

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

During the early part of PY 2021, the Essex County Division of Housing and Community Development cautiously navigated through the uncertainties resulting from the Covid pandemic and staffing issues that occurred during PY 2020. During the second half of PY 2021, certain uncertainties dissipated and we implemented strategies which spurred greater activity and should yield positive results during PY 2022. A diminished need to avoid face to face interactions has also enabled staff to work more effectively with our sub recipients and consumers. For CDBG, agencies that address an increased demand for certain services as a result of the pandemic have received both CDBG and CDBG CV financial support. For CDBG funded capital projects, towns and agencies are no longer slowed by Covid concerns, though many activities are costing more due to rising material costs and shortages for raw materials and equipment. To address timeliness, the division initiated a reprogramming of funds from non active projects to activities which are timed to start in August and September of 2022. It is further noted that several sub recipients either completed or started capital activities during the two month period after the timeliness benchmark date of March 31, and before our May 31, 2022 closing date for PY 2021. To address a renewed interest in our Home Improvement Program by homeowners who are no longer isolating themselves, as well as higher labor and material costs, the Division initiated an update of its HIP policies and procedures during PY 2021; a proposed increase for the maximum funding amount from \$25,000 up to \$35,000 was formerly approved in July 2022. For HOME, Covid effectively delayed the completion of two projects that ultimately were finished in June 2022. Recent material cost and interest rate spikes have also delayed the start of two activities for which the Division is prepared to support with HOME loans. For ESG and ESG CV, we patiently reserved our funds for the expected demand for rental assistance. However, the consistent extension of eviction moratoriums through to the end of December 2021, the subsequent backlog of court cases, and the substantial amount of rental assistance being expended through the ERAP program, motivated the Division to consider alternative eligible uses for these funds. As a result, expenditures increased during late PY 2021 into early PY 2022, with an expectation that all or most of available funds will be fully disbursed by the end of PY 2022. In summary, positive momentum during the second half of PY 2021 is expected to launch a productive PY 2022.

Notes re IDIS reports vs actual 2021 expenditures/accomplishments:

The total expenditures reported by IDIS via the PR 23 report is \$ 198,680 higher than the actual expenditures reported by the Division during PY 2021. This difference is attributable to the inclusion of certain activities in IDIS because of project misclassification. We are presently clearing

these items with an expectation that the actual expenditures will be in sync with the PR 23 report. At this time the delta can be attributed to certain CDBG CV activities being counted (\$167,734) and a misclassified HIP expenditure (\$30,946)

For accomplishments, an aggregate difference of 1,950 persons is attributed to erroneous including of a project in Orange which has not been completed (1560), certain CDBG CV activities being counted (372) and a misclassified HIP activity (18)

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Create and Retain Affordable Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	66	22	33.33%	12	0	0.00%
Create and Retain Affordable Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	60	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%
Create and Retain Affordable Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	0	0				

Create and Retain Affordable Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	45	16	35.56%	15	10	66.67%
Create and Retain Affordable Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	0	0		2	0	0.00%
Economic Development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	0	0				
Economic Development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	0				
Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	212	240	113.21%	136	222	163.24%
Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	801	1590	198.50%	2954	1361	46.07%
Homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	153	11	7.19%	160	7	4.38%

Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	57162	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	3253	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	190	0	0.00%			

Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	25	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	25	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	42	0	0.00%			

Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	160	0	0.00%			
Planning and Administration	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	30	0	0.00%			
Public Facility Sustainability	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	205810	18255	8.87%	12273	4914	40.04%
Public Infrastructure Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	80000	25457	31.82%	14990	12417	82.84%

Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0			0	0	
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	16269	35765	219.84%	9162	15174	165.62%
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	950	534	56.21%	510	534	104.71%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

See attached beneficiary summary for reconciliation of completed PY 2021 CDBG activities and reported IDIS outcomes.

For Affordable Housing, no HOME projects were completed during PY 2021, but two activities delayed by Covid and processing issues, Project Live (75 Lincoln Av, Newark, 10 total units, 3 County HOME SRO units) and Children's Aid and Family Services (Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, group home with 5 units) were officially closed out in June 2022 and will be recognized in next years report. These projects provide affordable housing for persons with special needs who struggled during the pandemic. A new construction project was ongoing at the end of PY

2021 (West Market /Georgia King Village) that will provide 78 affordable units and a wellness center managed by University Hospital. Other HOME activities in Verona and the Oranges may break ground during PY 2022. It is difficult to match up income eligible first time home buyers with viable Essex County homes, but one closing is scheduled for August.

The CDBG Home Improvement Program (HIP) finished 10 projects (vs 6 for PY 2021) totaling \$222,156 (3 Belleville, 3 Maplewood, 2 Montclair, West Orange, and Essex Fells). Future activity should rise given that homeowners are less reluctant to isolate themselves, we are renewing in person workshops, and an increase for max funding was authorized in July 2022.

No CDBG funds for Economic Development as alternative public/private funding is more effective for assisting businesses.

CDBG public facility/improvement projects reflected our commitment to enhance ADA accessibility, and address two national issues - roadway infrastructure and water main improvements. As towns rebounded from Covid related issues, the pace for starting public facility activities revved up in the spring such that many will be finished in PY 2022. Despite pandemic challenges that intensified the demand for services and/or depleted staffs, our non profit agencies sustained their commitment to assist consumers in a timely manner. Counselors for mental health and domestic violence victims, and housing related agencies were taxed by an increased demand for services. Agencies mentoring children or delivering other educational services adopted new strategies to help students recover from a disjointed online educational. The County is committed to supporting agencies that help residents address pandemic related issues.

ESG expenditures nearly doubled during PY 2021 vs PY 2020 with significant activity for shelter operations and rapid housing. SAGE reports that regular ESG activities assisted 1649 persons. Homeless prevention activity remained sluggish as a moratorium on evictions extended through January 2022, tenant landlord cases were subsequently backlogged and the infusion of alternative, less regulated federal resources has effectively replaced ESG in the short term. The County will utilize available ESG CV and CDBG CV funds to support shelters which are assisting a homeless population and consumers struggling with Covid related depleted incomes and/or higher occupancy costs

CDBG CV expenditures totaled \$167,734 during PY 2021 (plus \$95,000 expended in June 2022). Expenditures are lower than expected, due in part to available alternative federal resources. Moving forward a recent RFP for reallocating a portion of CDBG CV funds , combined with the depletion of alternative resources should yield a greater use of CDBG CV funds. ESG CV expenditures totaled \$294,851 in PY 2021 (plus \$465,685 vouchered in June 2022). ESG CV activities should increase as backlogged tenant vs. landlord cases begin to be processed.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME	ESG
White	10,855	0	279
Black or African American	9,760	0	1,267
Asian	423	0	7
American Indian or American Native	23	0	25
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	26	0	7
Total	21,087	0	1,585
Hispanic	2,828	0	312
Not Hispanic	19,846	0	1,341

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Racial and ethnic data is available for CDBG activities that provide a direct benefit to limited clientele as well as for ADA activities carried out by local municipalities. For area benefit activities that account for 10,905 persons assisted, we have income data but no demographics. It is noted that we collect data on multi racial persons, a category for which the CAPER does not provide. Adding that category would identify 1597 persons assisted through CDBG as multi racial. The percentage of Hispanics for CDBG services is 12% which is less than the 24% for the total population of all 22 County municipalities, including the four municipalities that receive funds independently of the 18 consortium towns. We will investigate further as to the Hispanic population for just the 18 Consortium municipalities.

No HOME projects were completed during PY 2021 but two did close out in June 2022 and will be accounted for in next year's CAPER.

It is noted that we collect data on multi racial persons, a category for which the CAPER does not provide. Adding that category would identify 1597 persons assisted through CDBG as multi racial.

ESG ethnicity and race statistics are based on SAGE report. The percentage of Hispanics served = 19% which is comparable to the demographics for Essex County.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	5,722,860	2,463,083
HOME	public - federal	1,361,051	98,476
ESG	public - federal	466,561	498,945

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

CDBG resources for PY 2021 = award of \$5,582,860 + 140,000 estimated HIP Program Income = \$5,722,860. PY 2021 CDBG expenditures included \$1,252,859 for Public Infrastructure (vs. \$1,201,693 for PY 2020; \$248,020 for Public Facilities (vs. \$891,246 in PY 2020), \$668,234 for Public Service (vs. \$831,882 for PY 2020), \$222,156 for Home Improvement activities and \$71,814 for Planning/Admin.

Allocations for road projects slightly increased but public facility activities were disappointingly delayed or revisited due to local municipal staffing issues, higher than expected cost estimates and material shortages. However these activities measurably started to pick up in the spring of 2022 and we anticipate several public facility projects will be completed and funded this summer. Public service expenditures were fully expended but lower than last year, primarily because two historical sub recipients elected not to apply for funding in PY 2022.

Potential HOME resources included the PY 2021 award of \$1,249,089 + projected \$111K from program income). HOME expenditures = \$98,476 for two activities that were ultimately completed after PY 2021 ended. For HOME, at the beginning of PY 2021, we also had access to funding from uncommitted entitlement funds of \$2,832,598 that were allocated in prior years. All of these funds have been set aside for other activities that are ongoing as of the end of PY 2021 or are scheduled to break ground in PY 2022.

ESG expenditures of \$498,945 during PY 2021 included admin of \$33,043 and drawdowns from various program years. i

In addition to regular CDBG and ESG funding, we expended CDBG CV and ESG CV funds during PY 2021. CDBG CV expenditures totaled \$167,734 during PY 2021 (plus \$95,000 expended in June 2022). Expenditures are lower than expected, due in part to available alternative federal resources. Moving forward a recent RFP for reallocating a portion of CDBG CV funds, combined with the depletion of alternative resources should yield a greater use of CDBG CV funds. ESG CV expenditures totaled \$294,851 in PY 2021 (plus \$465,685 vouchered in June 2022). ESG CV activities should increase as backlogged tenant vs. landlord cases begin to be processed.

It is noted the total expenditures reported by IDIS via the PR 23 report is \$198,680 higher the actual expenditures reported by the Division during PY 2021. This difference is attributable to the erroneous inclusion of certain activities in IDIS because of project misclassification. We are presently clearing these items with an expectation that the actual expenditures will be in sync with the PR 23 report. These items are summarized in the attached table.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Essex County HOME Consortium	100	100	Essex County geographic area
Essex Urban County	100	100	18 Communities within the Urban County

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

CDBG program activities service residents/consumers in the 18 municipalities of the Essex County Consortium; the remaining four County municipalities, namely Bloomfield, East Orange, Irvington and Newark, receive CDBG entitlements independent of the consortium. ESG funding may be utilized throughout the entire County. HOME program is focused on consortium towns plus Bloomfield, which has linked together with the Consortium for HOME activities. For special circumstances, the County may collaborate with the other three towns to expend HOME funds in those locations subject to various criteria and a commitment to making any and all affordable housing units available to residents throughout the County.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

As no HOME projects were officially completed during PY 2021, we are not recognizing any match contributions for PY 2021, nor are we reporting any MBE/WBR data. Historically, HOME matching contributions are recognized for from lower than market rate loans, property tax savings via PILOTs, and housing funds contributed by local municipalities. Due to the Covid pandemic, no match liability was assessed for PY 2021. HOME funded projects are generally leveraged with Housing Trust funds from municipalities, LIHTC investment by tax credit investors, NJ HMFA loans, and private sector lenders. The County is generally a minor partner providing gap financing for large scale development projects, which are primarily funded by NJHMFA funds, tax credit investors, commercial lenders, local municipal housing funds, etc. For smaller rehabilitation projects of group homes, the County funds may be leveraged with the sub recipient's resources, state funds, commercial lenders, etc. As per HOME regs, the subrecipient should provide a matching contribution equal to a minimum of 25% of the HOME award. Eligible matching contributions include but are not limited to other non Federal funding, present value of lower than conventional interest rates, property tax savings as per PILOT agreements or waivers, and municipal housing trust funds.

For CDBG capital projects, the CDBG funding is generally leveraged with municipal or agency resources, as well as state funding for larger projects. For CDBG public service projects, the CDBG funding is subsidizing a portion of operating costs and is leveraged with agency resources and/or grant funding/donations.

For ESG activities, the ESG funding is leveraged with agency operating resources, funding from alternative shelter programs, and/or grant funding/donations. As per ESG regs, the sub recipient must identify matching funds equal to the amount of the grant award. Note that the matching requirement is waived for ESG CV funding.

No public land or property was used per se to address the needs identified in the plan. However ADA improvements were completed at several public locations (parks, road curb intersections, ect.) throughout the County in order to provide assistance to persons with disabilities.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	6,188,219
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	6,188,219
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	6,188,219

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
19,648	98,016	0	0	117,664

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
Number	0	0	0			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired		0		0		
Businesses Displaced		0		0		
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0		0		
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0		0		
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	5	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	311	237
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	5	0
Total	321	237

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	296	227
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	16	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	23	10
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	2	0
Total	337	237

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The projected number for homeless persons to be provided affordable housing was erroneously based on shelter projections last year and have been adjusted to reflect that certain HOME projects are setting aside some units just for homeless persons.

oNo HOME based results are reported, primarily because the Children's Aid and Family Services and Project Live rehabilitation projects were delayed due to the COVID pandemic and other issues delayed

the respective contractors from finishing these activities. As a result, both these projects which provide housing for persons with special needs were officially completed in early June of 2022, and therefore not recognized as completed activities for PY 2021. Specifically, 3 HOME units from Project Live and the 5 person group home for CAFS will be listed as completed HOME activities in next year's report. No other projects were completed during PY 2021 but the Georgia King Village HOME activity was started during PY 2021. This development project will create 78 affordable units, of which 5 are designated as County HOME assisted units for low and extremely low income persons.

During PY 2021 we set aside \$100,000 for First Time Home Buyers. To date it has been difficult to match up an income eligible buyer with a home purchase in one of the Consortium municipalities. No first time home purchases were executed during PY 2021 but a closing on a FTHB project is scheduled for August 2022.

The CDBG funded Home Improvement program rehabilitated 10 homes for income eligible residents during PY 2021 and should generate more projects during PY 2022 because a Covid based reluctance of homeowners to meet with staff and contractors is diminished, and we are renewing offsite workshops and expediting the application process.

For ESG, the sustained social and financial impact of Covid has generated a greater demand for assistance from participating agencies dedicated to serving those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. However their ability to do so utilizing ESG funds during PY 2021 has been negatively impacted due to depleted staffs for health and quarantine reasons, landlords who were less eager to welcome new tenants (rapid rehoming) during the pandemic and/or similarly reluctant to retain existing tenants (homeless prevention) because they can collect a higher rent if the existing tenant departs, and a longer than anticipated moratorium on evictions that ended Jan 1, 2022, and a backlog of tenant vs. landlord cases that has delayed the need to expend ESG rental assistance.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Based on the productivity reported for PY 2021, we are motivated to build on what we have in the pipeline while creatively revitalizing all our programs. For HOME, we have several HOME projects that were nearly completed or underway at the end of PY 2021, and two other major projects that will likely receive commitments during PY 202. We are also prepared to reenergize the production of affordable housing by assisting developers who are presently forced to modify their plans because of rising construction costs, interest rates, material shortages, and shipping delays due in part to Covid and other global factors. For ESG, we are strongly motivated to work with our network of agencies to expend both ESG and ESG CV funds; the replenishing of staff should enable these agencies to aggressively assist consumers as the eviction moratorium has expired and the backlog of tenant – landlord cases have started to be processed. For CDBG, we are focused on raising the efficiency and productivity of the HIP program, beginning with an increase in the maximum funding allowed to address higher construction costs, a recommitment to offsite workshops, and greater promotion of our online HIP program software.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	3,287	0
Low-income	20,607	0
Moderate-income	4,454	0
Total	28,348	0

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Persons identified for completed CDBG activities are based on data from service agencies, census data for ADA activities, and surveys of HIP homeowners.

HOME numbers based on income surveys, and match up with the income restrictions for the designated County HOME assisted units.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The CoC and the County utilize street outreach agencies and programs to ensure that the largest congregation locations by volume (Penn Station, Hospitals, welfare offices, etc.) are constantly canvassed, and that persons in need access relevant programs and services. The County utilizes WAVE vans to conduct pickups at certain locations so that people can be transported to social service at scheduled times for low or no cost. In January the County conducts its Point in Time and Homeless Connect Day to provide an additional opportunity for people to voice their needs and access basic services on the spot. As a result of these efforts, the County hopes to identify and respond to emerging needs of this community.

The County and CoC utilize its local HMIS system to analyze and prioritize agencies for funding and other resources by identifying those agencies who have measurably helped reduce homelessness throughout the County. These evidence-based methods have shifted the focus of all funding opportunities to ensure that dollars are spent efficiently, and support collaborations that deliver effective outcomes for the homeless. Utilizing uniform assessment tools, the homeless can begin the process of ending their homelessness at a singular entry point for initial assessment and subsequent referral to an open bed or services. The NJHMIS system can then be updated and immediately a bed and/or case management appointment can be reserved and forwarded to the and should greatly improve outcomes. For 2021, Coc has communicated its goal to work with agencies to improve both the quality and timeliness of data in conjunction with efforts to improve overall system performance.

All participating programs are required to have a component where they reach out and locate homeless persons on their own throughout the year or integrate with the Essex County Coordinated Assessment system to ensure that a homeless individual or family can be matched up with the applicable resources that the County has available. The Coc is consistently evaluating and assessing how to expedite the matching of the consumer with the services they need.

The County's ESG program has a Street Outreach funding component, and currently the Salvation Army in Montclair is the Consortium ESG funded destination for those who need walk in services and shelter with no referral needed. The County plans to sustain Street Outreach activities with ESG funding. Currently the Street Outreach program also meshes with the Code Blue initiatives throughout the County, so that at the times of greatest need (i.e., the coldest days of the year) we can save lives and protect people from harsh weather

To better understand its consumers, the County CoC recently commissioned a new committee to be

comprised of consumers with lived experience. It is expected this committee will contribute to future application review, funding recommendations and policy updates. The County will also host focus groups comprised of persons who have been or are homeless who can communicate feedback about the County's current system and future goals and objectives. The County also plans to increase program awareness via a stronger commitment to printed materials, bus stop advertisements, newspaper/radio ads, and translating media communications into more languages and braille.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

During PY 2021, the Division reassessed its original plans for utilizing CDBG CV and ESG CV programs based on evolving societal and market conditions and needs. As a result, expenditures and activities increased significantly during the second half of PY 2021 in conjunction with other County funding sources that delivered financial assistance to persons and families struggling to cover basic housing costs during the pandemic, as well as those agencies working to sustain operations while addressing greater demand for services during the pandemic. When the pandemic started, shelters had to cut back capacity to inhibit the spread of the virus by hosting less people while economic hardships caused more families to be insolvent and unable to afford safe and sanitary housing. As the pandemic is better controlled and eviction moratoriums are terminated, all parties are preparing for a rush of persons in dire financial straits seeking assistance. As a result, the need for ESG monies is expected to significantly increase during the coming program year.

Essex County and the CoC currently fund shelters and transitional housing projects in the following ways: 1) Directly funding the per diem stays for the clients that need immediate and emergency sheltering at facilities all over the County, 2) Funding the administrative and/or case management expenditures at it pertains to ESG eligible costs, and 3) rehabilitation of Shelters and Facilities

Based on an ongoing assessment of applications and outcomes, the County has identified case management and administrative activities as more efficient methodologies to achieve better outcomes, reduce days experienced being homeless, and eliminate the risk factors that create homelessness in the first place. Case Management is the driver in that initiative but is much more expensive to fund than the generic case manager/data entry position; however, the ESG program can fund a variety of professional positions such as MSW, LSW and Clinical/Medical/Mental Health professionals. Data shows that these efforts lead to more positive and permanent housing outcomes post sheltering, and also is a cost-effective way to utilize services that are already funded through other sources and ensuring that we have no duplication of service or service delivery.

From a broader perspective, shelters and transitional locations receive walk-ins and assess their needs on the spot. This does not always lead to being entered into their own agency roster, as they will be referred out to the proper agency that can address their needs. The County also coordinates with partner agencies such as welfare offices, state and local funding sources, and even private non and for-profit agencies and churches who also take homeless persons and families in. From there the County utilizes all its funds, whether it's CDBG, WIB, Senior Services, etc to serve all of the needs of the client -

not just sheltering. Data shows that these efforts lead to more positive and permanent housing outcomes post sheltering, and also is a cost-effective way to utilize services that are already funded through other sources and ensuring that we have no duplication of service or service delivery. It is noted that through HMIS and other reporting mechanisms, we can identify potential duplication of services or benefits.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The CoC and the County have established relationships with institutions and systems of care, and implement a coordinated assessment process that ensures that people and families are quickly assessed and referred to the proper agency that can best address their particular need. This streamlined process simplifies entry into the system and services those most vulnerable in an expedient manner, thereby minimizing the stress and confusion for the consumer. Representatives from each of these systems are members of our local CoC body (the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System or CEAS for short) to ensure that the County is up to date on referral processes and coordination efforts. Despite the pandemic, all parties participating in these programs have been interacting to brainstorm and modify policies when necessary and beneficial.

As an aside we are presently funding an affordable housing project in Newark that will include a wellness area where the low income residents can receive necessary treatment from the University Hospital.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The CoC and the County have established relationships with institutions and systems of care, and implement a coordinated assessment process that ensures that people and families are quickly assessed and referred to the proper agency that can best address their particular need. This streamlined process simplifies entry into the system and services those most vulnerable in an expedient manner, thereby minimizing the stress and confusion for the consumer. Representatives from each of these systems are members of our local CoC body (the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System or CEAS for short) to ensure that the County is up to date on referral processes and coordination efforts. Despite the pandemic, all parties participating in these programs have been interacting to brainstorm and modify

policies when necessary and beneficial. demonstrate a model that elevates the primary concerns and barriers involved with the clients, and effectively positions clients to avoid future homeless crises and achieve sustainability.

And through CDBG we supports agencies such as Wynona's and Covenant House that provide a haven and assistance for unaccompanied youth.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The County of Essex works with local PHAs to identify opportunities to develop affordable housing. The local PHA's generally provide tenant based rental assistance, in which case the County may have helped finance the housing provider / developer. The PHA's role in that situation is limited - ensuring that eligible tenants remain stable in the units in which Essex County helps develop through direct subsidy to the client. Less frequently, the PHA's help create project based rental properties, and the County lends its support in a more symbiotic fashion with the PHA (including a sharing of the affordable housing responsibilities). In this instance the PHA and the County both have a share in the underwriting and subsidy layering analysis. The projects tend to be more complex, because the subsidy is identified and applied regardless of which clients will be moving into the units. The County understands its responsibility vis a vis these types of PHA projects - most PHA's happen to be outside of the County Consortium so it makes it difficult to identify PHA project based developments with which the County can work in conjunction. It is noted the County is reviewing an application affiliated with the Orange PHA to participate in a new construction activity.

Actions taken to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

PHA residents can apply for funding through the County's First Time Homebuyers program. This program is available for any resident of the eighteen (18) consortium communities and gives people who are in affordable housing units or are formerly in affordable housing units an opportunity to purchase a residential property via downpayment assistance or the buy-down of their initial loan principal. It is noted that the County replenished its First Time Home Buyer fund for PY 2021. As part of this program, consumers are required to participate in a financial counseling program designed to help them manage home expenses once they acquire a property.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Essex County, through its Continuum of Care has extended the opportunity to foster relationships and partnerships between service providers and case managers in order to help the PHAs and their consumers receive the necessary services. It is envisioned that PHA's will be able to apply for and request more vouchers per community, and apply for more special project set-aside vouchers for those with disabilities/mental health/homeless. The County has not taken action to provide federally funded assistance to the PHAs.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The County remains committed to subsidizing development costs in order to incentivize affordable housing activities and supporting actions to remove barriers to affordable housing via various activities that include:

The County sustains a homelessness trust fund through the collection of additional fees through its Division of Deeds and Mortgages;

The County collaborates with affordable housing providers, advocates and stakeholders to identify barriers and develop policies to remove those barriers;

The County participates in the Continuum of Care / Essex County CEAS committee to address housing needs for homeless and special needs populations

The County works with affordable housing developers to identify private, other public including state and federal funds to subsidize affordable housing as well as consider activities in opportunity zones;

The County strives to support affordable housing development projects that set aside affordable housing units for individuals and families who are at or below 30% of the area median income.

The County, when applicable, works with local municipalities and developers to resolve any issues or concerns that need to be addressed.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County of Essex is committed to allocating funds to low and moderate income people particularly those households with incomes at or below 50% of the area median income. As in prior years, individuals with special needs, including the elderly, chronic homeless and persons with disabilities including mental health have been identified as a priority for receiving federal funds. During this pandemic, we increasingly focus on a population that has a greater than historical need for financial assistance for housing costs as well as counseling for pandemic related emotional and mental stress as well as domestic violence incidents.

To ensure we are informed about potentially underserved needs, we convene sub committees each year to hear from our sub recipients. And to ensure the sub recipients are delivering expected services, we generally schedule technical assistance workshops at the office of the Division of Housing and Community Development. The workshops are administered by the program monitors who review the

requirements of the CDBG subrecipient agreement which includes regulatory requirements, insurance, audits and reporting. During PY 2021 we did not host any in person workshops during the year due to Covid but we are scheduling a workshop for September 2022. Attention to the productivity of our sub recipients is also achieved by requiring the public service agencies to upload monthly reports in addition to their reimbursement vouchers which must include appropriate supporting documentation for all expenses incurred. The program monitors conduct on-site monitoring visits at least once during the program year to review the files of each sub-recipient.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County supports an owner occupied housing rehabilitation program utilizing CDBG Home Improvement funds to subsidize the costs for income eligible homeowners who need to bring their homes up to code and /or address a need to remediate lead hazards. The utilization of HOME funds for new construction and rehabilitation activities that provide safe and suitable affordable housing also helps address lead hazard issues. The County has entered into a contract with Mandell Lead Inspectors to conduct inspections for the existence of lead paint hazards in all assisted housing units. Lead- Safe work practices were used on all assisted housing rehabilitation projects. Upon completion of all work the lead inspector conducted an assessment and a clearance report was issued. In those cases where a home did not pass inspection, the contractor was responsible for addressing all issues and was not paid until the home passed inspection. All risk assessments and clearance were conducted by Mandell Lead Inspectors.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County of Essex funds a diverse array of public non-profit social service agencies which provide a wide range of services to County residents. These services, which directly or indirectly help poverty level families to survive and/or escape from poverty, include after school programs designed to increase learning aptitude, recreational programs, mental health services, food pantries, HIV testing and counseling for victims of domestic violence to name a few. Anti poverty initiatives of the County Consortium towns also include financial literacy and homebuyer counseling services. The county utilizes its ESG program to fund non profit agencies which service those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness throughout the county, and deliver homeless prevention and rapid re-housing assistance in order to provide housing stabilization and thereby reduce the number of poverty level families. Several of our ESG shelter operations deliver case management services to poverty level families in order to achieve long term solutions that prevent future homelessness, create housing/economic stability and enhance the skills and education of their consumers. Other CDBG funded public service agencies are dedicated to providing job and psychological counseling that help empower lower income consumers who are in need of skills training and/or are struggling to overcome personal issues.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Historically the Consortium has established productive relationships with its participating municipalities, local non profit organizations, community and faith-based organizations, philanthropic organizations, the Continuum of Care, area shelter organizations, and community development activists/organizations. Interaction with private sector interests is less intensive but we do interact with private developers who are constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing units. And we work closely with state officials and the County administration in order to enhance the effectiveness of activities from each of the three parties. Working closely with the County was intensified this past year due to the significant investment of Covid related federal funding in the County; disbursement of these funds necessitated coordinated efforts to ensure we maximized the impact for area residents and avoided any duplication of efforts.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County hosts monthly community development meetings, public hearings as well as annual technical assistance workshops that serve to educate as well to offer opportunities for coordination among funding agencies including housing developers and social service agencies. In addition, the County disburses HOME funds to non-profit developers who have created affordable housing units for persons with special needs as well as formerly homeless families. These non-profit affordable housing developers had helped identify housing needs in the County which were subsequently incorporated in the Strategic Plan and ultimately received funding for the development of affordable housing units.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

The County Consortium updated its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI) in 2015 and submitted it as an amendment to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Five Year Plan. This report identified twenty three (23) impediments. Beginning in 2015 and continuing through today, the County has carried out actions in response to the AI recommendations that include:

Redlining: The County lobbied for an increased minimum wage with formal action taken by the Essex County Board Commissioners in September 2015 to increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour, making Essex County the first in the State to endorse an increase.

Linguistic Isolation: The County has sustained bi-lingual efforts and employs bi-lingual staff to assist non-english speaking residents. The County updated its LEP for compliance.

Building Codes and Enforcement: The County provides assistance to disabled homeowners for accessibility improvements through its Home Improvement Program (HIP). Local municipalities help promote the program to residents and to inform their code officials so that we can help income eligible homeowners fix their homes before a violation is issued. We also travel to towns to host workshops for interested homeowners.

Lack of Decent Affordable Housing: The County funds basic home improvements through the CDBG Home Improvement Program, as well as a First Time Home Buyer program; during PY 2021 we initiated discussions with certain municipalities about augmenting their existing first time home buyer programs.

Transportation and Employee Access: The County assisted in the development of an affordable housing project near the transit station in Orange. This transit oriented development reduced commuting time and costs for lower income persons that wanted to access job opportunities that were not close geographically.

Neighborhood Revitalization: The County has expanded the diversity of affordable housing projects since 2015 for homeless families, senior citizens, individuals with developmental disabilities, etc. During PY 2021 we were involved in a to be completed Verona based HOME and a residential complex for very low income persons who will have access to University Hospital services.

Public Housing and Hope Vi: The AI contained a recommendation to promote new affordable housing developments to strengthen existing neighborhood assets. The County has continued to support such developments and has focused affordable housing funding in the City of Orange and other neighborhoods greatly affected by a foreclosure crisis..

Davis Bacon Act: The County through its Office of Purchasing monitors all procurement practices. The County's Office of Small Business Development and Affirmative Action provides seminars and workshops to female and minority business enterprises to educate businesses on the procurement process and requirements to submit a successful bid or response to a request for proposal.

Outreach to persons with Limited English Proficiency: The Division has staff that are bi-lingual and are available to present information on programs in Spanish. The County also provides translations of public notices on the County web site. It is noted that historically we published notices to the Spanish speaking community via the newspaper El Coqui. However in calendar year 2021 this newspaper operation closed down due to the pandemic and we are efforting to partner with another Spanish paper that targets our communities.

Sensitivity training is regularly provided at least annually to County employees by trainers from the Office of Personnel. This training instructs staff on the proper language and behavior when interacting with the public, co-workers and those groups with special needs.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Monitoring requirements are included in all financing agreements. Each active activity is monitored to ensure the sub recipient is in compliance with HUD standards. The County strives to collect and assess data as early and efficiently as possible so that any issues or concerns can be addressed immediately and ensure that performance goals will be achieved. The Division consists of staff experienced in the various programs and activities. During the pandemic we adapted to health concerns by conducting virtual monitorings. Beginning in PY 2022 we believe we will be able to return to conducting onsite monitorings.

Projects are monitored in accordance with the nature of the activity and the funding program, and are assessed based on the following compliance standards:

1. Compliance with National Objectives: Benefit to low and moderate income persons, Elimination of slums and blight, or Urgent need (never been used by the County)
2. Compliance with federal, state and local procurement standards.
3. Compliance with the Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage Act and applicable state requirements.
4. Compliance with Federal OMB financial management guidelines.

Compliance is verified through (a) Receipt and review of monthly service provider clientele reports for CDBG and annual tenant certifications for HOME funded projects (b) A minimum of one on site monitoring visit for each CDBG project per program year. Construction activities may require multiple visits (c) Inspections of HOME projects are to be conducted within one year after the project is completed and at least once every three years thereafter. (d) Monthly distribution of a financial summary to each municipality. (e) Annual review of Audits conducted for funded projects. (f) Constant interaction with the contact person for a participating agency or municipality (g) Use of explanatory and comprehensive grants and loans agreements. (h) The filing of mortgage liens and/or deed restrictions on applicable projects.

Using these strategies, the county raises the efficiency and impact of its programs and achieves the short term objectives outlined in the One Year Action Plan. For the CDBG program, there are a number

of capital projects that have been delayed due to various factors. To expedite the completion of proposed activities, we have diligently following up with sub recipients to get projects out to bid as soon as possible and to help where we can, but we are also prepared to reprogram the funds from non starting activities in favor of shovel ready projects. For ongoing projects from prior program years that are expected to finish in the near future, the County extended certain sub-recipient agreements until August 30, 2022.

For HOME, staff monitors the HOME assisted properties to ensure that the income status of the tenants occupying the HOME assisted units, the rents charged for these units, and the physical condition of these units are in compliance with HUD HOME standards. On an annual basis, the staff collects certification statements from the building owners. Once a building obtains its CO and the HOME units are occupied, the County reviews the eligibility of tenants and rent limits, and subsequently conducts onsite visits to review tenant project files every three years thereafter to ensure that the data is being maintained correctly and that source documentation is collected by the building owner at least once every six years for continuous tenants and/or immediately when a new tenant occupies a residential unit.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

In accordance with the National Affordable Housing Act of 1992, the Division of Housing and Community Development considers the Citizen Participation component to be integral to the Consolidated Planning process. Although the County focuses on serving residents of low and moderate-income areas, the programs and activities identified in the Consolidated Plan impact all County residents, and all citizens were encouraged to participate in developing the 2021 One Year Action Plan and commenting on our performance. Bloomfield also participates in this process because it chooses to be part of the HOME consortium. The Division issued public notices to advertise public hearings. Due to the pandemic, nearly all hearings were conducted virtually; any non virtual hearings were staged in a safe, ADA compliant facility. As per the Citizen Participation plan, the County accommodates citizens with disabilities for meetings and public hearings. As the Division's current LEP research indicates 23.8% of the County's population is Hispanic, and that the Spanish speaking LEP population is 8% of the population, notices are translated into Spanish when posted on the County website. For many years we published in El Nuevo Coqui, a Spanish newspaper delivered throughout the County, but El Quevo closed in late October 2020 due to pandemic related losses and does not plan to reopen. Since November, we have maintained notices on the County web site and initiated a search for alternative regional Spanish papers. Our online program applications can be automatically translated into various languages by the applicant.

To ensure compliance with the CPP regs, the Division of Housing and Community Development is guided by a Citizen Participation Plan outlining the Division's objectives and actions to achieve these objectives.

I. Objective: Provide citizens with information concerning eligible activities, applications, and program requirements.

1. Week of November 4, 2020: notification for submission of applications was initiated for:

a. All Community Development Representatives designated by the participating municipalities via email and telephone.

b. To the public via advertizements for applications that were published on the County website, the Star Ledger, Worrall newspaper, and local municipalities in accordance with its LEP plan. The announcements were translated into Spanish

c. To the public via a virtual public hearing on November 23, 2020 due to Covid related public health concerns

d. Submission deadline for 2021 applications was 4:00 PM on January 8, 2021

2. Citizens were invited to comment on the proposed Action Plan PY 2021 via a public release dated June 17 2021, and a virtual Public Hearing on July 6, 2021. No comments were received.

3. The County has scheduled an in person public hearing on for August 29, 2022 to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment on the County's performance as per the PY 2021 CAPER report

It is noted that due to the Covid 19 pandemic, beginning in March 2020, meetings were conducted virtually and/or attendance at public hearings was scheduled by appointment.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The County annually reevaluates its objectives during the application process for grant awards. Utilizing multiple sources of data such as Census, AFFI tools and reports, monitoring reports, independent studies and other appropriate data, we reassess our priorities. For example, if the consortium members present data showing that their needs have shifted to needing more after school enrichment programs as a function of not only their educational performance but as a matter of public safety and police resource management then we can retool the way we evaluate and score those programs during the RFP process. Those programs may now function as satisfying multiple program objectives, and enable the County to utilize these grant funds more efficiently. Given the impact of the Covid pandemic, the allocation of funds for certain activities that addressed Covid related concerns likely increased vs. PY 2019 allocations.

The County is continuing to address a consistent issue of late finishing capital projects by local municipalities. It appears we need to be more aggressive in reprogramming funds so that the Division can fund shovel ready projects and/or roadway reconstruction activities to help the County achieve its timeliness test. We are also considering alternative allocation practices, such as staggering the award years for each municipality, to help minimize the number of unfinished projects.

The County is also assessing if and to what extent we need to modify historical practices should the Covid pandemic continue to impact the population at large

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

During the pandemic, the County's ability to conduct on site inspections of properties was diminished. However, in recent months, as restrictions have lessened and the deadly impact of Covid has been mitigated to some degree, property owners, their tenants and DHCD staff have been able to more actively inspect site in person. In order to cycle our physical inspections more efficiently, we committed certain staff to schedule at minimum 1-2 site visits each week so that we can systematically inspect every site scheduled for an inspection by the end of the calendar year. As per the attached documentation, we inspected 9 sites during PY 2021, which left over 60 sites still to be inspected. Through June and July of 2022 we have inspected 14 of these sites and plan to visit all or most our HOME properties by the end of the calendar year, and will definitely visit all our properties before the end of PY 2022. To date, no major issues have been identified for the sites inspected during PY 2021 and the first two months of PY 2022, and all the sites were generally determined to be in compliance with HOME Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

Despite the pandemic, the County continued to collect annual certifications for its HOME assisted units via virtual monitorings.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

Affirmative marketing efforts appear to be effective for project completed during the past few years as available units are rented out in a timely manner for a diversified ethnic base. Furthermore, developers and agencies have cooperated with the County to ensure they meet affirmative action objectives. Essex County will sustain its commitment to affirmatively further fair housing and alleviate any impediments to fair housing choices, and continue to promote public hearings, Citizen Action, and public notices released in various Spanish and English media. In the event we are notified about a specific issue with a developer/landlord, we immediately investigate the matter to resolve the problem and ensure one incident is not a symptom of a systemic problem.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

During PY 2021, the HOME Program expended \$0 of Program Income.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 91.320(j)

During PY 2020 the County completed two HOME assisted residential projects in West Orange and North Caldwell that were primarily financed with LIHTC investments, as well as with funding from the participating municipalities. Based on recent experience, it appears that other County municipalities, after reviewing the success of projects in nearby towns, are much more enthusiastic about working to provide state of the art affordable housing in their communities.

At this time, a new construction project is underway for which we provided HOME funds in conjunction with LIHTC and state funds made available via a hospital development pilot program. A key to sustaining success in this field is to partner with creative investors. We also will be participating in a senior housing project in West Orange and an affordable housing project in Verona.

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	1	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	689				
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0				
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0				

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	1				
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	1				
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	1				
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

Other.	1				
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

During PY 2021, we provided CDBG funding in excess of \$200,000 for ADA related activities in maplewood, thereby triggering the revised Section 3 reporting requirements. The data provided herein for that project indicates none of the crew working this project qualified as Section 3 workers, primarily because the contractor pays an hourly wage that yields annual earnings in excess of the benchmark income level. The contractorhs indicated that they primarily hire through the local 472 union, and the township communicated that their efforts to assist residents to be hired for construction projects include job training activities, collaboration with agencies that can provide services or referrals to persons seeking job opportunities, and computer training at the local library.

A second project in Belleville for which we expended over \$200,000 was physically completed just prior to the obligation date to report Section 3 man hours, but we are working to collect that data given the time proximity. As soon as the Section 3 data for this activity is reported for the 1168 man hours posted in the payroll reports, we will add that data to the Capex report.

CR-60 - ESG 91.520(g) (ESG Recipients only)

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

Recipient Name	ESSEX COUNTY
Organizational DUNS Number	133334586
UEI	
EIN/TIN Number	226002433
Identify the Field Office	NEWARK
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance	Newark/Essex County CoC

ESG Contact Name

Prefix	Mr
First Name	Craig
Middle Name	
Last Name	Lombardi

Suffix
Title Housing Coordinator

ESG Contact Address

Street Address 1 20 Crestmont Road
Street Address 2 Kips Castle
City Verona
State NJ
ZIP Code 07044-
Phone Number 9738739344
Extension
Fax Number
Email Address clombardi@hcd.essexcountynj.org

ESG Secondary Contact

Prefix Mr
First Name John (Joao)
Last Name Soares
Suffix
Title Division Director
Phone Number 9736550200
Extension 318
Email Address Jsoar22@aol.com

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date 06/01/2021
Program Year End Date 05/31/2022

3a. Subrecipient Form – Complete one form for each subrecipient

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: ISALAH HOUSE
City: East Orange
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07017, 4208
DUNS Number:
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 20000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: St. James Social Service Corp
City: Newark
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07102, 1214
DUNS Number: 111521543
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 14000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: COVENANT HOUSE NEW JERSEY, INC.
City: Jersey City
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07305, 3427
DUNS Number: 133537710
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 19000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: The Salvation Army
City: Montclair
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07042, 2706
DUNS Number: 625417941
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 69500

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: United Community Corporation
City: Newark
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07102, 4506
DUNS Number: 030251185
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 36000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: YMWCA of Newark & Vicinity
City: Newark
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07102, 4504
DUNS Number: 075138552
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 111059

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: Integrity, Inc.
City: Newark
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07102, 2388
DUNS Number: 065794000
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 37000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: Bridges Outreach, Inc.
City: Newark
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07102, 5202
DUNS Number: 136779217
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 14000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: Family Promise of Essex County
City: Montclair
State: NJ
Zip Code: 07042, 3441
DUNS Number: 833225238
UEI:
Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N
Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 96000

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: Turning Point Community Services Inc.

City: Irvington

State: NJ

Zip Code: 07111, 4221

DUNS Number: 142886931

UEI:

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N

Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 15000

CR-65 - Persons Assisted

4. Persons Served

4a. Complete for Homelessness Prevention Activities

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 16 – Household Information for Homeless Prevention Activities

4b. Complete for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 17 – Household Information for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

4c. Complete for Shelter

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 18 – Shelter Information

4d. Street Outreach

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 19 – Household Information for Street Outreach

4e. Totals for all Persons Served with ESG

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 20 – Household Information for Persons Served with ESG

5. Gender—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Male	0
Female	0
Transgender	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 21 – Gender Information

6. Age—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Under 18	0
18-24	0
25 and over	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 22 – Age Information

7. Special Populations Served—Complete for All Activities

Number of Persons in Households				
Subpopulation	Total	Total Persons Served – Prevention	Total Persons Served – RRH	Total Persons Served in Emergency Shelters
Veterans	0	0	0	0
Victims of Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0
Elderly	0	0	0	0
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless	0	0	0	0
Persons with Disabilities:				
Severely Mentally Ill	0	0	0	0
Chronic Substance Abuse	0	0	0	0
Other Disability	0	0	0	0
Total (Unduplicated if possible)	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Special Population Served

CR-70 – ESG 91.520(g) - Assistance Provided and Outcomes

10. Shelter Utilization

Number of New Units - Rehabbed	0
Number of New Units - Conversion	0
Total Number of bed-nights available	240,889
Total Number of bed-nights provided	192,712
Capacity Utilization	80.00%

Table 24 – Shelter Capacity

11. Project Outcomes Data measured under the performance standards developed in consultation with the CoC(s)

CR-75 – Expenditures

11. Expenditures

11a. ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2019	2020	2021
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Prevention under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	0	0	0
Subtotal Homelessness Prevention	0	0	0

Table 25 – ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

11b. ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2019	2020	2021
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Assistance under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	0	0	0
Subtotal Rapid Re-Housing	0	0	0

Table 26 – ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

11c. ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2019	2020	2021
Essential Services	0	0	0
Operations	0	0	0
Renovation	0	0	0

Major Rehab	0	0	0
Conversion	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0

Table 27 – ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

11d. Other Grant Expenditures

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2019	2020	2021
Street Outreach	0	0	0
HMIS	0	0	0
Administration	0	0	0

Table 28 - Other Grant Expenditures

11e. Total ESG Grant Funds

Total ESG Funds Expended	2019	2020	2021
	0	0	0

Table 29 - Total ESG Funds Expended

11f. Match Source

	2019	2020	2021
Other Non-ESG HUD Funds	0	0	0
Other Federal Funds	0	0	0
State Government	0	0	0
Local Government	0	0	0

Private Funds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0
Total Match Amount	0	0	0

Table 30 - Other Funds Expended on Eligible ESG Activities

11g. Total

Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities	2019	2020	2021
	0	0	0

Table 31 - Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities