for additional emergency shelter based on the PIT count numbers. Instead, HMIS data indicates that the available emergency shelter has low utilization rates, identifying a need for existing shelters to lower barriers to allow households with high needs to enter shelters appropriately. The largest shelter and transitional housing projects in Rocky Mount, United Community Ministries, had a 42% utilization rate for its TH program and a 55% utilization rate for its emergency shelter program. This means beds are going unused while there are people sitting on waiting lists or living unsheltered.

Page 17: Under Emergency Shelter, the utilization rate does not match the utilization rate for the 2022 PIT count. Of the available shelter beds on the 2022 PIT count night, the utilization rate for all shelter beds was 60%, far below what the allocation plan shows at 97.5%. We can provide specific data per shelter if needed to show the 2022 utilization rate.

Page 22 Preferences: The data outlined in the plan clearly reveals the lack of housing options for households experiencing homelessness in Rocky Mount. Therefore, we strongly encourage Rocky Mount to create a preference for categories 1 and 3 of the qualifying populations to ensure the most vulnerable households are served first by this limited resource.

Page 23 Referral Methods:

1. In order to place equity at the center of this process, NCCEH suggests rather than households being accepted in chronological order, there be a system in place to ensure households with the greatest needs have access first.
- 2 - 4. NCCEH highly suggests that the PJ partners with the coordinated entry system in NC BoS R09. This would support efforts to prioritize vulnerable households and streamline the referral process.

We would be happy to set up an additional call to discuss our feedback in more detail.

Thank you again for the opportunity,

Allie Card, MSW, MDiv | she, her, hers | Project Specialist | [allie.card@ncceh.org](mailto:allie.card@ncceh.org)  
North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness | [www.ncceh.org](http://www.ncceh.org) | 919-755-4393 x 5004

On Fri, Nov 18, 2022 at 11:53 AM Mabeleen Taylor-Jones <[mabel.taylor-jones@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:mabel.taylor-jones@rockymountnc.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Stakeholders! As the year has progressed, we are diligently working to



complete the DEHC (Down East Home Consortium) HOME-ARP Allocation Plan for participating jurisdictions of the DEHC. We ask that you view the attached plan and offer feedback by Monday, December 5th. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation in this process. Have an awesome weekend, and .....



**Mabel Taylor-Jones, HOME Coordinator**

Community Development Dept.

331 S. Franklin Street - PO Box 1180

Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180

Office: (252) 972-1147

Fax: (252) 972-1581



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December 5, 2022

Ms. Cornelia McGee, MPA  
Interim Director of Community Development  
City of Rocky Mount, NC

**UCM**

*The Community Shelter*

*The Community Kitchen and  
Pantry*

*The Bassett Center and  
House the Children*

**Christ Centered Assistance  
Network**

**Executive Director**  
*Linda Brinson*

**Board of Directors**  
*Cindy Worthy*  
*David Johnson*  
*Bert Battle*  
*Debra Slavin*  
*Richard Joyner*  
*Delton Farmer*

RE: HOME ARP Grant - Requested Funding \$224,039

Dear Ms. McGee:

United Community Ministries (UCM) submits this letter of intent to apply for the HOME ARP Grant. UCM is a nonprofit organization focused on providing food and shelter to homeless and nearly homeless individuals and families in Nash and Edgecombe Counties. Our mission is to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for these individuals and families, as they move toward wholeness. We operate two facilities in Rocky Mount; the Bassett Center/House the Children located at 916 Branch Street houses families with children and the Community Shelter located at 341 McDonald Street houses individuals. We have assisted 33 families with 68 children and 153 men and women at the two facilities since January 2022.

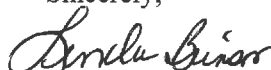
We are applying for the grant to help us provide essential, supportive services, as well as a safe environment for the clients we serve. UCM has dealt with a decline in donations the past few years. This has caused us to make some drastic decisions in our operating budget to include cutting hours and eliminating staff. This has created other problems that include safety issues because of inadequate staffing. The funds received from this grant would allow us to bring our current staff's wages up to standard, as well as hire additional staff to cover the community shelter around the clock.

Our application request also includes funding to make some needed repairs to the Community Shelter. These items include new windows, shower stalls and a handicap accessible door.

This grant would allow UCM to continue our mission to provide a safe environment with adequate staffing and facilities for the homeless population in Nash & Edgecombe Counties, that include the elderly, physical disabled and mentally ill.

Our projected costs for these projects are enclosed. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 252-985-0078 or by email at [lbrinson.lb@gmail.com](mailto:lbrinson.lb@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

  
Linda Brinson,  
Executive Director



*United Community Ministries*

*Helping People As They Move Toward Wholeness*

Post Office Box 2624 • Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27802-2624 • (252) 985-0078

## **United Community Ministries**

<b>Proposed Projects</b>	<b>HOME ARP Funds Requested</b>
Full-Time Manager/Community Shelter	\$45,500
Third Shift Supervisor 7 days a week/Community Shelter	\$43,600
Wage Increases from \$10 hourly to \$15 hourly/Community Shelter & Bassett Center (Unable to offer benefits)	\$61,091
Re-establish eliminated staff & hours/Community Shelter & Bassett Center	\$28,848
Replace windows/Community Shelter	\$25,000
Install Handicap Accessible Door/Community Shelter	\$10,000
Replace shower stalls/Community Shelter	\$10,000
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$224,039</i></b>



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

# HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Public Hearing Presentation

Rocky Mount – November 28, 2022  
Edgecombe County – December 5

Cornelia McGee-Anthony



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

## HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP)

### SEC. 3205. HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM.

Provides \$5 billion in HOME funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and other vulnerable populations by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter

**Rocky Mount & DEHC Allocation: \$1,476,477**  
**Deadline for spending all funds: Sept 30, 2030**





ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
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## Qualifying Populations

- **Homeless**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- **At-risk of homelessness**, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- **Fleeing, or attempting to flee**, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary
- **Other populations** who do not qualify under any of the populations above but meet one of the following criteria: (a) Other families requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and (b) Those at greatest risk of housing instability



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
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## Overview of Planning Process

- 100 stakeholders invited to meetings in March, April, May, June, and August, including all DEHC members
- Analyzed numerous data sources to identify the priority needs of the Qualifying Populations
- Developed HOME-ARP budget based on priority needs



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

# Needs Identified by Stakeholders

## • **Housing Needs:**

- More safe, decent, and affordable rental units
- Resources for rental assistance to prevent homelessness
- To engage landlords with affordable units for vulnerable populations
- Additional emergency shelter capacity

## • **Supportive Service Needs:**

- Case management
- Searching for/obtaining affordable housing
- Assistance to obtain critical documents
- Job training/education support
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Mental and behavioral health services
- Drug and alcohol treatment/counseling services



## Households that received NC HOPE Program rental assistance:

- Edgecombe County: 4,232 assisted with an average payment of \$4,820 with \$102 for utilities
- Nash County: 5,219 assisted with an average payment of \$4,558 with \$150 for utilities

## Affordable Housing Gaps:

- Rocky Mount: 2,890 rental units affordable to 0-50% AMI
- Edgecombe County: 2,465 rental units affordable to 0-50% AMI

**Rocky Mount: 0%-50% area median income = \$0 - \$25,985**



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

# Needs Identified through Data Analysis

## Rocky Mount (October 2021-March 2022)

- 117 persons experienced homelessness in Emergency Shelters

## Region 9 Continuum of Care (city and both counties)

- 148 individuals experienced homelessness:
  - 119 Black/African Americans
  - 117 single-person households
  - 70 households experienced homelessness for the first time
  - 8 veterans
  - 23 survivors of domestic violence
  - 21 chronically homeless



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
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## Priority Needs Identified

- Rental housing affordable to 0-30% AMI (up to \$15,591 in annual income)
- Supportive services including homeless prevention, housing counseling, and other services to keep Qualifying Populations stably housed



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

# HOME-ARP Budget

Eligible Activities	Funding Amount
Supportive Services	
Acquisition & Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	
Development of Affordable Rental Housing*	\$ 1,255,006
Non-Profit Operating Expenses	
Non-Profit Capacity Building	
Administration & Planning	\$ 221,471
<b>TOTAL HOME-ARP ALLOCATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,476,477</b>

\* To develop 4-5 new affordable rental units



ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

## Next Steps

- Public comment period ends on December 5
- Comments received by December 5 will be considered for the final plan
- Approved plan to be submitted to HUD on or before December 16, 2022
- Send written comments to:

[Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov)