

Luzerne County HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$5 billion to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. These funds were allocated by formula to jurisdictions that qualified for funding through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This special round of funding is called the “HOME-ARP” program. In September, 2021, HUD awarded Luzerne County \$2,530,085 in HOME-ARP funds.

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

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

- Experiencing homelessness (as defined in 24 CFR 91.5 “Homeless” (1), (2), or (3))
- At risk of homelessness (as defined in 24 CFR 91.5 “At risk of homelessness”)
- Fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, (as defined in 24 CFR 5.2003)
- Other populations with high risk of housing instability (including highly cost-burdened low-income households, households who have moved two or more times in the last 60 days, and households living in a hotel/motel)

Instructions: All guidance in this template, including questions and tables, reflect requirements for the HOME-ARP allocation plan, as described in Notice CPD-21-10: *Requirements of the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program*, unless noted as optional. As the requirements highlighted in this template are not exhaustive, please refer to the Notice for a full description of the allocation plan requirements as well as instructions for submitting the plan, the SF-424, SF-424B, SF-424D, and the certifications.

References to “the ARP” mean the HOME-ARP statute at section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2).

Consultation

Before developing its HOME-ARP allocation plan, Luzerne County was required to consult with the local Continuum of Care (CoC), homeless and domestic violence service providers, veterans’ groups, public housing agencies (PHAs), public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

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

The County of Luzerne has prepared our HOME-ARP Allocation Plan in order to strategically implement the federal program that provides funding for housing activities that will benefit those individuals that are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, Domestic Violence, Stalking, Human Trafficking or those with the greatest risk of housing instability within the County of Luzerne.

The consultation process entailed one (1) public meeting, as well as discussions with local service providers, the Luzerne County Housing Authority (LCHA) and the Luzerne County Continuum of Care (CoC), the County developed this HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and application document for the use of obtaining Federal Entitlement funding being made available through the HOME-ARP Allocation.

Luzerne County identified and consulted with all appropriate social service agencies that provide services directly to the identified Qualified Populations, by letters dating from April 22, 2022, through May 19, 2022, requesting recommendations/feedback for proposed projects as related to the amendment of the 2021 Annual Action Plan to include the HOME-ARP allocation.

The agencies that received letters from Luzerne County requesting input and participated in the consultation process for the HOME-ARP allocation were:

- the Commission on Economic Opportunity
- the Housing Development Corporation of NEPA
- the Luzerne County Housing Authority
- Catholic Social Service
- Domestic Violence Service Center
- Luzerne County Continuum of Care
- Volunteers of America PA.

Luzerne County Office of Community Development staff also spoke at the May 24, 2022, CoC Board Meeting regarding the requirements for the HOME-ARP allocation and any proposed activities.

Luzerne County will submit to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan through an amendment to the 2021 Annual Action Plan.

The County consistently confers with public and private organizations to ensure that all strive and work toward addressing issues that may arise with civil rights and fair housing with the utmost concern. The Commission on Economic Opportunity, the Housing Development Corporation of NEPA, as well as the LCHA provide ongoing housing counseling and fair housing services through, not only, in person monthly workshops, but also teleconferences and

public fair housing meetings and fairs with local landlords, realtors and other housing authorities throughout the County.

The County consistently confers with the Luzerne County CoC in order to address the needs of persons with disabilities through participation in monthly CoC meetings.

Organizations consulted and Summary of Feedback:

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Luzerne County CoC	Housing Homeless Services	Letter to Chair and phone call with CoC Board during CoC meeting	Need to identify the best and safest ways to provide services winter sheltering based on more than just CODE BLUE, but from November 1 through April 30, not just when temperatures go below a certain degree. Need for mental health and drug/alcohol services in shelters; additional permanent housing units.
Commission on Economic Opportunity	Housing Homeless Services	Letter to Executive Director and phone call with staff during CoC meeting	Need to identify the best and safest ways to provide services winter sheltering based on more than just CODE BLUE, but from November 1 through April 30, not just when temperatures go below a certain degree. Need for more additional permanent homeless shelter space. Additional rental housing units.
Housing Development Corp of NEPA	Housing	Letter to President and phone call with staff during CoC meeting	Need for more additional permanent homeless shelter space. Additional rental housing units.
Domestic Violence Service Center	Domestic Violence Victims	Letter to Executive Director and phone call during CoC meeting	DVSC has identified a significant gap/unmet need within its current emergency housing/shelter

			services that could be addressed with HOME-ARP funds. DVSC is not able to meet the shelter requests/capacity demand with the current shelter structure and new normal/safe social distancing guidelines.
Catholic Social Services	Housing Homeless Services	Letter to Executive Director and phone call during CoC meeting	Need of family shelter options, housing programs that serve individuals with mental health issues, but who lack income, lack affordable housing that meets Fair Market Rent requirements, day shelter, and the inability for a congregate shelter to provide a safe place during any health and safety concerns due to the lack of funding for alternatives to congregate shelter.
Luzerne County Housing Authority	Housing PHA	Letter to Executive Director/phone call	Need for housing for people below 30% AMI that can no longer care for themselves. When the elderly and mentally ill can no longer care for themselves, there is a need for housing that can provide them with the care they require.
Volunteers of America PA	Housing Homeless Services	Letter to Executive Director and phone call during CoC meeting	VOAPA identified the following unmet needs: lack of a 24 hour, 7 day per week stationary shelter for men; a shortage of resources for couples, families with children, and persons with pets; the need for enhanced physical and mental health services; and lack of permanent supportive housing options

			for all populations. Securing safe and accessible spaces for persons who are unstably housed or experiencing homelessness.

Public Participation

In accordance with Section V.B of the Notice (page 13), PJs must provide for and encourage citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan. Before submission of the plan, PJs must provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of **no less than 15 calendar days**. The PJ must follow its adopted requirements for “reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment” for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan. In addition, PJs must hold **at least one public hearing** during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan and prior to submission.

PJs are required to make the following information available to the public:

- The amount of HOME-ARP the PJ will receive, and
- The range of activities the PJ may undertake.

Throughout the HOME-ARP allocation plan public participation process, the PJ must follow its applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements and procedures for effective communication, accessibility, and reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and providing meaningful access to participation by limited English proficient (LEP) residents that are in its current citizen participation plan as required by 24 CFR 91.105 and 91.115.

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

- ***Date(s) of public notice: 8/24/2022***
- ***Public comment period: start date - 9/1/2022 end date - 9/16/2022***
- ***Date(s) of public hearing: 9/1/2022***

Describe the public participation process:

The public had an opportunity to attend either in person or by teleconference to discuss the HOME-ARP requirements and comment accordingly, including a fifteen (15) day comment period.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

During the consultation session, participants were asked to describe what people experiencing or at greatest risk of homelessness say they need, in addition to what professionals understand to be the primary needs and opportunities in Luzerne County. Participants were encouraged to provide follow-up information or ideas as they arise, and to identify any additional stakeholders that would help enhance the process. Additionally, Luzerne County utilizes its website to inform County residents of current news, public meetings as well as all current & new programming.

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

There were no participants at the public hearing, either in person, writing, or through teleconference and no comments/recommendations were received during the public participation process.

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

There were no specific comments or recommendations during the public participation process that were not accepted.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

In accordance with Section V.C.1 of the Notice (page 14), a PJ must evaluate the size and demographic composition of **all four** of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of each of those populations. If the PJ does not evaluate the needs of one of the qualifying populations, then the PJ has not completed their Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis. In addition, a PJ must identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. A PJ should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.

OPTIONAL Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	31	9	70	9	0								
Transitional Housing	79	21	39	39	14								
Permanent Supportive Housing	62	12	40	40	104								
Other Permanent Housing	0	0	0	0	0								
Sheltered Homeless						68	58	11	11				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	0	0	0				
Current Gap										6	2	0	0

Suggested Data Sources: 1. Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation

OPTIONAL Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Non-Homeless			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	40,851		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	24,060		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	7,010		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		6,560	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		4,840	
Current Gaps			11,400

Suggested Data Sources: 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

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

Of the 175 people counted as meeting HUD's definition of homeless during the 2022 Point In Time Count, the following demographics were identified:

- 44% Male, 56 % Female, 0 % transgender and gender non-conforming;
- 54.29 % White, 23.43% Black/African American, 20% Hispanic/Latino;
- 22.29% Asian and American Indian, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and Multiple Races;
- 32.57% were under 18;
- 12% 18 to 24;
- 0% were unsheltered; and
- 2.85% were chronically homeless.

Annualizing the most recent Point In Time count results it is estimated that 752 individuals/families will experience homelessness in 2022.

Another qualifying population includes a subset of the 2,220 households, both owner occupied and rental units with at least one of four severe housing problems who are at 0-30% of the Area Median Income.

Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis: Please provide more detail regarding the size, demographic composition, housing and service needs of the following populations:

- Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD.

There are significant needs in Luzerne County for HOME-ARP eligible activities. DVSC is not able to meet the shelter requests/capacity demand with the current shelter structure and new normal/safe social distancing guidelines. The need for capital improvements or the acquisition/development of Non-Congregate Shelters, specifically for homeless men was identified. The most recent PIT count showed that DVSC has spent approximately \$5000/month for those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, sexual assault, etc. DVSC only has only a 6 unit capacity for families but had a need to shelter 11 families. Five (5) of these families had to be sheltered in hotel/motel.

- Other Populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of NAHA (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those at greatest risk of housing instability. HUD defines these

populations as individuals and households who do not qualify under any of the populations above.

The current housing situation in Luzerne County is dire for extremely-low income renters due to the on-going housing and employment issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While a number of state, federal, and local resources have been allocated to help address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, these funds will be available for a limited period of time and it is unclear what the situation will look like once the funding expires.

According to the 2014-2018 CHAS data, there are 11,400 housing units occupied by households earning less than fifty percent of area median income (AMI) with at least one of four severe housing problems. It is expected that the true number is higher based on increased demand for affordable housing in the last couple years. The lack of affordable housing is becoming an unmet need throughout Luzerne County. This includes shortages of emergency shelter and transitional housing beds, long term affordable housing, and housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.

During the consultation process with local service providers working on homeless services efforts for both this allocation and the County's 2022 Annual Action Plan, agencies noted a marked increase in the number of families and single person households needing lower cost housing.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

The current housing situation in Luzerne County is dire for extremely-low income renters due to the on-going housing and employment issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While a number of state, federal, and local resources have been allocated to help address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, these funds will be available for a limited period of time and it is unclear what the situation will look like once the funding expires.

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In addition to households that will require on-going assistance to achieve housing affordability, there are other families who suffer a temporary loss or reduction of income that places them at-risk of homelessness. Especially while filing for unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic over past two years, a household filing for unemployment may need to wait a significant period of time, up to eight weeks, to receive assistance close to half of what they were making through employment.

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:

Currently, there are 258 emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven beds. This includes 141 year-round emergency shelter beds. Not including COVID-related increased rental assistance programs, there are a total of 424 beds within 251 total units available for permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing programs as of the 2021 HIC.

Utilizing data from the local housing authority's most recent needs assessment, there are a total of 1,352 vouchers making rents affordable.

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

Although there is an adequate amount of shelter beds for homeless individuals requesting assistance, there is a gap within the system related to homeless individuals who are employed on overnight shifts and in need of a place to sleep during daytime hours. Many of the shelters are only open overnight and don't have the capacity to provide this service during the day. This makes it difficult for individuals to get the proper rest to maintain these work shifts.

A current issue relating to housing inventories is a recent population growth in the area which has resulted in a decrease in available housing stock, especially affordable housing. Many available apartments are well above HUD's established FMR for our area, and thus unattainable for our CoC Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing programs. Programs have been negotiating with area landlords and although they have been somewhat successful, especially in maintaining existing leases, etc., quickly finding housing for homeless individuals and families has been difficult.

A member of the Luzerne County Office of Community staff participates in all monthly CoC meetings and states that although there is an adequate amount of shelter beds for homeless individuals requesting assistance, there is a gap within the system related to homeless individuals who are employed on overnight shifts and in need of a place to sleep during daytime hours. Many of the shelters are only open overnight and don't have the capacity to provide this service

during the day. This makes it difficult for individuals to get the proper rest to maintain these work shifts.

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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:

HUD's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data reports that 10,695 Luzerne County households that rent and are owner occupied have at least 1 of 4 severe housing problems. These households lack safe, economically sustainable housing and are at increased risk of housing instability and homelessness. Therefore, households that spend more than 30% of their income and live in substandard housing are considered to be unstably housed and at risk of homelessness. Substandard housing is defined at 24 CFR § 5.425, which reads:

(a) *When unit is substandard.* (See § 5.415(a)(2) and (c)(2)(ii) for applicability of this section to the Moderate Rehabilitation programs.) A unit is substandard if it:

- (1) Is dilapidated;
- (2) Does not have operable indoor plumbing;
- (3) Does not have a usable flush toilet inside the unit for the exclusive use of a family;
- (4) Does not have a usable bathtub or shower inside the unit for the exclusive use of a family;
- (5) Does not have electricity, or has inadequate or unsafe electrical service;
- (6) Does not have a safe or adequate source of heat;
- (7) Should, but does not, have a kitchen; or
- (8) Has been declared unfit for habitation by an agency or unit of government.

(b) *Other definitions—*

(1) *Dilapidated unit.* A housing unit is dilapidated if:

- (i) The unit does not provide safe and adequate shelter, and in its present condition endangers the health, safety, or well-being of a family; or
- (ii) The unit has one or more critical defects, or a combination of intermediate defects in sufficient number or extent to require considerable repair or rebuilding.

The defects may involve original construction, or they may result from continued neglect or lack of repair or from serious damage to the structure.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

The priority needs among the qualifying populations are non-congregate shelter, street outreach, and affordable rental housing within Luzerne County.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, sub-recipients and/or contractors:

Luzerne County will pursue applications for funding from the agencies who have submitted public comment and expressed an interest in providing HOME-ARP eligible activities to benefit the qualified populations within Luzerne County.

Luzerne County will leverage HOME-ARP funds to create a suitable rental housing units to serve the County's HOME-ARP qualifying populations.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

At this time, the County does not intend to administer eligible activities directly. The County will provide HOME-ARP funds to sub-recipients and non-profit developers to administer eligible activities directly.

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

Luzerne County did not provide any HOME-ARP administrative funds to a sub-recipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the County's HOME-ARP allocation plan for the development of this plan.

In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 0.00		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 0.00		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0.00		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$1,897,563.75		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 126,504.25	5 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 126,504.25	5 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 379,512.75	15 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 2,530,085.00		

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

The County of Luzerne will allocate the bulk of its allocation (75%) to support the development of rental housing units. Fifteen (15%) will be allocated for the administration of HOME-ARP programming. An additional ten (10%) will be allocated for non-profit operating and capacity building

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:

A review of the gap analysis for shelter, affordable and supportive housing, as well as feedback and experiences from those working to end homelessness within the County, provide the rationale for funding the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelters and additional affordable rental housing units, as well as supportive services in order to help end homelessness and those who experience possible homelessness.

There are significant needs in Luzerne County for HOME-ARP eligible activities. The need for capital improvements or acquisition/development of non-congregate shelters, specifically for homeless men was identified by nearly every respondent.

While safe, decent and affordable supportive housing can help reduce long-term shelter stays, unsheltered homelessness, and provide a safe and affordable place to recover from substance abuse, mental illness and other disabling conditions, Luzerne County is aware that existing shelter and housing programs are not adequately funded in operations or services to meet the needs of the population they were created to serve.

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 County estimates that it will produce or support 8 affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations.

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

The County of Luzerne is in need of additional affordable rental housing due to the rising number of the elderly population who can no longer afford living in their single family homes due to inflation as well as ever rising property and school tax rates.

Preferences

A preference provides a priority for the selection of applicants who fall into a specific QP or category (e.g., elderly or persons with disabilities) within a QP (i.e., subpopulation) to receive assistance. A *preference* permits an eligible applicant that qualifies for a PJ-adopted preference to be selected for HOME-ARP assistance before another eligible applicant that does not qualify for a preference. A *method of prioritization* is the process by which a PJ determines how two or more eligible applicants qualifying for the same or different preferences are selected for HOME-ARP assistance. For example, in a project with a preference for chronically homeless, all eligible QP applicants are selected in chronological order for a HOME-ARP rental project except that eligible QP applicants that qualify for the preference of chronically homeless are selected for occupancy based on length of time they have been homeless before eligible QP applicants who do not qualify for the preference of chronically homeless.

Please note that HUD has also described a method of prioritization in other HUD guidance. Section I.C.4 of Notice CPD-17-01 describes Prioritization in CoC CE as follows:

“Prioritization. In the context of the coordinated entry process, HUD uses the term “Prioritization” to refer to the coordinated entry-specific process by which all persons in need of assistance who use coordinated entry are ranked in order of priority. The coordinated entry prioritization policies are established by the CoC with input from all community stakeholders and must ensure that ESG projects are able to serve clients in accordance with written standards that are established under 24 CFR 576.400(e). In addition, the coordinated entry process must, to the maximum extent feasible, ensure that people with more severe service needs and levels of vulnerability are prioritized for housing and homeless assistance before those with less severe

service needs and lower levels of vulnerability. Regardless of how prioritization decisions are implemented, the prioritization process must follow the requirements in Section II.B.3 and Section I.D. of this Notice.”

If a PJ is using a CE that has a method of prioritization described in CPD-17-01, then a PJ has preferences and a method of prioritizing those preferences. These must be described in the HOME-ARP allocation plan in order to comply with the requirements of Section IV.C.2 (page 10) of the HOME-ARP Notice.

In accordance with Section V.C.4 of the Notice (page 15), the HOME-ARP allocation plan must identify whether the PJ intends to give a preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project.

- Preferences cannot violate any applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a).
- The PJ must comply with all applicable nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws and requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a) and any other applicable fair housing and civil rights laws and requirements when establishing preferences or methods of prioritization.

While PJs are not required to describe specific projects in its HOME-ARP allocation plan to which the preferences will apply, the PJ must describe the planned use of any preferences in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. This requirement also applies if the PJ intends to commit HOME-ARP funds to projects that will utilize preferences or limitations to comply with restrictive eligibility requirements of another project funding source. **If a PJ fails to describe preferences or limitations in its plan, it cannot commit HOME-ARP funds to a project that will implement a preference or limitation until the PJ amends its HOME-ARP allocation plan.**

For HOME-ARP rental housing projects, Section VI.B.20.a.iii of the HOME-ARP Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility or give a preference to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation or preference is described in the PJ’s HOME-ARP allocation plan. Adding a preference or limitation not previously described in the plan requires a substantial amendment and a public comment period in accordance with Section V.C.6 of the Notice (page 16).

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:

The County does not intend to give preference to one or more qualifying populations but rather intends to provide services to every individual that meets the definition of a “qualifying population”.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and

families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

NA

Referral Methods

PJs are not required to describe referral methods in the plan. However, if a PJ intends to use a coordinated entry (CE) process for referrals to a HOME-ARP project or activity, the PJ must ensure compliance with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

A PJ may use only the CE for direct referrals to HOME-ARP projects and activities (as opposed to CE and other referral agencies or a waitlist) if the CE expands to accept all HOME-ARP qualifying populations and implements the preferences and prioritization established by the PJ in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. A direct referral is where the CE provides the eligible applicant directly to the PJ, sub recipient, or owner to receive HOME-ARP TBRA, supportive services, admittance to a HOME-ARP rental unit, or occupancy of a NCS unit. In comparison, an indirect referral is where a CE (or other referral source) refers an eligible applicant for placement to a project or activity waitlist. Eligible applicants are then selected for a HOME-ARP project or activity from the waitlist.

The PJ must require a project or activity to use CE along with other referral methods (as provided in Section IV.C.2.ii) or to use only a project/activity waiting list (as provided in Section IV.C.2.iii) if:

1. the CE does not have a sufficient number of qualifying individuals and families to refer to the PJ for the project or activity;
2. the CE does not include all HOME-ARP qualifying populations; or,
3. the CE fails to provide access and implement uniform referral processes in situations where a project's geographic area(s) is broader than the geographic area(s) covered by the CE

If a PJ uses a CE that prioritizes one or more qualifying populations or segments of qualifying populations (e.g., prioritizing assistance or units for chronically homeless individuals first, then prioritizing homeless youth second, followed by any other individuals qualifying as homeless, etc.) then this constitutes the use of preferences and a method of prioritization. To implement a CE with these preferences and priorities, the PJ **must** include the preferences and method of prioritization that the CE will use in the preferences section of their HOME-ARP allocation plan. Use of a CE with embedded preferences or methods of prioritization that are not contained in the PJ's HOME-ARP allocation does not comply with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project

Limiting eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project is only permitted under certain circumstances.

- PJs must follow all applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a). This includes, but is not limited to, the Fair Housing Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, section 504 of Rehabilitation Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable.
- A PJ may not exclude otherwise eligible qualifying populations from its overall HOME-ARP program.
- Within the qualifying populations, participation in a project or activity may be limited to persons with a specific disability only, if necessary, to provide effective housing, aid, benefit, or services that would be as effective as those provided to others in accordance with 24 CFR 8.4(b)(1)(iv). A PJ must describe why such a limitation for a project or activity is necessary in its HOME-ARP allocation plan (based on the needs and gap identified by the PJ in its plan) to meet some greater need and to provide a specific benefit that cannot be provided through the provision of a preference.
- For HOME-ARP rental housing, section VI.B.20.a.iii of the Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation is described in the PJ's HOME-ARP allocation plan.
- PJs may limit admission to HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS to households who need the specialized supportive services that are provided in such housing or NCS. However, no otherwise eligible individuals with disabilities or families including an individual with a disability who may benefit from the services provided may be excluded on the grounds that they do not have a particular disability.

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

The County does not intend to limit eligibility to one or more of the qualifying populations but rather with the intentions to provide services to every individual that meets the definition of "qualifying population".

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

NA

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

NA

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

If the PJ intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, the PJ must state its HOME-ARP refinancing guidelines in accordance with [24 CFR 92.206\(b\)](#). The guidelines must describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt for a HOME-ARP rental project, including:

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

The County does not plan on refinancing any existing debt at this time.

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

NA

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

NA

- *Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.*

NA

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

NA

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

NA

PUBLIC MEETING

LUZERNE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Luzerne County Office of Community Development will hold a public meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2022 in the Council Meeting Room of the Luzerne County Courthouse, 200 North River Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA. To access this meeting by teleconference please call 1-570-340-0615 and enter access code 148193121.

. The purpose of the meeting is as follows:

- Review performance of the previous year's projects.
- To obtain input to a proposed amendment to the County's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan/2020 Action Plan for the CDBG-CV Program - Transfer \$408,250 from CDBG-CV Public Service to CDBG-CV Homeless Facilities
- To obtain input to a proposed amendment to the County's 2021 Action Plan for HOME-ARP funds in the amount of \$2,530,085. Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include: (1) development and support of affordable housing; (2) tenant-based rental assistance; (3) provision of supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, child care, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental application, and rent assistance; and (4) acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.
- To provide input on the County's priorities for the 2023 Action Plan. The 2023 Action Plan identifies the County's overall needs for affordable and supportive housing, along with non-housing and community development needs. Program funding utilized by the County to address these needs, through the Office of Community Development, includes the Community Development Block Grant Program – estimated grant amount \$4,049,063, the Home Investment Partnerships Program – estimated grant amount \$853,853, and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program – estimated grant amount \$351,813. If there is an increase in the actual allocations, the additional funds will be applied to activities that did not receive their requested amount, not to exceed the amount requested. If a balance remains, it will be applied to all activities proportionally. If there is a decrease in the actual allocations, it will be applied to all activities proportionally.

All persons and agencies are invited to participate and present their views and comments. The County's draft Action Plan will be available for review beginning on Friday, October 14, 2022 at the Luzerne County office of Community Development, 54 West Union Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The plan will also be available on the County's website (www.luzernecounty.org), and at the following locations: Luzerne County Housing Authority, Osterhaut Free Library and Hazleton Area Public Library, or by sending a request by mail, e-mail (luzcoocd@luzernecounty.org) or faxing 570-829-2910. If unable to attend the meeting, citizens are encouraged to hand deliver or mail their comments in writing on the Amendments by September 14, 2022 and on the draft Action Plan by November 15, 2022, to the Office of Community Development. The finalized Amendments will be submitted to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development no earlier than Friday, October 15, 2021 and the final Action Plan will be submitted within 60 days after the date allocations are announced by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Luzerne County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, familial or disabled status, in employment or the provision of services. **EHO**



BY ORDER OF: Randy Robertson, County Manager

The Citizens Voice (Under act P.L. 877 No 160. July 9,1976)
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Luzerne

September 19, 2022

Luzerne County Office of Community
54 W Union Street
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701

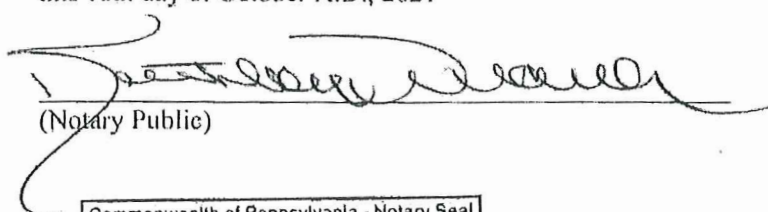
Account # 188549
Order # 82658449
Ad Price: 260.16

PUBLIC MEETING
Betzaida Cajigas

Being duly sworn according to law deposes and says that (s)he is Billing clerk for The Citizens Voice, owner and publisher of The Citizens Voice, a newspaper of general circulation, established in 1978, published in the city of Wilkes-Barre, county and state aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication hereto attached is exactly as printed in the regular editions of the said newspaper on the following dates:

08/24/2022

Affiant further deposes and says that neither the affiant nor The Citizens Voice is interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement and that all allegations in the foregoing statement as time, place and character or publication are true Betzaida Cajigas
Sworn and subscribed to before me
this 18th day of October A.D., 2021


(Notary Public)

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Kathleen Weaver, Notary Public
Lackawanna County
My commission expires June 14, 2025
Commission number 1314506
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

PUBLIC MEETING LUZERNE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Luzerne County Office of Community Development will hold a public meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2022 in the Council Meeting Room of the Luzerne County Courthouse, 200 North River Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA. To access this meeting by teleconference please call 1-570-340-0615 and enter access code 148193121. This meeting cancels the August 30th, 2022 meeting that was previously scheduled:

The purpose of the meeting is as follows:

- Review performance of the previous year's projects.
- To obtain input to a proposed amendment to the County's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan/2020 Action Plan for the CDBG-CV Program - Transfer \$408,250 from CDBG-CV Public Service to CDBG-CV Homeless Facilities
- To obtain input to a proposed amendment to the County's 2021 Action Plan for HOME-ARP funds in the amount of \$2,530,085. Eligible activities that may be funded with HOME-ARP include: (1) development and support of affordable housing; (2) tenant-based rental assistance; (3) provision of supportive services (such as housing counseling, homelessness prevention, child care, job training, legal services, case management, moving costs, rental application, and rent assistance; and (4) acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.
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Luzerne County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, familial or disabled status, in employment or the provision of services. EHO



BY ORDER OF:
Randy Robertson, County Manager

PUBLIC MEETING

LUZERNE COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Proposed Amendments to Fy 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan/FY2020 CDBG-CV Program, Proposed
Amendment to FY 2021 Action Plan for HOME-ARP,
Review Performance of Previous Year's Projects &
2023 Action Plan

Thursday, September 1, 2022, 4:00 p.m.
In Person & Confernece Call

NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL
1	NO ATTENDEES	
2		
3		
4		
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15		

Applicant Assurances and Certifications

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

OMB Approval No. 2501-0017
(expires 01/31/2016)

Instructions for the HUD-424-B Assurances and Certifications

As part of your application for HUD funding, you, as the official authorized to sign on behalf of your organization or as an individual must provide the following assurances and certifications. By submitting this form, you are stating that to the best of your knowledge and belief, all assertions are true and correct.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant [Insert below the Name and title of the Authorized Representative, name of Organization and the date of signature]:

Name: Randy Robertson, Title: County Manager,
Organization: Luzerne County, Date: _____.

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, has the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds to pay the non-Federal share of program costs) to plan, manage and complete the program as described in the application and the governing body has duly authorized the submission of the application, including these assurances and certifications, and authorized me as the official representative of the applicant to act in connection with the application and to provide any additional information as may be required.
2. Will administer the grant in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000(d)) and implementing regulations (24 CFR Part 1), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance OR if the applicant is a Federally recognized Indian tribe or its tribally designated housing entity, is subject to the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C. 1301-1303).
3. Will administer the grant in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 8, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-07), as amended, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 146 which together provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of disability or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance; except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.
4. Will comply with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 100, which prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin; except an applicant which is an Indian tribe or its instrumentality which is excluded by statute from coverage does not make this certification; and further except if the grant program authorizes or limits participation to designated populations, then the applicant will comply with the nondiscrimination requirements within the designated population.

5. 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) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24 and 24 CFR 42, Subpart A.
6. Will comply with the environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and related Federal authorities prior to the commitment or expenditure of funds for property acquisition and physical development activities subject to implementing regulations at 24 CFR parts 50 or 58.
7. That no Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of this Federal grant or its extension, renewal, amendment or modification. If funds other than Federal appropriated funds have or will be paid for influencing or attempting to influence the persons listed above, I shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying. I certify that I shall require all sub awards at all tiers (including sub-grants and contracts) to similarly certify and disclose accordingly. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) established by Federally-recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage by the Byrd Amendment, but State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established under State law are not excluded from the statute's coverage.

These certifications and assurances are material representations of the fact upon which HUD can rely when awarding a grant. If it is later determined that, I the applicant, knowingly made an erroneous certification or assurance, I may be subject to criminal prosecution. HUD may also terminate the grant and take other available remedies.

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: <input type="text"/>			
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: M-22-UP-42-0211			5b. Federal Award Identifier: M-22-UP-42-0211		
State Use Only:					
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>		7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>			
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:					
* a. Legal Name: Luzerne County					
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 24-6000731			c. Universal Entity Identifier GGZYE9C2M6D5		
d. Address:					
* Street1:		200 North River Street			
Street2:		<input type="text"/>			
* City:		Wilkes-Barre			
County/Parish:		<input type="text"/>			
* State:		PA			
Province:		<input type="text"/>			
* Country:		USA: UNITED STATES			
* Zip / Postal Code:		18711-1499			
e. Organizational Unit:					
Department Name: Community Development			Division Name: Admin Services		
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:					
Prefix:		Mr.	* First Name:		Andrew
Middle Name:		D.			
* Last Name:		Reilly			
Suffix:		<input type="text"/>			
Title:		Executive Director			
Organizational Affiliation: Community Development					
* Telephone Number:		570.824.7214	Fax Number:		570.829.2910
* Email:		andy.reilly@luzernecounty.org			

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

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

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan

* 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 HOME ARP allocation will fund the following projects: development and support of affordable housing, tenant-based rental assistance, provision of supportive services and acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

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

8

* b. Program/Project

8 & 9

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:

09/30/2030

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal

2,530,085.00

* b. Applicant

* c. State

* d. Local

* e. Other

* f. Program Income

* g. TOTAL

2,530,085.00

* 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 218, Section 1001)

☒ ** I AGREE

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

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Randy

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Robertson

Suffix:

* Title:

County Manager

* Telephone Number:

570.825.1635

Fax Number:

570.820.6362

* Email:

randy.robertson@luzernecounty.org

* Signature of Authorized Representative:



* Date Signed:

9/21/22

ASSURANCES - 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 (0348-0042), 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 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 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 interest in the title of real property in accordance with 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 progress 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 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).
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.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL		TITLE	
		County Manager	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		DATE SUBMITTED	
Luzerne County		9/21/22	

HOME-ARP CERTIFICATIONS

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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



Signature of Authorized Official

9/24/22

Date

County Manager

Title