



**City of Wichita Falls
PY 2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

Substantial Amendment to PY 2021 Action Plan

**Respectfully Resubmitted to the
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
on January 12, 2023**

**Initially Submitted to the
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
on or about August 3, 2022**

Introduction

In September 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the allocation of \$1,572,000 to the City of Wichita Falls, Texas for a new grant called the Home Investment Partnerships Grant – American Rescue Plan. (HOME-ARP). CPD Memo 21-10 noted that HOME-ARP funds were intended to provide assistance and/or services to the homeless through acquisition/development of a non-congregate shelter, tenant based rental assistance, supportive services, HOME-ARP rental housing, administration and planning, and nonprofit operating and capacity building assistance. HOME-ARP funds are intended to assist a certain portion of people who fall within the HOME-ARP “qualifying populations,” which include:

- Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations
- Those currently housed populations at-risk of homelessness
- Those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic or dating violence, or human trafficking
- Other families requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness
- Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations

To receive funding, the city must develop and submit to HUD a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, which describes the distribution of HOME-ARP funds and identifies any preferences for eligible activities. The development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan must also be informed through stakeholder consultation and community engagement. The City of Wichita Falls HOME-ARP Allocation Plan includes the following below.

Consultation

Summarize the consultation process.

The city partners with public and private entities, which were consulted with during the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The consulted parties have relevant knowledge of the potential activities that would best benefit the qualifying populations. Stakeholders consulted include agencies who work with families or individuals experiencing of at-risk of homelessness, fleeing domestic violence, and other vulnerable qualifying populations.

In the development of the allocation plan, the city asked for input from stakeholders concerning eligible activities and the proposed budget for the HOME-ARP Program. Stakeholders articulated their gap in services and housing needs by providing written and verbal input. The city has synthesized feedback from participants and the following table will provide summaries of the feedback received. The City will continue to meet with stakeholders throughout the implementation of the HOME-ARP Activities in an effort to assess the ongoing needs of stakeholders’ clients. The city will also strive to collaborate with stakeholders to develop and effectuate strategies that will help end chronic homelessness. Comments are summarized below.

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

Agencies/ Organizations Consulted	Type of Agency/ Organization	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Wichita Falls Housing Authority	Public Housing Authority	Consultation Survey	Greater need for transitional shelters, short-term emergency housing, and mental health/substance abuse centers. Need greater case management resources across all programs.
City of Wichita Falls Housing Division	Public Housing Authority / Services-Homeless	Consultation Survey	Rental prices are too high, lack of affordable housing, and landlords will not work with people with no income qualifications for services. Access to client documents (ID, birth certificates) is difficult. A program to remodel rental units for low-income people with a requirement for affordability would be helpful.
Salvation Army, Inc.	Services-Homeless	Consultation Survey	Moving costs, rental assistance, and counseling were identified as unmet needs and the waitlist for affordable housing list as a gap in services. Shortages of single bedroom apartments, and funds for moving costs were noted. Access to client ID, affordable housing, counseling, and rapid rehousing services were identified as the greatest challenges.
North Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center	Organizations Serving Elderly; Organization Service Disabled	Consultation Survey	Greatest needs are moving cost assistance and assistance to obtain client documentation (ID and birth certificate). Burdensome qualifications from landlords and services, and client documentation are the greatest hindrances. Also, a negative public perception of homelessness hinders the ability to help people in need.

Northwest Texas Legal Aid, Inc.	Other: Legal Services	Consultation Survey	Greatest challenges include difficulty contacting clients, client documentation problems (ID, birth certificate), and lack of long-term solutions. Suggests legal assistance as an avenue to slow down evictions and subsidies to lower rents.
Nortex Regional Planning Commission	Continuum of Care	Consultation Survey	Limited funding for people at-risk and who experience homelessness; shortage of housing and reluctance to rent to LMI people. There is a definite needs of ADA housing, elderly housing, and housing near transportation. More assistance needed for people who lost employment or hours, and moving cost assistance. Area of need include legal assistance, and shelters for victims of domestic violence, the disabled, sex offenders, and grant writing assistance to organizations. Obtaining matching funds is one of the greatest challenges to the area.
Helen Farabee Centers – Veterans Services	Other: Military Veteran Peer Network, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Provider	Consultation Survey	Identified case management and outreach to at-risk populations as areas of particular concern along with lack of counseling access. Also identified affordable housing as a gap in services. Transportation access, and private shelter rooms were identified as needed and challenges to accommodate. Sustainability of programs and the stigma of homelessness was also seen as the greatest challenge to assisting the homeless population.
First Step, Inc.	Domestic Violence Service Provider	Consultation Survey	Identified a lack of space for people fleeing domestic violence and a need for more ADA accessible shelters, individual rooms, and transitional housing. Moving costs were also identified as a needed resource. The lack of affordable safe housing and transitional housing are the greatest challenges facing the community.
North Texas Veteran's Relief Fund,	Services – Homeless; Other:	Consultation Survey	Long term housing coupled with supportive services is needed. Limited space and stringent requirements for

Inc. (dba Base Camp Lindsey)	Veteran's Service Provider		religious participation that excludes individuals from receiving care. Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for affordable housing.
Red River Aging & Disability Resource Center	Services	Written Letter after request for consultation	Strongly encourages future and continued development of affordable housing with a focus on elderly needs and ADA accessibility.
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	Services-Homeless; Other: Statewide Public Housing Authority	Email; Consultation Survey	Refused consultation as their jurisdiction does not include Wichita Falls; directed city staff to City of Wichita Falls Housing Division (Section 8 Choice Voucher) and Wichita Falls Housing Authority.

Public Participation

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

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted
1	Other: Notice of Funding Availability	Non-targeted/ broad community	Emails sent on 1/24/22 to local groups and posted on the city website notifying the community that HOME-ARP funds would be available to the city for allocation and encouraging the submission of applications for projects that benefit qualified populations.	Received inquiries from two organizations about applying for funds. Applications for 2 projects were submitted.	No comments were rejected.
2	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/	The city posted on 3/30/22 a continuous notice on the public notices bulletin board at City Hall for a planning meeting. The meeting was held on 4/14/22 in order to solicit public input	Two individuals attended the meeting to head about the HOME-ARP Program. Attendees stated over-regulation from the federal government stopped needed help from reaching people in need and created	No comments were rejected.

		broad community	on the planning process.	inflexibility in programs. In addition, more transitional housing, drug abuse, and mental health assistance is needed and specifically for veterans.	
3	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community	The city posted on 4/29/22 a continuous notice on the public notices bulletin board at City Hall for a planning meeting. The meeting was held on 5/18/22 in order to solicit public input on the planning process.	There were two attendees. No comments were received.	No comments were rejected.
4	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community	The City Council Subcommittee on Outside Agencies met with organizations applying for funding on 5/26/22 to hear proposals, ask and answer questions about projects and activities for which the organizations were seeking funding.	Two organizations sent representatives to the Council Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee heard project proposals, organization's needs, community needs, and funding requests.	No comments were rejected.
5	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community	The city posted in the Times Record News on 6/30/22 a public notice regarding a comment period on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, running from July 1-31, 2022 with a public meetings to occur on 7/14/22. The meeting was held on 7/14/22.	No comments were received.	No comments were rejected.
6	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-	The city posted in the Times Record News	No comments were received.	No comments were rejected.

		english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community	on 6/30/22 a public notice regarding a comment period on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, running from July 1-31, 2022 with a City Council hearing to be held on 7/19/22. The hearing was held on 7/14/22.		
7	Public Meeting	Minorities; Non-english speaking (Spanish); Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community	The City of Wichita Falls City Council held a public meeting on August 2, 2022 to consider all public comments on the the HOME-ARP Allocation plan and PY 2021 Substantial Amendment.	No comments were received.	No comments were rejected.

The City of Wichita Falls held one public forum prior to the comment period to invite planning comments from any citizens, municipal officials, non-profit agencies, public housing agencies, private developers, governmental agencies, and the Continuum of Care. This forum was intended to garner any and all potential public commentary and thoughts prior to the formal submitted draft of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The public forum was held on the date listed above.

Once a final prepared draft of the HOME-ARP Allocation was completed city staff published notice of the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and the date of the public hearing during a meeting with the City Council on the date above. During the public hearing, city staff discussed the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, which incorporated information and discussion of community needs and eligible activities related to HOME-ARP, along with an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the proposed budget and activities. A list of eligible HOME-ARP activities and the city's proposed HOME-ARP Budget was also presented. The public comment period and the public were held on the dates listed above.

A public notice announcing the public forum held during the planning phase was posted on the bulletin board at Memorial Auditorium/City Hall at 1300 7th Street, Wichita Falls, Texas 76301 and on the city's website. The public notice announcing the public comment period was published in the Wichita Falls Times Record News on the date listed above. The public comment period on the Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan coincided with the public hearing on the dates listed above.

Actions to improve participation

- Conduct workshops at various locations throughout the city, provide ADA accessibility for all persons with disabilities, and provide interpretation for limited English proficiency clientele;
- Use electronic and print media to solicit public participation through various media outlets including, but not limited to, the Times Record News, the city's website, and the city's public notice bulletin board. This includes mass emails to city employees, nonprofit organizations, and any interested developers/businesses;
- Review and respond to all citizen comments and incorporate such comments in the Action Plan, as applicable;
- Analyze the impact of the Allocation Plan program activities on neighborhood residents, particularly low-to-moderate-income households; and,
- Accept any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at a public forum, public hearing, or during the preparation of the HOME-ARP allocation plan.
- Publish information on the city's housing and information channel to further Fair Housing and solicit applicants, input, and inform the public regarding our program.

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

- Some of the needs are highlighted in the Needs Assessment.
- More transitional housing is needed.
- More emergency sheltering is needed for victims of domestic violence.
- Domestic violence service providers require more space for families, men, women, and those with disabilities.
- Veterans need additional assistance.
- Stringent requirements (ID, religious, etc.) from the federal government prevent help from reaching people.
- More mental health assistance is needed.
- More drug abuse assistance is needed.

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

All comments were accepted.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

To assess the unmet needs of the HOME-ARP qualifying populations, the city evaluated the size and demographic composition of those populations. In addition, the city also identified gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory, as well as the service delivery system. In the needs assessment and gaps analysis the city utilized Current Housing Affordability Data (CHAS), 2020 Point in Time Count (PIT Count), 2020 CoC Housing Inventory Count (HIC), or other data sets available from other sources. The following information include the basis for the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis. The city favored the 2020 PIT Count and HIC due to the completeness of the data. The local CoC received a waiver from HUD that released the organization from obtaining the unsheltered 2021 PIT Count due to the COVID-19 Pandemic unsheltered homeless populations.

Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Tables

Homeless (Table 1)													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gaps Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	118	12	235	n/a	n/a								
Transitional Housing	0	0	20	n/a	n/a								
Permanent Supportive Housing	0	0	29	n/a	n/a								
Other Permanent Housing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
Sheltered Homeless						35	98	9	5				
Unsheltered Homeless						1	57	2	2				
Current Gap										82	-24	99	-155

Data is derived only from the Wichita Falls 2020 Point In Time Count (PIT), and the 2020 Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC) for TX-624. Note: Adults only shelters only have congregate shelters with no private accommodations (to include toilets and bedrooms) for separate households. As such, data for the number of adults only units in the Gaps Analysis will reflect a lack of units for all 155 unduplicated adults-only households.

Non-Homeless (Table 2)			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	15,915	37,297	-21,382
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)		3,725	
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)		2,705	
0-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		840	
30-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		450	
Current Gaps			-21,382

Data is derived from the American Community Survey (ACS), Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), and the National Low Income Housing Coalition Out of Reach Report 2021: Wichita Falls.

Additional Information

The supply of rentals has increased between 2010 and 2018 by 160 units. There were 15,755 occupied units paying rent in 2010 and 15,915 occupied units paying rent in 2018. The median monthly rent in 2010 was \$723 and increased to \$828 per month in 2018. The National Low Income Housing Coalition's "Out of Reach" 2019 Annual Report calculates the amount of money a household must earn in order to afford a rental unit based on the number of bedrooms in a rental unit at the Fair Market Rent (FMR), consistent with HUD's affordability standard of paying no more than 30% of income for housing costs. Data is presented in the Renter Affordability table for the Wichita Falls Metro Statistical Area (MSA). As noted in the 2021 Out of Reach Report, the NLIHC estimates that the median income for a renter in the Wichita Falls MSA is \$33,280.00. The Area's Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$832, marking a slight increase over 2018, and in order to afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing. The Fair Market Rent that would be considered affordable at the mean renters wage is \$670, which is \$162 below the actual FMR. In order to afford a two-bedroom housing unit without spending more than 30 percent of one's income on rent, one would need to work at a minimum of 48 hours per week or maintain at least 1.2 full-time jobs in Wichita Falls.

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

HUD requires HOME-ARP funds be used to primarily benefit individuals and families, in specified HOME-ARP "qualifying population." Qualifying populations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations.
- Those currently housed populations at-risk of homelessness.
- Those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence or human trafficking.
- Other families requiring services or housing assistance or to prevent homelessness.
- Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations.

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Populations

In accordance with HUD's definition of homeless under the HOME-ARP grant the city will consider a homeless family or individual to generally include:

- An individual or family who lacks a permanent and/or adequate home.
- A person or family who will imminently lose the permanent home due to a lack of resources or support.
- A youth under the age of 25, even if accompanied by an adult, which does not have a permanent home.

During the previous year, responding shelters within the corporate limits of the City of Wichita Falls reported 6,932 total unduplicated individuals who were sheltered. With 362 being victims of domestic violence and 100 having verified veteran status. Based on feedback from area providers many have had to turn individuals away during points of the year, which is not captured in the Point In Time (PIT) Count. However, there is the possibility that rates of homelessness are higher than those reporting in the PIT Count. However, we do not have a way to separate out those who may have been turned away at one shelter and accepted at another. Therefore, this plan will reference the 2020 Wichita Falls Area Point in Time (PIT) Count conducted by the Continuum of Care, of which the city is an active participant. The city

would consider the 2021 PIT Count, but this count does not have sufficient data to draw distinct conclusions given the limitations imposed during the COVID-19 Pandemic and the associated waivers for conduct of the count. For this reason, the 2021 PIT Count is not included in the plan. This plan does have some limitations considering it takes into account all facilities within an 4-county region, but facilities in Wichita Falls make up the largest contingent of homeless providers surveyed for the PIT Count, and, as the main hub for the 4-county area, facilities in Wichita Falls actively support those homeless individuals who request assistance inside of the city, and at times our facilities serve an overflow function for facilities that may be full in the Fort Worth area. The tables below reflect the demographics captured in the PIT Count.

Age Demographic (Table 3)				
Household Type	Age Range	# Sheltered	# Unsheltered	TOTAL
HH – No Children	18 – 24	9	5	14
	Over 24	104	52	156
	SUBTOTAL	113	57	170
HH - w/ Children	Under 18	28	1	29
	18 – 24	3	0	3
	Over 24	18	2	20
	SUBTOTAL	49	3	52
HH - Only Children	Under 18 SUBTOTAL	14	0	14
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	TOTAL	176	60	236

Ethnic Demographic (Table 4)			
Identifier	# Sheltered	# Unsheltered	TOTAL
Hispanic	33	8	41
Non-Hispanic	143	52	195
TOTAL	176	60	236

Racial Demographic (Table 5)			
Identifier	# Sheltered	# Unsheltered	TOTAL
Black	46	14	60
White	118	43	161
Asian	1	0	1
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2	0	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	1	2
Multiple Races	8	2	10
TOTAL	176	60	236

Gender Demographic (Table 6)			
Identifier	# Sheltered	# Unsheltered	TOTAL
Female	83	11	94
Male	93	49	142
TOTAL	176	60	236

Summary of Populations Reported (Table 7)			
Identifier	# Sheltered	# Unsheltered	TOTAL
Chronically Homeless – Households with No Children	10	8	18
Severely Mentally Ill	12	6	18
Chronic Substance Abuse	10	4	14
Veterans	9	2	11
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0
Victims of Domestic Abuse	5	2	7
Unaccompanied Youth Under 18	14	0	14
Unaccompanied Youth 18 - 24	9	5	14
Parenting Youth Under 18	0	0	0
Parenting Youth 18 – 24	3	0	3
Children of Parenting Youth	3	0	3

For demographic tables above, and on the previous page, data is derived only from the 2020 Point-In-Time Count conducted by the Wichita Falls Area Continuum of Care. There were no reports of Chronically Homeless Households with Children, or in other subtypes of this category.

Of the 236 individuals captured by the PIT Count about 75% were sheltered and 25% unsheltered. Approximately 25% were Black, 68% were White, and about 13% fell amongst the remaining categories. These individuals comprise 191 households with 133 being sheltered and 58 being unsheltered. Almost 40% of all homeless were female and 60% male in gender, with no noted transgender or other nonconforming individuals noted. Of these, slightly better than 88% of females were sheltered compared with slightly less than 65% of males. Almost 12% of all individuals were considered unaccompanied youth needing assistance, 3% survivors of domestic violence, 7.6% were severely mentally ill, 6% substance abuse, 4.66% had veteran status, and a further 7.6% were considered to be suffering chronic homelessness.

Individuals and Families at Risk of Homelessness

For this section the qualifying population of individuals and families at-risk, and populations needing prevention assistance such as that with the greatest risk of housing instability or those who unstably housed, will be considered at times together. Each qualifying population closely resembles and shares some characteristics with the other. Individuals and families at risk of homelessness include those who have an annual income at or below 30% of area median income, who have insufficient resources and support networks, and who are either a child/youth at-risk under other federal statutes or have any one of the following risk factors: Multiple moves; Doubled-up; Facing eviction with 21 days; Living in

hotel/motel at own expense; Overcrowded living situation; Exiting institutional setting; Other characteristics of instability.

All Renter Households with Housing Problems (Table 8)			
Category	Identifier	# Households	Percentage of Renter Households
Housing Problems	Renter Households with at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems	7,710	19.9%
	Renter Households with at least 1 of 4 Severe Housing Problems	4,400	11.3%
Cost Burden	Renter Households with Cost Burden Greater than 30% of Income	3,450	8.9%
	Renter Households with Severe Cost Burden Greater than 50% of Income	3,810	9.8%
Household (HH) Income	Extremely Low and Very Low Renter Households with at least 1 of 4 Housing Problems	5,140	13.2%
	Extremely Low and Very Low Renter Households with Cost Burden Greater than 30% of Income	5,060	13.0%
	Extremely Low and Very Low Renter Households with Severe Cost Burden Greater than 50% of Income	3,490	9.0%

Data derived from the 2014-2018 CHAS. Total households are equivalent to 38,725.

Using HUD's 2014-2018 CHAS data, Wichita Falls has 5,200 total households with incomes at or below 30% AMI, which is 14.1% of all Wichita Falls households. Approximately 71.6% of all households with incomes at or below 30% AMI are renter households. As shown in the table above, there are approximately 3,450 renter households that have a cost burden above 30% of their annual income. Of the total households in Wichita Falls 19.9% of all renter have at least 1 or 4 housing problems, and 11.3% 1 of 4 severe housing problems. Housing problems can be issues like overcrowding, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities. These households that are cost burdened or have the housing problems mentioned above are considered to be at-risk of becoming homeless. Further, compounding this issue is that 66.67% of all households with extremely-low or very-low income are renting and living in the homes with housing problems.

At-Risk Demographics (Table 9) For Families Living at or Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Line			
Category	Identifier	# Individuals	Percentage
Survey Total	All Individuals (Regardless of Poverty Status)	89,836	100%
Living In Poverty	Total Individuals	16,620	18.5%
Gender	Male	6,858	15.7%
	Female	9,739	21.1%
Age	Under 18	5,526	23.8%
	18 – 64	9,548	17.8%
	65 and Older	1,544	11.9%
Race	Black	3,099	30.7%
	White	10,947	16.7%
	Asian	189	8.4%
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	162	21.5%
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
	Other Race	836	18.8%
	Multiple Races	1,384	20.8%
Ethnicity	White, Hispanic	4,843	24.4%
	White, Non-Hispanic	7,947	14.6%
Household Types	All Family HH	11,537	15.9%
	Married Spouse Family HH	2,982	6.1%
	Female Led Family HH, No Spouse	6,964	42.9%
	Living With Others	5,080	29.4%
Disability Status	Disabled	3,270	24.2%
	Non-Disabled	13,301	17.7%

At-Risk Demographics (Table 10) For Families Living at or Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Line			
Demo Type	Identifier	# Individuals	Percentage
Employment Status	Full-Time	89,836	4.7%
	Less than Full-Time	16,620	18.5%
	Unemployed	4,459	35.46%
Nativity & Citizenship Status	Native	15,388	18.4%
	Foreign-Born	1,234	19.9%
	Naturalized Citizen	144	6.4%
Educational Attainment	No High School Diploma	2,013	31.7%
	High School Diploma	3,382	8.7%
	Some College/Associates Degree	1,975	10.2%

	Bachelor's Degree or higher	772	5.4%
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Data above derived from the 2021 American Community Survey.

Data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) gives us an in-depth view of poverty in Wichita Falls. Using the table detailed “S1703 Selected Characteristics of People at Specified Levels of Poverty in the Past 12 Months” we find that 18.5% live on a total income at or below 100% of the federal poverty line, which falls at or below of 30% of area median income. These statistics look nearly identical to those of individuals experiencing poverty that may be living in unstable housing situations. Of the data points provided, we find there are defining characteristics of the poor. One is more likely to be at-risk of homelessness or unstable housing situations if they are female, black, Hispanic, of another or multiple races, or if the person is an American Indian/Alaskan Native. Youth of families, and female led households are at greatest risk of poverty at 42.9%. As evidenced, non-white individuals are more highly affected by poverty than white, non-Hispanic individuals. Black individuals are disproportionately affected by poverty within Wichita Falls at 30.7%, but it is noted that there exists a significantly heightened level of poverty among American Indian/Alaskan Natives and individuals identifying as Hispanic, and two or more races. In addition, 24.2% of all disabled individuals are living at or below the FPL, compared with 17.7% of all individuals who are not disabled.

At-Risk and unstably housed population generally do not qualify of resources available to those experiencing homelessness as they are not living in a shelter, or on the street. Compounding matters is that renters/landlords are not eligible to receive single-family rehab assistance through the Community Development Block Grant. Often, they sacrifice in other areas of their lives, or the lives of their families. Individuals in these positions will forego, or allow their family to forego, certain aspects pertaining to their general well-being or physical safety in order to obtain housing they can afford. The city has recently seen home prices, property taxes, and rental fees increase, which will further destabilize the situation. In addition, we have noted significant investment in real estate to turn single-family homes into rentals, and that corporate entities have begun building higher-end rental apartments. Still yet many exist apartment complexes have undergone renovations to refocus their target demographic to higher income brackets. Lack of availability of subsidized housing, as well as aging housing stock being converted to higher-end homes, makes securing and retaining housing difficult for these households. The City of Wichita Falls does not maintain figures regarding how many at-risk or unstably housed individuals there may be. However, given many people in these populations share certain characteristics populations, but there are characteristics that identify those households who have a propensity for being at risk of homelessness and unstably housed due to experiencing one or more housing problems,

Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence or human trafficking

For HOME-ARP, this population includes any individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. It includes cases where an individual or family reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence due to dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return or remain within the same dwelling unit. Wichita Falls has many organizations, professionals, and law enforcement whose goals are ending domestic violence and supporting the victims of these crimes locally and at the state level.

Persons experiencing domestic violence continues to high priority issue for the city. There is currently one domestic violence and abuse shelter and program in Wichita Falls which offers a hotline and emergency shelter.

The U.S. is currently experiencing an average of an 8% increase in domestic and family violence, however this problem has reached unstable proportions in Wichita Falls with a marked 40% increase in the number of individuals receiving assistance from local shelters, including Wichita Falls' lone dedicated facility. In addition, the Wichita Falls Police Department reports almost a three-fold increase in the number of domestic and family violence calls they receive on a monthly basis. While the 3% of all individuals who were identified as survivors of domestic abuse in the PIT Count point to a smaller population of victims in this category, we do note that the figures are from 2020 and that domestic violence has increased since the COVID-19 Pandemic. In addition, local data from reporting shelters point to a higher yearly average of households or individuals who would qualify under this category with at least 362 households being noted as survivors of domestic abuse by itself with at least 55 of those same households having at least 1 child. With the ACS noting that females experience poverty at a 5.4% higher rate than males we find that individuals in this population are in an even worse position. The ACS also noted that of all female-led households, with no spouse present, 42.9% were living in poverty. Given the disproportionately higher rate of poverty in black, Hispanic, or other racial make-ups we find that women in this subset would be even more likely to suffer from housing instability to the point they would need an emergency shelter for intervention. In addition, the one shelter dedicated to domestic violence shelter assistance does not have adequate facilities for men in this qualifying population. As this is a leading factor for homelessness and instability in the area the city gives preference to individuals of this qualifying population.

Residents living in housing instability or in unstable housing situations

Many of the households and individuals who present as qualifying populations in this category have similar needs as the individuals and families at-risk of homelessness. As such, some subject matters have been discussed simultaneously in the Individuals and Families At Risk of Homelessness section. Residents living in housing instability or in unstable housing situations include other populations who have previously qualified as homeless, are currently housed with temporary or emergency assistance, and who need additional housing assistance or supportive services to avoid a return to homelessness. These factors include the following residents who are (1) formerly homeless who are currently housed but needing additional assistance to avoid returning to homelessness; or, (2) annual income at or below 30% of median family income and severe housing cost burden;; or, (3) have an annual income at or below 50% of median family income, and have any one of the following risk factors: Multiple moves; Doubled-up; Facing eviction with 21 days; Living in hotel/motel at own expense; Overcrowded living situation; Exiting institutional setting; Other characteristics of instability.

Many renters in Wichita Falls experience varied housing challenges. A total of 48.44% of all Wichita Falls renters have housing problems or severe housing problems. In CHAS data, HUD defines housing problems as a household that has one or more of the following: lacking a kitchen or plumbing, having more than one person per room, or being housing cost burdened at 30% or more. Of these problems, housing costs negatively impact most renters whose household income is at or below 50% AMI. People

in this population are likely to consist disproportionately of people who are Hispanic, Black, or non-white.

The city's Housing Division, which manages the Housing Choice Voucher Program, reports that there is a lack of affordable housing that meets HUD's standards and qualifications for livability, affordability, and safety. This has created a major backlog and waitlist for people seeking housing and is further compounded by landlords who place burdensome qualifications for deposits and income. This, coupled with the recognition of this problem by the Continuum of Care and other agencies, shows a need for more rental assistance and supportive services. However, it has been noted that developers are not interested in developing or maintaining rental properties for affordability. Despite previous approaches to this issue units are being converted to luxury and higher-end rentals. Homes and apartments are being converted into short-term rentals as well. This does not appear to be an issue that the city can readily solve at the moment despite any wishes to do so. Therefore, the city believes that our efforts would be better focused on emergency shelters. In addition, the city is fortunate to have Faith Mission and Faith Refuge present in the City of Wichita Falls to support homeless populations.

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

- **Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations;**
- **Those currently housed populations at risk of homelessness;**
- **Other families requiring services or housing assistance or to prevent homelessness; and,**
- **Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations**

Many of the needs of the qualifying populations are similar and include the need for flexible response, available housing that is affordable, case management to track and follow-up with individuals entering the system at any given point, and supportive services or assistance that could prevent homelessness or greater housing instability. The following reviews the needs of each qualifying population.

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Populations

People experiencing unsheltered homelessness are at great risk of continued harm due to higher rates of morbidity and mortality resulting from pre-existing health conditions, exposure to the elements, lack of access to healthcare, and elevated rates of hospitalizations with longer, more complex hospital stays. Long periods of living without shelter also put individuals at a greater risk of social isolation and the chance of victimization. The process of resolving unsheltered homelessness is much more complicated and takes longer compared to that for people receiving crisis shelter. It is important to connect people to permanent housing with the right level of services to ensure their success. Housing options must be flexible, client-centered, easily accessible, and paired with support services necessary to help clients remain in housing for the long-term. Returning to homelessness after a housing placement is traumatizing for the families and an inefficient use of assistance resources.

The most immediate and urgent need sheltered and unsheltered homeless is immediate access to housing and a path through which they can gain access to available housing units in the community and exit homelessness. The city has noted reluctance among landlords to rent to individuals or families experiencing homelessness where supports are not in place or where the landlord is not protected from loss. We find that homeless populations first need help finding a landlord who is willing to rent to them,

and assistance to navigate the rental market and secure housing immediately. In addition, the homeless need resources to pay the upfront costs needed to move into housing like application fees, deposits, and basic furnishings and household items. Next, homeless populations need financial assistance to pay rent for a period to allow them to stabilize their situation by improving their health, employment, training or education, find subsidies, etc. Landlords who are willing to lease to those experiencing homelessness will want assurance that they can reasonably mitigate any potential losses by ensuring a rental subsidy is available to maintain any tenant's ability to pay the rent.

While some sheltered and unsheltered homeless are chronically homeless (7.6%) and/or are living with severe mental illness (7.6%) and/or substance use disorder (5.9%), this is a very small part of the population. The overwhelming majority of the persons experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness (as much as 90% or about 173 households) represent situational or circumstantial homelessness where a loss of income for a household living paycheck to paycheck, income loss led to being unable to pay their rent/mortgage, and finally to homelessness. To be sure the needs of the of the chronically homeless generally involve finding a home at a shelter, and generally intensive counseling and/or treatment in transitional housing for severe mental illness, substance use, training for basic work skills, home maintenance skills, and how to find a job. In general, a complete case management approach from streets to housing and employment must often be used to ensure these individuals successfully find housing. Below is a list of needs for homeless populations:

1. Shelter – Immediate shelter for individuals that provides some privacy, such as separate bedrooms/bathroom units, especially for families as there exists a gap of 24 units needed to privately house them based on the PIT Count. However, some of these families overlap with domestic/dating violence victims, and victims of human trafficking.
2. Case management services for homeless individuals placed into housing. This helps to acclimate in a new community and reduce issues with maintaining housing. This provided an individualized housing and service plan for each household that takes into account the specific needs and nuances of that household. The plan would include identification of and coordination in providing needed services, to include any necessary information or referral to service providers to help the household stay housed.
3. Service Needs depending on each individual's or household's circumstances. Each may need assistance in any one or combination of areas, including:
 - a. Food and nutritional needs;
 - b. Basic necessities (clothing, personal hygiene products, laundry etc.)
 - c. Transportation, or assistance in navigating public transportation;
 - d. Employment, training, workforce, and/or educational needs;
 - e. Legal needs, to include services on how to deal with a criminal history;
 - f. Health and dental services;
 - g. Affordable childcare for households with children;
 - h. Basic life skills, such as like budgeting, working with the landlords and neighbors, household management, conflict resolution, shopping, nutrition, etc. that may have been abandoned due to homelessness;
 - i. Assistance to obtain any needed and available benefits or housing programs;
 - j. Internet access;

- k. Securing assistance to deal with any required home modifications for individuals with disabilities.
- l. Assistance or information to deal with any other basic service needs in order to deal with mental health issues, substance abuse, trauma, PTSD, etc. that may have led to or been initiated during the individual's period of homelessness. These are required often to maintain stable housing. Veterans in particular often need assistance to deal with mental health needs, such as PTSD, as a result of the service.

Individuals and Families at Risk of Homelessness

Those individuals who are at-risk or otherwise unstably housed typically do not have the same needs as those who are homeless. Those at-risk begin as individuals and families that are already housed and need assistance to ensure that they do not fall into homelessness. Therefore, at risk populations are not typically in need of housing navigation or housing placement help, but instead need rental assistance to secure their housing which may look like help paying rental fees that they be in arrears on, or future rental fees until their situation stabilizes.

In Table 8, which details All Renters with Housing Problems, we see there are a large amount of households in the Wichita Falls area that are cost burdened (housing cost exceeds 30% of income), or severely cost burdened (housing cost exceeds 50% of income). Residents finding themselves in these situations risk eviction or homelessness if they experience any form of disruption to their household income or expenditures. Disruptions can look like increased costs for food, transportation, healthcare, etc. These households are vulnerable to sudden shocks to their household budget, which can occur for any reason like job loss or unplanned expenditures for a pandemic, medical emergency, or their vehicle requiring maintenance, which lead to a deepening risk of or literal homelessness. Eviction diversion is an extremely important aspect of assisting this population, since many renters finding themselves in this situation have already had an eviction case filed and the process has started. In addition to rental assistance this can also be legal assistance to ensure the tenants are represented during the process.

Individuals and families at risk of homelessness or who are unstably house may need housing assistance that could vary from eviction assistance, diversion assistance, or rent and utility assistance in addition to other types of supportive services. Households who need assistance with maintaining or regaining housing to prevent homelessness will benefit from targeted services. However, these services require specialized outreach and engagement services targeted to high-risk populations to ensure those at highest risk for homelessness are engaged with housing supports before experiencing literal homelessness. These populations indeed have several needs that overlap with the needs that homeless individuals require because of their financial situation. These needs appear like the following:

1. Case management services geared towards problem solving for at risk and unstably house individuals help to connect those in need with services and benefits that can help improve their situation.
2. Service Needs typically involve financial assistance or assistance with basic necessities. At risk and unstably house populations may need any one or any combination of the following:
 - a. Rental and utility assistance, which may include deposits;
 - b. Food and nutritional needs;

- c. Necessities (clothing, personal hygiene products, laundry etc.)
- d. Employment, training, workforce, and/or educational needs;
- e. Transportation;
- f. Legal needs, to include services on eviction diversion;
- g. Affordable childcare for households with children;
- m. Internet access;
- n. Basic life skills, such as like budgeting, working with the landlords and neighbors, household management, conflict resolution, shopping, nutrition, etc.;
- o. Assistance to obtain any needed and available benefits or housing programs;
- p. Securing assistance to deal with any required home modifications for individuals with disabilities.

Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence or human trafficking

There is only one independently organized shelter throughout Wichita Falls that assist domestic violence victims, and their family members. In addition to housing accommodations, there are varied additional services provided such as counseling and advocacy assistance. Domestic violence or human trafficking survivors often lack easy access to short-term shelter, as well as, quick access to medical and psychological services. As such, many of the needs of this group are the same as homeless populations. However, there are unique needs and nuances to this qualifying population. While the Point In Time Count notes a total of 7 sheltered and unsheltered victims in this population, we note that our consultation with First Step Inc. reflects that they often must turn away individuals or families of this population due to their shelter being full, and that they occasionally serve as an overflow or alternate option to provide distance between victims and their abusers for surrounding areas. However, due to their small size of their facility and rehabilitation needs First Step must often turn away applicants. They do not have separate facilities for men and women victims, who tend to have mental health needs that make co-ed environments less than ideal. Furthermore, ADA accommodations are sparse and often find men occupying them to provide separate facilities.

This population will also often require transitional housing in the intermediate term to stabilize their housing situation until they can learn about and access services needed to overcome housing issues, which may be exacerbated by issues with bad, damaged, or insufficient credit history. Mental health services are critical so that individuals and families may access counseling or other services to deal with the associated trauma. In addition, there are only informal networks to connect survivors to job opportunities. Without economic independence, many survivors are caught in abusive relationships and the gains they make with traditional social services are not fully realized. To compound matters, when these gains are not fully realized or are later lost many victims will return to their abuser. The city also has a need for more individual and ADA accessible rooms since people of this qualifying population. Therefore, housing is the primary concern. Men, women, and children can all be victims and there are still other needs if the individuals are disabled. Creating better and expanded access to short-term shelter and housing as well as increasing the supportive services available could help stabilize this qualifying population. Therefore, the priority needs are as follows:

1. Shelter – Immediate shelter for individuals that provides some privacy, such as separate bedrooms/bathroom units, especially for families who have a gap of 24 units and often fall into this category.
2. Case management services for victims in this population that are placed into housing. This helps to acclimate the population to the community they have become a part of, and to connect them with resources of greatest need. Given the more unique needs of this population, and the required privacy necessary to ensure their abusers cannot find them, a coordinated case management system would allow for an individualized housing and service plan for each household that takes into account their specific needs. The plan would include identification of and coordination in providing needed services, to include any necessary information or referral to service providers to help the household stay housed.
3. Service Needs depending on each individual's or household's circumstances. Each may need assistance in any one or combination of areas, including:
 - a. Food and nutritional needs;
 - b. Basic necessities (clothing, personal hygiene products, laundry etc.)
 - c. Transportation, or assistance in navigating public transportation;
 - d. Employment, training, workforce, and/or educational needs;
 - e. Legal needs;
 - f. Health and dental services;
 - g. Affordable childcare for households with children;
 - h. Basic life skills, such as like budgeting, working with the landlords and neighbors, household management, conflict resolution, shopping, nutrition, etc. that may have been abandoned due to homelessness;
 - i. Assistance to obtain any needed and available benefits or housing programs;
 - j. Internet access;
 - k. Securing assistance to deal with any required home modifications for individuals with disabilities.
 - l. Assistance or information to deal with any other basic service needs in order to deal with mental health issues rising from trauma and PTSD, etc. This also includes resources to deal with poor, damaged, or insufficient credit history.

Residents living in housing instability or in unstable housing situations

Since this group has many similar characteristics and overlaps with individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness their needs were discussed in tandem in that section above. Data and feedback for people of this qualifying population are not necessarily separated from those at risk, as the data does not consider the differing definitions for each HOME-ARP population. However, residents who have been previously homeless or are severely cost burdened will see an enhanced need for financial assistance in a more rapid manner. In this case, the continuation of, or even additional, funding for existing housing services and housing assistance programs is important to the housing stability of these individuals and families. The assistance required by this population would appear to be almost an exact mirror of the at-risk population.

In addition, Wichita Falls and the surrounding 4-county region of TX-624 (counties of Wichita, Palo Pinto, Wise, and Archer) has a lack of quality affordable housing available for residents in need causing cost burdens leading to housing instability. As evidenced, 66.67% of all households with extremely-low or very-low income are renting and living in the homes with housing problems. Increasing quality, affordable housing which includes no severe housing problems that also does not cost burden the tenants, would likely produce the largest impact in this population. There is also a need to assist residents living in unstable housing situations to increase their income, build savings, and acquire assets through additional supportive services in the community, but that is a common issue shared among all of the qualifying populations.

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

The City of Wichita Falls receives an annual allocation of approximately \$1.65 million in federal formula grant funding such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Grant. The city utilizes this grant funding to assist families with obtaining affordable homes, supportive services, maintaining the safety and livability of owner-occupied homes, emergency shelter, public facility and infrastructure rehabilitation, and other services. These services can and often benefit qualifying populations. Although the city uses CDBG to fund public services, to the greatest extent possible, it is restricted and often hindered by the cap of 15% of the total CDBG grant amount from offering more services. While CDBG activities can provide needed services, such as childcare; delivered meals for the elderly and disabled; and homeless services, our limited grant amount coupled with the funding cap prevents the city from doing more. In addition, while CDBG funding greatly assists the city, it is insufficient to cover the needs of organizations serving both the needs of the homeless and those of the low-to-moderate income community as a whole.

The city participates in and consults often with the Continuum of Care (CoC), which is maintained at NORTEX Regional Planning Commission. NORTEX coordinates with the 4-county area that comprises Wichita Falls and the surrounding region. The CoC Program is designed to:

- Promote a region-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness
- Seek grants and provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers to assist homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness
- Promote access to, coordinate, and effect utilization of programs by homeless individuals and families
- Sponsor self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness

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

The City of Wichita Falls, along with the Continuum of Care (CoC), the Homeless Coalition, and other agencies collaborate with non-profit organizations to analyze existing needs to assist in identifying funding gaps and other gaps in services. The Homeless Point in Time Count, organized by the Continuum of Care, annually assesses the characteristics of the homeless population in the 4-county region, which include Wichita Falls.

The CoC noted the following strengths and gaps in the city's institutional delivery system:

- Strengths:
 - High level of coordination and consultation amongst nonprofit service organizations.
- Gaps:
 - Lack of transportation and job services.
 - Need for increased mental health and substance abuse services.
 - Lack of rental assistance.
 - Need for more alcohol/drug treatment facilities.
 - Insufficient resources for mortgage and utility assistance, counseling, and financial services.
 - No tracking of data for chronically homeless men and women who reside under the bridges and in the woods.
 - Need for more coordinated case management system.
 - Limited number of shelters and little to no resources for the elderly and disabled.
 - Need more shelters and affordable housing.
 - Need transitional housing.
 - Burdensome regulations and qualifications for those needing assistance.
 - Burdensome rental qualifications for renters seeking affordable housing.

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

A previous history of homelessness is the chief reason why households often fall into homelessness when they are in a place of housing instability. Generally, homeless assistance is a last resort for households in extreme poverty because these households have few resources and limited connections to others who could offer temporary, emergency support. Additionally, when other care systems such as hospitals, behavioral health settings, child welfare, and criminal justice systems are unable to address the reasons why people cannot stay housed, people have no alternative than turning to the homeless assistance. Data to identify how people are falling into homelessness must drive and target prevention strategies and policies to address these issues.

Additionally, families with children, or unaccompanied youth who are unstably housed and likely to continue in that state, including those people who are doubled up in other people's homes because they lack a home of their own, are not considered to be experiencing homelessness by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are not eligible for its homeless assistance. These same families are, however, considered to be experiencing homelessness by the U.S. Department of Education and are eligible for additional educational services and support. People are considered to be “at risk of homelessness” if they are losing their primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel or hotel or a doubled-up situation, within the next 14 days and they lack the resources or support networks to remain in housing.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

HOME-ARP qualifying populations often have many competing needs. The needs overlap, but also vary amongst these populations. The following information covers the priority needs for each of the qualified populations.

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Populations

Priority needs of this population center on housing. Immediate housing is typically the most immediate need, with access to healthcare, counseling, and basic necessities. The City of Wichita Falls identifies the following as priority needs for homeless populations.

1. Immediate Housing Services— Moving homeless populations from the streets and into shelters is of primary import since getting people sheltered is the first step to moving them from homeless to permanently housing. Adequate functioning shelters can assist with this.
2. Support Services – This includes primarily a case management system for the identification of homeless individuals and induction into a system that assists and directs them to appropriate resources, benefits, and assistance and moves them from the streets back to permanent housing, health, and employment. Nortex Regional Planning Commission received a grant to assist with case management of homeless populations in the past, but the system needs tweaking and perfecting. The system needs to be crafted so that entry at any point of care will gain them information about and direction to other supporting programs, with appropriate assistance to sign up. This category also includes items like healthcare, dental care, mental health access, childcare, and housing counseling.
3. Housing Assistance – Individuals in this category need assistance to find housing and landlords that will rent to them, and financial assistance with application fees, deposits, and rent and utility payments until they can more ably stand on their own. Based on feedback, transitional housing would significantly benefit this populations, though it is not an approved HOME-ARP activity.
4. Basic Necessities – This includes items like basic household furnishings, personal hygiene items, and other items as may be necessary to promote housing stability.

As a subset of this population, many veterans are tasked with overcoming the burdens of war by themselves. Veterans often find themselves homeless due to a lack of knowledge regarding existing resources or a lack of access caused by transportation and other problems. The city is exploring an NCS project to assist homeless veterans in the future.

Individuals and Families at Risk of Homelessness

The city finds that at-risk and unstably housed populations also require housing assistance. Those individuals and families who are cost burdened and/or have rentals the have problems fall into homelessness as a result of their inability to pay rental fees, utilities, or basic household necessities. Priority needs here would include services that keep this individuals or families housed, such as:

1. Housing Assistance – Financial resources to assist the population in paying their rent or utilities for a period.

2. Support Services – Case management that focuses on, but is not limited to, connecting the individual or family to resources address their housing challenges or barriers to housing.

Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence or human trafficking

For persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, gaps priority needs would mirror those of homeless populations, since many in the populations find themselves without a permanent home. These needs include those of homeless populations and the at-risk and unstably housed population. However, past immediate housing being the top priority concerns will be situational and individualized. There may be additional challenges for this population given the violence and property damage that can ensue from landlords who lease to tenants of this background. Providers to this populations also identified transitional housing, and separate facilities for men, ADA accessible facilities, and individual bedrooms/bathrooms for households of this population.

The City of Wichita Falls identifies and prioritizes families or individuals of this qualifying population. This high-risk population needs increased safety measures to minimize the risk of returning to unsafe residential environments. This qualified population has a critical need for temporary shelter for safe harboring and supportive services to help them transition to permanent supportive housing. These families and individuals also need supportive services to assist them like the legal advocacy, childcare, employment services, and case management. There is a distinct need of ADA accessible and individual rooms to accommodate individuals of any gender, and families.

1. Immediate Housing Services– Moving the population out of danger into a safe environment. Adequate functioning shelters that provide individual household units that can support women, men, and/or families can assist with this.
2. Support Services – This includes primarily a case management system for induction into a system that assists and directs them to appropriate resources, benefits, and assistance and moves them from a dangerous environment into a safe and permanent home, good mental and physical health, and employment. The system needs to be crafted to respect privacy and security concerns. This category also includes items like healthcare, dental care, mental health access, childcare, and housing counseling.
3. Housing Assistance – Individuals in this category need assistance to find housing and landlords that will rent to them given the security and potential for property damage if their abuser finds them. This category includes financial assistance with application fees, deposits, and rent and utility payments until they can more ably stand on their own. Based on feedback, transitional housing would significantly benefit this population, though it is not an approved HOME-ARP activity.
4. Basic Necessities – This includes items like basic household furnishings, personal hygiene items, and other items as may be necessary to promote housing stability.

Residents living in housing instability or in unstable housing situations

The priority needs of this population are highly similar to those needing assistance to prevent homelessness or those populations at risk of homelessness, as discussed previously. Again, this

population shares many characteristics with the at-risk population. Therefore, the priority needs appear the same below:

1. Housing Assistance – Financial resources to assist the population in paying their rent or utilities for a period.
2. Support Services – Case management that focuses on, but is not limited to, connecting the individual or family to resources address their housing challenges or barriers to housing.

The city recognizes that the priority needs of each population above is not all encompassing and that there are additional needs.

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

The gaps in services and programs needed to provide shelter, housing, and services were determined using data from multiple sources. The level of need for unsheltered and sheltered households experiencing homelessness was determined by evaluating the number of unsheltered households and the level of resources available to adequately house the families or individuals with permanent supportive housing and critical long-term supportive services to achieve housing stability. For households that are currently housed but have challenges maintaining their home, the level of need was measured by the amount of inventory that had affordable, safe, and adequate living conditions and the number of renter households that are experiencing severe housing cost burdens.

HOME-ARP Activities

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

As with HOME funds, the city will use HOME-ARP funds to promote public/private partnerships as a vehicle for preserving and expanding the stock of affordable homes. HOME-ARP funds may be leveraged with private and public funding sources to support activities for supportive services, tenant-based rental assistance, and the development of non-congregate shelters. The city will continue to support eligible activities through nonprofit partners to assist very low-income households and qualifying populations. HOME-ARP funds will be awarded to nonprofit or for-profit organizations, based on the merit of proposals or applications received prior to or during the grant implementation period. For development activities and supportive services, greater preference is given to proposals or applications that have other sources of equity and financing and are in line with the city's priorities. The city opened an application period by communicating to the Continuum of Care and publishing a Notice of Availability for HOME-ARP Grant funding, with the application being placed on the website.

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

The City of Wichita Falls will not allocate funds to a subrecipient or contractor to administer the entire HOME-ARP grant. The city is prioritizing and has planned to invest in a subrecipient NCS project that will aid those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence or human trafficking. As such, this qualifying population becomes the primary preference. In addition, the city is also actively exploring other potential NCS projects that would assist other qualifying populations, such as the homeless and qualifying veterans. Housing being one of the more immediate concerns the city will give priority to these NCS projects. Administrative funds, as assigned in the plan, will remain with the City of Wichita Falls.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

Funding Category	Funding Amount	Percent Allocated	Statutory Percent Limit
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS)	\$700,000.00 (Allocated) \$714,872.00 (Unreserved for NCS Project)	90%	N/A
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$0.00	0%	N/A
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$0.00	0%	N/A
Supportive Services	\$0.00	0%	N/A
Non-Profit Operating	\$0.00	0%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$0.00	0%	5%
Administration & Planning	\$157,208.00	10%	15%

Funding Additional narrative, if applicable:

The table above shows the HOME-ARP budget, which indicates the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is allocated for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type including administrative and planning costs within HOME-ARP statutory limits. The city has chosen to invest the money in a subrecipient NCS project. Two entities approached the city with NCS plans. One had a more defined path forward, which was funded. The city placed the additional funding beyond the allocated NCS Project and Administration & Planning amounts into an unreserved NCS Project line. This will allow the city to invest in either a second NCS project or allocate further funds to the ongoing NCS project with an expected amendment next program year.

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:

The city has identified activities that will assist families and individuals of the most vulnerable qualified populations. The gap analysis shows that there is a need to strengthen the city's crisis response system

to identify those experiencing homelessness, prevent homelessness, when possible, connect people with housing quickly, and provide services when needed. However, even with the addition of HOME-ARP funds the city still has limited funding to create a lasting impact on the community. One of the major gaps in the city's homeless inventory is emergency shelter for people fleeing domestic and dating violence or human trafficking. People experiencing a housing crisis while fleeing an unsafe situation need to find a place to stay quickly. Access to this type of housing is a current gap in the system. Emergency shelter and interim housing can help to fill this gap to strengthen the crisis response system. Unlike other existing funding sources, like HOME grants, the HOME-ARP grant provides an opportunity to assist households with temporary supportive housing through the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelters. These types of shelters will not only help those experiencing homelessness, but they will prioritize families or individuals who are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence and sexual assault. Many of the families or individuals who receive assistance to mitigate homelessness or to flee violent circumstances require wrap-around services with their housing because of the compounding challenges they face. The city will continue to support organizations that provide supportive services to help program participants achieve self-sufficiency. Among the most vulnerable qualified populations in jeopardy of housing instability are families and individuals who have challenges with housing affordability.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

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

The City of Wichita Falls does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to support affordable housing.

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

The City of Wichita Falls does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to produce new rental housing.

Preferences

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

During and after the housing crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, HOME-ARP qualifying populations in Wichita Falls need support to improve their resilience. These vulnerable families and individuals experience compounded obstacles, including housing cost burden or living in poor housing conditions. Because of this, the city will use HOME-ARP to help house or keep these families/individuals housed through a non-congregate shelter.

Based in the evidence above the city will establish a priority for and give preference to families and individuals who are fleeing or are attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, or human trafficking. The city only has one shelter to house these individuals and our city has noted a significant upward trend in this type of violence. The shelter wishes to rehabilitate the facility to provide additional room for men in need of their services, as well provide adequate separate living quarters with bathrooms to those they assist. The facility currently does not have sufficient ADA accessible rooms or

single rooms to house the number of families and differently gendered individuals completely separate from each other.

It is important to give these individuals and families an option other than the streets, where they would be more susceptible to acute health concerns, further physical or sexual assault, and drug and alcohol abuse. Further, without a good option to leave, many individuals and families make the choice to stay with their abuser or quickly return to them. This makes them one of the most vulnerable populations and in need of specialized and intense services. In addition, many of the individuals fleeing have post-traumatic stress responses or fear of people of other genders, making it highly important to provide separate housing quarters for increased safety.

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

The city will establish a priority for and give preference to families and individuals who are fleeing or are attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, or human trafficking. Due to the nature of the first selected NCS project it will not specifically exclude other populations, but the inclusion will be to the extent that the other populations overlap the population being given preference. To improve the quality of life for program participants, the city will support activities that prioritize sheltering families and individuals of the qualifying population who are the most vulnerable as they are without homes and in the most immediate need of housing. This will include people with disabilities, single individuals, families, and individuals/families fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, and human trafficking. Currently, the city has a gap in single-room occupancy shelters for all individuals, individuals of different genders, and ADA accessible rooms. Current ADA accessible rooms are supporting men, which is not feasible moving forward.

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

The city did consider a project that would benefit veteran households, but determined the project was not yet ready for investment. In order to provide additional time, the city determined it was in the best interest of qualifying populations to hold NCS funds in reserve to attempt to fund this NCS project with a future amendment to this allocation plan. The city recognizes that the priority needs identified above, and the prioritization of certain activities to tackle those needs is by far, not the only needs of the community. As such, the city intends to fund programs using other programmed funds to support community goals where there is overlap with qualifying populations.

By and through investment of HOME-ARP funding into NCS projects this will rehabilitate their facilities and free up funding from other grants programs, such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Several organizations that submit qualifying applications year-after-year for rehabilitation of their facilities place a burden on the program, when the funding could go to help other qualifying populations. For instance, the city currently funds and operate three single-family rehab programs that

compete for funding with these agencies. These programs help homeowners who suffer housing problems get minor or emergency repairs to certain major systems. The city is exploring programs that could assist with two or more major systems of homeowner-occupied housing using either CDBG or the regular HOME Investment Partnership.

In addition, the city also utilizes the CDBG grant to provide nutritional assistance to low-income disabled and elderly individuals, and to provide childcare subsidies to low-income families. These programs help support low-income individuals and families who are more likely to be cost burdened, at risk of homelessness, or unstably housed. Provision of the support helps keep these needs met so that individuals can keep working to reduce shock to their household income and finances. Additionally, the city is exploring other nutritional programs that would aim to assist low-income families.

Recently, the city has funded rental and utility assistance programs using CARES Act funding through the CDBG-Coronavirus Program. This program assisted populations that closely mirror the unstably housed and at-risk populations. It provided rental assistance and arrears payments, utility payments for those struggling to meet financial obligations to stay housed. This program would unfortunately complete for limited Public Services funding through the regular CDBG Grant, but such a program could be utilized in the future to assist qualifying populations just as it has recently.

The city continues to operate a First Time Homebuyers Program, using regular HOME Investment Partnership funding, that provides down-payment and/or closing cost assistance to low-income individuals and families. This program helps to keep people stably housed as they move out of their parents' homes, or from apartments into permanent residences that they are responsible for. The program requires that recipients complete before purchase a homebuyers education course to assist them with their purchase, finances, and general knowledge of homeownership and associated maintenance activities. The program imposes a 5-year affordability period to protect the city's and federal government's investment, and to also ensure the individual or family remains housed. This helps support qualifying individuals and families and could potentially assist certain qualifying populations find permanent housing.

The city also jointly operates and funds the Wichita Falls-Wichita County Health District, which also includes the WIC Office, immunization clinics, and low-income medical assistance where possible. This program assists the community and qualifying populations with nutritional assistance, and access to limited healthcare. In addition, the city has funded for several years rehabilitation activities for the North Texas Community Healthcare Center using CDBG monies. Funding to this organization ensured continuing access to dental, medical, mental health, and substance abuse assistance. These programs are tailored for and provide a sliding scale payment system for low-income individuals.

In addition, the city continued to serve on an array of boards and assists in the coordination of activities among the Continuum of Care, Homeless Coalition, Nortex Regional Planning Commission, First Step Inc, Child Care Inc, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Faith Mission and Faith Refuge, Christmas in Action, Wichita County, Helen Farabee Centers, Wichita Falls-Wichita County Health District, WIC, Community Healthcare, Meals on Wheels – Senior Citizens Services Inc, North Texas Aging and Disability Resource

Center, Red River Center and many other nonprofits who provide assistance to individuals who fall within the definitions of the above qualifying populations.

The preference for serving families and individuals who are fleeing or are attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, or human trafficking with HOME-ARP funding is not meant to exclude homeless populations, or those at-risk and otherwise unstably housed. Future NCS projects may require an addendum to the plan that expands preference to homeless populations, but for the given NCS project selected the preference will not wholly exclude populations, as they will be accepted into the program if they overlap the population receiving preference. We anticipate other populations will have their needs better met through other more appropriate federal, state, and local resources and programs such as those funded by the city above, or through other organization within the area. The city will make referrals to appropriate programs or resources on an as needed basis. Without a coordinated access system, we are more reliant upon individuals and the high amount of coordination and cooperation between entities.

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

The City of Wichita Falls does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds. Therefore, this section is not applicable for the city.

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:

M-21-MP-48-0214

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 Wichita Falls

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

75-6000714

*** c. UEI:**

059463133000

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

1300 7th Street

Street2:

*** City:**

Wichita Falls

County/Parish:

*** State:**

TX: Texas

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

76301-2305

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Development Services

Division Name:

Neighborhood Resources

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

Prefix:

Mr.

*** First Name:**

Tim

Middle Name:

*** Last Name:**

Houston

Suffix:

Title: CDBG / HOME Program Supervisor

Organizational Affiliation:

*** Telephone Number:** 940-761-7448

Fax Number: 940-761-6845

*** Email:** tim.houston@wichitafallstx.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

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

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

*** Other (specify):**

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

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnership - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Program

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

*** Title:**

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

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

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

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

The City's HOME-ARP Program funds a range of affordable housing programs including administration, rehabilitation, acquisition assistance, & reconstruction for low-to-moderate income persons.

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 TX-013

* b. Program/Project TX-013

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

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 10/01/2021

* b. End Date: 09/30/2022

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	1,572,080.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	1,572,080.00

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

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

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

☒ ** I AGREE

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

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Paul
Middle Name:
* Last Name: Menzies
Suffix:

* Title: Assistant City Manager

* Telephone Number: 940-761-7404

Fax Number: 940-761-8833

* Email: paul.menzies@wichitafallstx.gov

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

* Date Signed: 11/8/2023

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application		* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision		* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>	
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text"/>		4. Applicant Identifier: M-22-MC-48-0214			
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>			5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>		
State Use Only:					
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>		7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>			
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:					
* a. Legal Name: City of Wichita Falls					
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 75-6000714			* c. UEI: 059463133000		
d. Address:					
* Street1: 1300 7th Street					
Street2: <input type="text"/>					
* City: Wichita Falls					
County/Parish: <input type="text"/>					
* State: TX: Texas					
Province: <input type="text"/>					
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES					
* Zip / Postal Code: 76301-2305					
e. Organizational Unit:					
Department Name: Development Services			Division Name: Neighborhood Resources		
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:					
Prefix: Mr.		* First Name: Tim			
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>					
* Last Name: Houston					
Suffix: <input type="text"/>					
Title: CDBG / HOME Program Supervisor					
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>					
* Telephone Number: 940-761-7448			Fax Number: 940-761-6845		
* Email: tim.houston@wichitafallstx.gov					

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">C: City or Township Government</div> Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> * Other (specify): <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>		
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Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

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Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Paul

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Menzies


Suffix:

* Title: Assistant City Manager

* Telephone Number: 940-761-7404 Fax Number: 940-761-8833

* Email: paul.menzies@wichitafallstx.gov

* Signature of Authorized Representative:



* Date Signed: 8/10/2022

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.

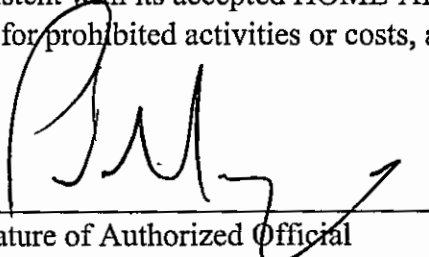
Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

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

1/8/2023
Date

Asst. City Manager
Title

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.

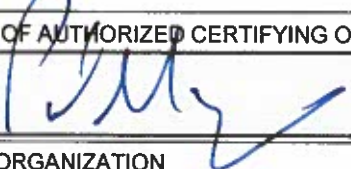
PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

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 Assistant City Manager
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Wichita Falls	DATE SUBMITTED 8/10/2022

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

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

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

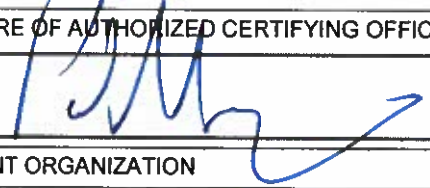
PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

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

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

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Assistant City Manager
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Wichita Falls	DATE SUBMITTED 8/10/2022

Times Record News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

CITY OF WICHITA FALLS
P O BOX 1431

WICHITA FALLS, TX 76307

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

On this June 30, 2022 AD, personally appeared before me the undersigned authority for the Times Publishing Company of Wichita Falls, publishers of the Wichita Falls in Wichita County, Texas, and of general circulation in said county, and upon being duly sworn by me, on oath states that the attached advertisement is a true and correct copy of advertising published in day (1) issues hereof on the following issue dates:

06/30/2022

Subscribed and sworn to before me on June 30, 2022

Legal Clerk

Notary Public, State of WI, County of Brown

My commission expires

SHELLY HORA
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

Publication Cost: \$815.16
Ad No: 0005318257
Customer No: 1237516
PO #: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
of Affidavits: 1
This is not an invoice

Notice of Public Hearing and Public Comment Period Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Annual Action Plan and the HOME-American Rescue Plan (ARP) Draft Allocation Plan

The Wichita Falls City Council will conduct a Public Hearing to solicit citizen comment on a Substantial Amendment to the City of Wichita Falls Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan to include the HOME-ARP Action Plan Draft at its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 8:30 A.M. in City Council Chambers, Memorial Auditorium, 1300 7th Street, Wichita Falls, Texas. The Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Annual Action Plan and HOME-ARP Draft Allocation Plan, of the Consolidated Plan 2020-2024, is a document that describes proposed activities that will assist those who are defined as homeless, at-risk of homelessness, or who are fleeing domestic or dating violence or human trafficking.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.05(c)(2) and subpart B of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Planning and Development Programs the City of Wichita Falls proposes to receive and administer a special allocation from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be used to assist those who are defined as homeless, at-risk of homelessness, or who are fleeing domestic or dating violence or human trafficking. This allocation was authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act, Public Law 117-7, and it includes a total allocation of \$1,572,080. Proposed activities to be funded are \$157,208 in Administration and Planning, \$700,000 to fund a domestic violence non-congregate shelter project, and \$714,872 unreserved to be used for a non-congregate shelter project or any other eligible project to be determined in a future reallocation of grant funds.

The City Council Subcommittee has recommended the following funding amounts after accessing the HOME-ARP funds:

HOME-ARP Program
City Projects: Grant Program Planning and Administration \$157,208.
Subrecipient Non-Congregate Shelter Project: First Step Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation \$700,000; Unreserved for future program \$714,872.

PY 2021 began on October 1, 2021 and ends on September 30, 2022, but new projects will begin in PY 2022 which begins on October 1, 2022 and ends September 30, 2023. This Public Hearing seeks input from the local community with particular emphasis on serving persons of low and moderate income. Interested parties are encouraged to attend the public hearing and provide comment during the July 19, 2022 City Council Meeting. This also serves as a notice of a 30-day citizen comment period for the proposed Substantial Amendment to the City of Wichita Falls Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan and the HOME-ARP Draft Allocation Plan that begins July 1, 2022 and ends August 1, 2022. Copies of the proposed Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Annual Action Plan and the Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be available at City Hall/Memorial Auditorium in the Neighborhood Resources Division, Room 300, 1300 7th Street, and on the City's website at <https://www.wichitafallstx.gov/161/Neighborhood-Resources>. To be considered, written public comments must be received by 8:00 AM on Monday, August 1, 2022 in the Neighborhood Resources Division at the address above. After the City Council conducts the public hearing, the public comment period ends, and the City Council considers final action on the proposed Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Annual Action Plan and the Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, the City will submit this amended document to the HUD Fort Worth Regional Office on or before August 16, 2022 for review and approval. Memorial Auditorium is handicapped accessible from both the building's front entrance on Seventh Street and the building's rear entrance adjacent to east and west parking lots off of Sixth Street. Other persons with special needs requiring accommodation should contact the Neighborhood Resources Division at 940-761-7448 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

HOME-ARP
2332412

Public Comments – Wichita Falls PY 2021 Annual Action Plan Amendment

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Section AP-05 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

7/19/2022 Meeting of the Wichita Falls City Council

5. Summary of Public Comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

The following Public Comments related to the Substantial Amendment to the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan were received during the Wichita Falls City Council meeting on July 19, 2022:

- No comments were received.