We do amazing.

2021-2022

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER)

OCTOBER 2022

CR-05 - GOALS AND OUTCOMES

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

The City of Columbus, Georgia has prepared its Federal Fiscal Year 2021 (FFY2021) Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) under the federal regulations found in 24 CFR 570. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provided the following grants to the city to address the needs of low-to moderate income persons in the community. This report informs the public of progress that the city made using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Community Development Block Grants - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV), and Community Development Block Grants – Corona Virus Round 3 (CDBG-CV3) funding.

The FFY2021 CAPER covers the period from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. It also provides a detailed description of the city's use of HUD funding and gives an account of the City's progress in reaching its strategic goals outlined in the Fiscal Year 2021-2025 (FY2021-2025) Consolidated Plan and its Fiscal Year 2022 (FY2022) Action Plan.

The City of Columbus collaborated with non-profit organizations and other entities to ensure that the city could target their most vulnerable populations. These activities included a wide range of services and programs such as affordable housing, facility and infrastructure improvements, operational support for non- profits, emergency housing, and supportive services for the homeless. The City of Columbus Community Reinvestment Department successfully managed 51 projects that contributed to the overall success of the program helping us to achieve strategic priorities. Those priorities and projects include:

1.) **Increase, create, and sustain affordable housing**

- Columbus Housing Initiative d.b.a NeighborWorks Columbus
- Open Door Community House

2.) **Increase suitable living environments**

- Access 2 Independence
- Boys & Girls Club
- Columbus Health Dept.
- Direct Services
- Enrichment Services
- Girls Inc
- Habitat for Humanity
- Homeless Resource Network
- Hope Harbour
- Let's Grow STEAMx
- MercyMed
- New Horizons Behavioral Health
- Safehouse Ministries
- Salvation Army
- St. Anne Community Outreach
- The Learning Center
- Truth Spring
- United Way - Home for Good
- Urban League
- Whole Person Ministries

3.) **Reduce poverty/expand economic opportunity**

- United Way of the Chattahoochee, Valley Home for Good
- 28 businesses supported through Small Business Economic Recovery Grant Program

During FY2022, the City of Columbus expended $ 2,321,420.18 in HUD entitlement funding. The city dispersed $755,275.78 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), $483,066.33 in HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), $264,017.68 in CDBG-CV funds, and $819,060.39 in CDBG-CV3 funds directly impacting 28,754 clients.

To inform citizens of the completion of the CAPER and obtain feedback, the City placed an ad in the Columbus Ledger Enquirer on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. The Community Reinvestment Department also distributed the public notice via email to a standing list of organizations that serve low-to-moderate income persons, minorities, or protected classes throughout the city. The public comment period lasted for 15 days, from Tuesday, October 11, 2022, through Tuesday, October 25, 2022. The City also held a public hearing on Monday, October 24, 2022 at 6pm. There were no citizen comments to report.

CDBG PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The City of Columbus allocated funds for various community development projects to benefit low-to-moderate income communities and persons, including economic development activities, ADA improvements, homeowner housing rehabilitation, acquisition of equipment and facilities, infrastructure improvements, housing counseling, youth activities, and other public service programs. Below is a highlight of projects completed in FY2022.

Agency Name: Truth Spring
Project Name: Truth Spring Trade School
https://www.truthspring.org

Truth Spring Trade School is a Christian nonprofit organization founded by the Highland Community Church. Its mission is to develop and strengthen the North Highland community with Christ-centered projects and strategies. Truth Spring's Executive Director Carrie Strickland describes North Highland as a former blue-collar neighborhood where people lived and worked in the local mills. Now, the organization aims to recreate this work-live environment for residents seeking job skills. The trade school offers a one-year "pay to learn" program focused on reducing some of the most common barriers to sustained employment. Through the program, participants have access to job readiness training and job placement. "All the trades we have chosen go right back into the development of this specific community," Ms. Strickland stated.

Crystal Smith, a single mom with a felony conviction, was able to find steady employment through the trade school. "I've got the want and the will to work. It's just getting my foot in the door was the hard thing to do. Nobody wants to take a chance on a convicted felon but Truth Spring did."

Thomas Paine, a young father, recounted that Truth Spring held a job opening for him when he was incarcerated for 4 months. “I felt like that was the Lord telling me this is where you need to go. I have a newborn son. I can’t afford be out there trying to find a job when I have one sitting right here.”

HOME PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The City of Columbus focused on affordable housing initiatives by acquiring, rehabilitating, selling single-family homes, providing tenant-based rental assistance, and down-payment assistance for future homeowners in the city. The down-payment assistance program is one of the most sought-after programs for first-time homebuyers in the city.

Eligible households receive up to five percent of the purchase price of a home not to exceed $10,000 of down-payment assistance for the acquisition of a single-family home. In FY 2021, zero homebuyers became homeowners. To address this deficiency, in April 2022, the Community Reinvestment Department rebranded the down payment assistance to Sweet HOME Columbus, which today provides up to $14,975 in down payment assistance while preserving the five-year affordability period. Below are highlights of affordable housing activities in FY2022.

Agency Name: NeighborWorks Columbus
Project Name: Highland Homes on 4th Project
https://nwcolumbus.org/

NeighborWorks Columbus acquires, rehabilitates, and sells single-family homes to income-eligible homebuyers. Repairs often include thermal and moisture protection, blown insulation, significant drywall repair, replacement windows, front porch repairs, rear deck repairs, as well as the installation of flooring.

The income eligible homebuyer receives down payment assistance of a zero percent interest deferred loan for the purchase price not to exceed $14,975 for down-payment assistance. In addition to single family acquisition, rehabilitation disposition activities, NeighborWorks Columbus also diversifies its affordable housing development activities with new construction of single-family affordable housing.

Highland Homes on 4th Project

In 2021, NeighborWorks Columbus completed the Highland Homes on 4th project, creating 22 affordable for-purchase homes through new construction and housing rehabilitation.

Highland Homes on Fourth is that neighborhood a place where kids play, where neighbors help each other out. Blocks away from the Riverwalk and only minutes to Uptown or North Columbus, Highland Homes is connected to the vibrant community around it. Highland Homes on Fourth is truly the street where dreams come true.

According to NeighborWorks President and CEO Cathy Williams, this area of North Highland once had the most 911 calls in its precinct. Since the development of these homes, local police officers have reported that the area is much calmer. The Highland Homes on 4th development was a $7 million project that utilized a range of tools, including city of Columbus HOME Investment Partnerships entitlement funds, New Market Tax Credits, philanthropic support, and loan guarantees from a local foundation.

The neighborhood is now a Purpose-Built Community.

402 35th Street

NeighborWorks Columbus was honored to work with a prospective homebuyer as she became a first-time homebuyer in her 80s. She is excited to have something to leave to her grandchildren while also enjoying a space of her own.

Her home was built with the help of $147,920 in HOME funds. It replaced a disinvested building previously located on the lot.

402 35th Street Pre-Development

402 35th Street Post Development

The Homebuyer

3610 4th Avenue

Kenyetta Webb was thrilled to surprise her children with the ultimate gift — a brand new house. While working toward her goal of homeownership, she kept the secret from her children until the keys were in her hand. She is the first homeowner in her family.

3610 4th Avenue was built with the help of $169,805 in HOME funds. It replaced a disinvested building previously located on the lot.

3610 4th Avenue Pre-Development

3610 4th Avenue Post Development

The Homebuyer

CDBG-CV PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The City of Columbus allocated funds for various community development projects to benefit low–to–moderate communities and persons to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Corona Virus and its impact on our community. Below is a highlight of a CDBG-CV awarded project completed in FY2022.

Agency Name: Georgia Department of Public Health (West Central Health District)
Project Name: Public Health on Wheels
https://westcentralhealthdistrict.com

During the program year, the Columbus Health Department (CHD) provided valuable COVID-specific services to the residents of Columbus. Throughout the pandemic, there has been a need for COVID testing facilities, case investigations, contract tracing and vaccinations in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods. Areas impacted most by COVID-19 have also been the areas most difficult to reach for COVID testing and prevention services. The Columbus Health Department was able to bridge the gap in these COVID-related service needs with the assistance of CDBG-CV3 funds.

Through a $150,000 CDBG-CV3 award, the CHD COVID response team purchased a mobile unit equipped with adequate supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed to conduct services remotely. The highest priority communities have greater rates of poverty and often lack resources such as transportation and health insurance. Communities of color in Columbus also have been very difficult to reach in COVID vaccination efforts due to historical mistrust of government.

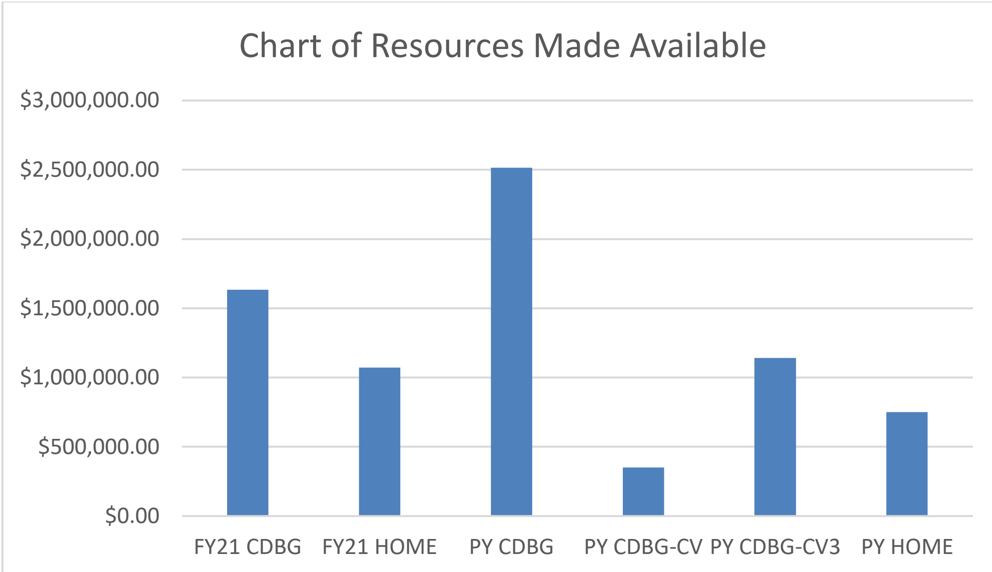
Local residents from the targeted communities were recruited to become Community Health Workers (CHWs). After receiving job training, these CHWs assisted the mobile team with reaching residents, providing educational services, and reducing vaccine hesitancy. Because these communities are hard-to-reach, the mobile unit went out into neighborhoods in the evenings and on the weekends. By increasing the mobile unit's access during non-business hours, highly trained professional day staff were able to serve local residents with fewer barriers to access.

Post-pandemic, the trailer will be used to provide medical services, including COVID-related services, to citizens of Columbus, continuing to focus on populations who may be impeded by transportation and other socioeconomic barriers.

As of September 26, 2022, a total of 1,466 patients have received services on the mobile unit since December 2021. The mobile unit frequently stops at several community-based stations, including Piggly Wiggly, the Columbus public libraries, churches, recreation centers, senior housing, public housing, universities, homeless shelters, community centers, and public parks.

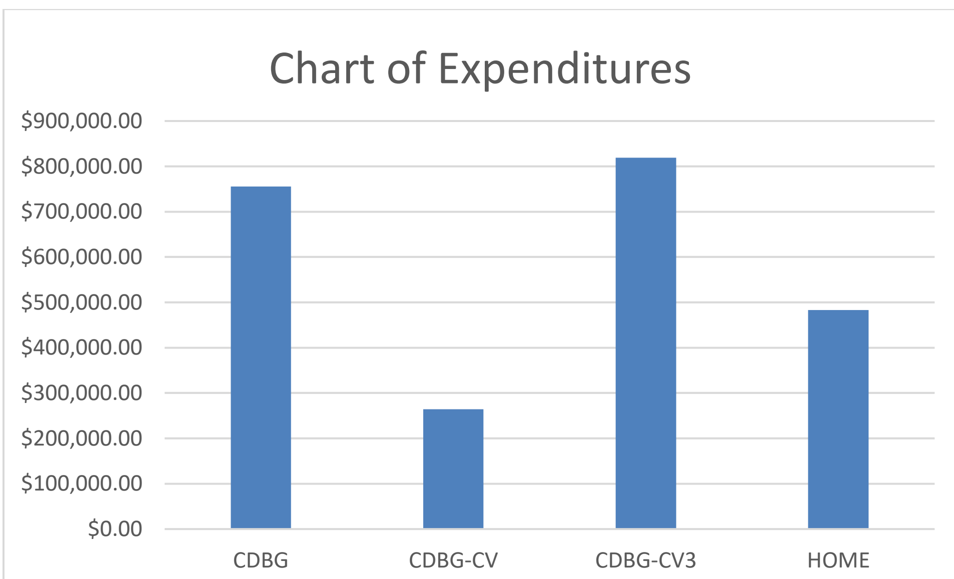
Resources

During the fiscal year, The City of Columbus made available a total of $7,464,489.97 in resources. This sum is comprised of FY21 CDBG and HOME entitlement grant allocations, CDBG ($1,633,453.00), and HOME ($1,072,086). In addition to annual entitlement allocations, the city also carried forward unexpended grant funds from FY 2017 through 2021 that totaled $4,758,950.97 This sum is comprised of CDBG ($2,515,219.68), CDBG-CV ($351,207.79), CDBG-CV3 ($1,142,523.50), and HOME ($750,000).



Expenses

During the fiscal year, the City of Columbus dispersed a total of $2,321,420.18 in grant funds. According to local financial records, the City dispersed $755,275.78 in CDBG funds, $483,066.33 in HOME funds, $264,017.68 in CDBG-CV funds, and $819,060.39 in CDBG-CV3 funds.



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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
Blight Removal	Affordable Housing	CDBG: $13,218	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	40	1	2.5%	0	1	N/A
COVID-19 Response	COVID-19 Response	CDBG-CV: $108,000	Businesses Assisted	Businesses Assisted	N/A	27	N/A	N/A	27	N/A
COVID-19 Response	COVID-19 Response	CDBG-CV: $896,155	Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	N/A	27,535	N/A	N/A	27,535	N/A
COVID-19 Response	COVID-19 Response	CDBG-CV: $78,924	Program Administration	Other	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Expansion of Affordable Housing Supply	Affordable Housing	HOME: $0	Rental Units Constructed	Household Housing Unit	5	0	0%	1	0	0.0%
Expansion of Affordable Housing Supply	Affordable Housing	HOME: $238,653	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	25	2	40%	5	2	40%
Expansion of Affordable Housing Supply	Affordable Housing	HOME: $5,395	Downpayment Assistance	Household Housing Unit	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	1	N/A
Expansion of Affordable Housing Supply	Affordable Housing	CDBG: $2,583	Other (Property Dispostion)	Other	1	7	N/A	1	7	700%

Expansion of Affordable Housing Supply	Affordable Housing	HOME: $78,463	Tenant-Based Rental Assitance	Households Assisted	0	17	N/A	0	17	N/A
Fair Housing	Fair Housing	CDBG: $0	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	260	0	0.0%	0	0	N/A
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: $152,842	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	120	10	8.3%	24	10	41.6%
Infrastructure and Public Facility Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: $0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	9590	0	0.0%	6590	0	0.0%
Program Administration	Program Administration	CDBG: $284,932 HOME: $160,555	Other	Other	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: $294,203	Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	13580	1200	0.0%	2,716	1,200	44.2%
Public Services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: $0	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	5	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%

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.

Federal CDBG funds are intended to provide low-to-moderate income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

The activities undertaken by the City of Columbus are consistent with the documented priorities established in the Consolidated Plan. The priorities, goals, and objectives identified are designed to assist lower income residents needing housing, jobs, and services. One area of outstanding accomplishment over the 2021 program year was the 27,535 residents served through COVID-19 response activities. Because the City's Consolidated Plan was developed during the pandemic, a priority was established for COVID-19 response, anticipating ongoing needs to relieve and respond to the effects of the public health emergency. Although the City's performance relative to established Action Plan goals lagged in some areas, the data presented in Table 1 illustrates how the City shifted to address its highest-priority needs in a robust way.

One such example is the Public Health On Wheels program with the Georgia Department of Public Health. Using $150,000 from its CDBG-CV3 award, the program procured a mobile unit equipped with supplies and personal protective equipment to provide healthcare services remotely. In addition to offering healthcare services in underserved and hard-to-reach communities, local residents were recruited and trained to help staff the mobile unit as Community Health Workers. These staff members assisted the mobile team with reaching residents, providing educational services, and reducing vaccine hesitancy. As of September 26, 2022, a total of 1,466 patients have received services on the mobile unit since it began operating in December 2021.

Another success not represented in the Table 1 data was the completion and sale of two new single-family homes to income-eligible homebuyers during the year. This activity advances the City's priority of expanding the affordable housing supply, but does not directly address an established Action Plan goal so is not included in the metrics tracked in the Accomplishments table.

Finally, it bears repeating that the City's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic led to significant shifts in short-term priorities such that performance was diminished for many planned programs and activities. While this had an effect on the City's housing rehabilitation program, other factors were also at play that caused the City to miss its target of completing 24 housing rehabilitation projects. The City completed 10 rehabs (41.6% of its annual goal) during the program year. The slower pace of project completions is related to supply chain disruptions and contractor availability shortages stemming from the pandemic, but also the city's aged housing stock often requires complex environmental review processes to be completed prior to work beginning. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation

Office on these projects and coordination of strategies to mitigate adverse effects of renovation work on historic structures introduces significant delays and can also drive up the project costs.

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
White	3,413	0
Black or African American	5,447	17
Asian	18	0
American Indian or American Native	19	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	23	0
Other	661	0
Total	**9,579**	**17**
Hispanic	790	Not Available
Not Hispanic	8,262	Not Available

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

Narrative

The chart above shows the total beneficiaries by race and ethnicity directly assisted with HUD funding over the 2021-2022 program year. Please also note that race and ethnicity numbers are dependent upon self-reported data; therefore race and ethnicity may not align equally. The IDIS demographic table excludes "Other" families, including families of mixed race. Approximately 661 "Other" families were served during the program year.

As required by HUD, the City of Columbus and its subrecipients follow the Affirmative Marketing Rules. As such, all recipients of HOME funds are required to follow the affirmative marketing requirements. All printed materials are designed to inform the public, owners, or potential tenants interested to participate in the HOME Program. This includes a statement regarding the Columbus Consolidated Government’s Affirmative Marketing Plan as well as the applicable fair housing laws. This information is included in all media released and/or reports informing the public about the HOME Program. All newspaper and other media announcements, as well as any printed materials, include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo, slogan or statement. Fair Housing Posters are displayed in the offices of all of the City’s subrecipients.

To market and publicize various housing programs that are available to the public, all of the programs are advertised via the City's website at: http://www.columbusga.org/CommunityReinvestment/ and on the City’s social media accounts.

Additionally, publicity for City-funded housing programs is available on the websites of some of the

City's subrecipients, including:

- NeighborWorks at http://www.nwcolumbus.org,
- Open Door Community Housing at http://www.opendoorcommunityhouse.org

Federal funds were used to help residents at or below 80% of the area median income. Efforts continue to include the dissemination of information to various minority publications/media to increase awareness among minority populations. Housing events continue to be held throughout the community, which provide outreach to the minority population. The Community Reinvestment Department continues its membership on the Hispanic Outreach Committee, which consists of various community organizations that put activities together that provide information about programs and services to the Hispanic Community.

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	$3,120,205.74	$755,275.38
HOME	public - federal	$986,139.00	$483,066.33

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

In the 2021 program year, the City of Columbus dispersed a total of $2,321,419.78 in grant funds. This figure includes the CDBG and HOME expenditures recorded in the above table as well as $1,083,078.07 in CDBG-CV funds remaining from PY 2020. Because of the need to direct funding to more urgent COVID recovery needs and the shorter expenditure deadlines for the CDBG-CV funds, those resources were prioritized for expenditure. As a result, traditional CDBG and HOME entitlement funding was expended at a slower rate.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Citywide	80%	100%	The Citywide target area encompasses the entirety of the City of Columbus, allowing the City to direct CDBG and HOME funds to eligible activities throughout the city.
South Columbus NRSA	20%	0%	The City is working to identify a Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) and grow its internal technical capacity in order to promote revitalization within the new South Columbus NRSA.

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The City of Columbus allocated 100% in available resources for citywide projects. Priority CDBG funding areas include areas where the percentage of low-to-moderate income persons is 51% or higher. The consolidated plan defines “area of minority concentration” and “area of low-income concentration” as those census tracts that have concentrations of minority populations or low- income populations, respectively, statistically and significantly larger than the minority or low- income population for the City as a whole.

The South Columbus NRSA is a smaller area within the city limits, which is home to approximately 10.8% of the city’s total population. An estimated 72% of the residents in the South Columbus NRSA have low or moderate incomes. Currently, the City is looking for Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs) to grow their internal technical capacity. Having CBDOs engaged in work within a NRSA opens further funding flexibilities and will help maximize the revitalization efforts concentrated in South Columbus.

The City utilizes HOME and CDBG funds throughout the jurisdiction to serve low-to-moderate income persons. A portion of HOME and CDBG funds will be used for the rehabilitation and renovation of single-family homes to improve the housing conditions within those neighborhoods. This method of allocation will enable the city to serve the most disadvantaged residents given the limited funding available.

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.

The nonprofit organizations funded have additional financial capacity through foundations and fundraising campaigns. In addition, the city encourages applicants and subrecipients to seek other public and private resources that address the needs and goals identified in the Consolidated Plan. Federal funds provide these organizations with the opportunity to expand their services to benefit low-to- moderate income persons. The City's HOME funds are typically used as gap financing, which allows for the leveraging of other funds from a variety of financiang sources to make significant affordable housing investments. For CDBG funds, no match is required, but CDBG funds are often used in tandem with other funding sources, allowing other sources to be leveraged through our participation.

Jurisdictions participating in the HOME program must contribute no less than 25 cents for each dollar of HOME funds spent on affordable housing. This contribution is called the HOME match requirement and the City meets it by requiring its HOME subrecipients to log outside, non-federal funding invested alongside HOME funds in eligible projects, as well as through an accumulation of excess match carried over from prior years. Subrecipient match contributions are verified through a report submitted to the city on an annual basis. In this regard, the City's partnership with nonprofit developers is enhanced and the non-federal matching contributions add to the resources available for HOME-assisted or HOME-eligible projects, extending the effectiveness of HOME investments.

As the City expends HOME funds, it incurs a match liability of 25% of the amount drawn; the amount of this match liability must be satisfied by match contributions by the end of each federal fiscal year. The City began FY 2021 with an "excess match" balance of $854,944.00 carried forward from match contributions in prior years exceeding the 25% requirement. During FY 2021, the City's total HOME match liability was $106,931.18.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	$854,944.00
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	$192,011.17
3 .Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	$1,046,955.17
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	$ 106,931.18
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	$940,023.99

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**
3585	7/14/2021	$53,549.80	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$53,549.80
3632	12/22/2021	$55,178.50	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$55,178.50
3631	1/20/2022	$83,282.87	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$83,282.87

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 $**
0	0	0	0	0

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						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	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			
Number	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	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	13	17
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	19	143
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	11	0
Total	**43**	**160**

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	13	143
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	5	2
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	24	10
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	1	0
Total	**43**	**155**

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

Tenant-based rental assistance greatly exceeded the goal of 13 homeless households assisted for the year. This was a result of the City's response to the impact of the COVID pandemic, the related increased need for rental assistance, and the availability of new funding streams for recovery. All other housing assistance types fell short of the goals identified at the beginning of the program year in the Annual Action Plan. Due to the current increase in home prices, potential homebuyers were not finding move-in ready homes in their price range. The lack of adequate affordable homes was a significant barrier in PY 2021 for families looking to purchase homes.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The number of actual homeowner housing units added are usually products of prior year resources. As such, the one-year goals will likely be realized in future CAPER reports. Based on the projects completed to date and currently funded programs the City is on track to meet or exceed the 5-year goals set in the Consolidated Plan for the provision of affordable housing units. Although the City currently works with many community-based organizations, the primary impediment to the city's ability to meet underserved needs is the limited amount of entitlement funding and the fact that most nonprofit organizations operate on shoestring budgets. The City continues to face a reduction of funding at the local, state, and federal levels which will significantly limit the resources available to address the shortfall of affordable housing units.

The City of Columbus will provide additional information on program changes that are currently in development as the city continues to determine the needs of residents in future Action Plans. Subrecipients will be advised to consider market conditions and the availability of rental and permanent affordable housing when proposing annual project beneficiary goals.

Lastly, the Community Reinvestment Department will attempt to share its funding more broadly in the future, by making additional contacts with non-profit and private affordable housing developers during its open application cycle. Further analysis of mitigating barriers to affordable rental housing will occur during the PY 2022 Housing Needs Assessment, conducted every year before developing the annual action plan.

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	CDBG-CV Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	6,336	6,450	10
Low-income	3,034	2,085	7
Moderate-income	172	312	2
Total	**9,542**	**8,847**	**19**

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The City's housing market presents significant obstructions to development of an adequate supply of affordable housing for Low to Moderate Income individuals and families. Loss of major manufacturing employment opportunities, such as (Snyder's-Lance) coupled with rising construction costs has created a significant barrier to affordable housing. Additionally, as of the 2020 decennial census, the City of Columbus has moved into the position as the second largest city in the State of Georgia. There are significant geographic and socioeconomic disparities in access to essential community assets. Household income in Columbus differs widely across races and ethnicities, with minority residents likely to earn less.

The city has taken steps to reduce these obstacles and affirmatively further fair housing choice. Some steps include such as allocating CDBG funding for housing rehabilitation activities to preserve existing affordable housing and providing HOME funds for both new construction and housing rehabilitation. The City of Columbus has also provided funding for down-payment assistance, homebuyer education, and fair housing education and outreach. These activities are represented in this CAPER and have continued in the implementation of our most recent Consolidated Plan.

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

As a participant in the local CoC, led by Home for Good, the City is a partner to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless individuals, families, and homeless subpopulations. Through the CoC, there are three core Street Outreach Providers, the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) team, Columbus Police Department (CPD), and the Homeless Prevention Team.

Street outreach is conducted weekly by CPD, biweekly by PATH, and at random by The Homeless Prevention Team. Each group has a representative that serves on the Mainstream and Outreach Committee (M&O Committee), which meets quarterly to coordinate and get updates on progress being made in key areas. Each group has specific service areas, such as crisis intervention and survival aid but all have the same common goal to refer them to the Coordinated Entry System (211) for intake and individualized services.

Individuals/families can access support services either by self-presenting at most of the shelter facilities or through referrals. Regional emergency shelters refer participants to agencies that will assist them in obtaining mainstream resources. Transitional housing programs generally refer participants getting permanent housing programs and locations and provide the necessary assistance to obtain resources to successfully aid in the transition.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Each year, the CoC conducts a Point-in-Time count of the persons residing in emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities, as well as those living unsheltered within the Columbus region. This information is used to understand the emergency and transitional needs of homeless persons so that they can be addressed adequately and efficiently. The CoC has implemented a plan to help emergency shelters better understand the benefits of participating in the count, such as the value of statistical data gathered during from the Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count processes. This data includes information about homeless clients tracked through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as a result of receiving services from HMIS participating agencies. This system provides information on services to eligible clients by local non-profit organizations in the city. The city annually provides funding that in part helps support the HMIS database to track the effectiveness of service providers.

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

Increasing the amount of permanent and affordable housing with supportive services is key in helping homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The majority of chronically homeless persons have severe mental illness and/or substance abuse issues. As such, they require long-term, affordable housing options that have supplementary supportive services to make a successful transition into residential stability. To continue to increase the rate of placement and retention, the CoC recently completed a Housing Stability Plan that will follow clients in securing permanent housing and Home for Good is hiring a “poverty czar” to lead implementation of the plan. This model is based on providing wraparound services that address specific homelessness issues

A key component of the CoC’s strategy for ending chronic homelessness is to strategically address issues that most often cause these problems:

- The high prevalence of substance abuse among chronically homeless individuals
- Inadequate education and/or job skills among many homeless persons
- The shortage of affordable housing in the City of Columbus

By placing emphasis on the above issues along with efficient coordination and collaboration with local non-profit agencies the City of Columbus can strategically pivot itself in addressing chronic homelessness. To capitalize on this, the CoC implemented a comprehensive Homeless Prevention Strategy to effectively identify, assess, prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless, and to divert them in a housing crisis from homelessness. The city continues to fund non-profit organizations to provide support services to homeless individuals and families.

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 City of Columbus recognizes the need for neighborhood-based homelessness prevention programs, such as a crisis response and stabilization team, a street outreach program, housing search placement specialists, increased employment opportunities that provide temporary rental assistance and other services. The CoC has implemented a cohesive comprehensive system to increase access to employment and mainstream benefits. Through its Coordinated Entry System, client’s needs are assessed through its intake process and subsequently connected to the appropriate services and programs. CoC funded programs/projects are required to attend Soar Training, quarterly resource fairs, and job fairs. Additionally, projects are assigned case managers and/or life skills managers that coordinate assistance.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of Columbus, Georgia (HACG) provides publicly supported housing for residents of Columbus. HACG has a Moving To Work (MTW) designation, which allows the housing authority greater flexibility in its use of operating and capital funds and its implementation of policies not typically permitted under HUD regulations. In addition to public housing, the HACG offers rental assistance through the Section-8 Voucher Program.

The HACG's current public housing stock is generally in fair physical condition and well-maintained, however, continued maintenance of these units is cost prohibitive as units begin to age. Through the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, public housing agencies are able to leverage public and private debt and equity to reinvest in the public housing. Units move to a Section-8 platform with a long-term contract that, by law, must be renewed. This ensures that the units remain permanently affordable to low-to-moderate income households.

The HACG has two large public housing developments that it plans to convert to project based vouchers within the 1-3 years. These developments include Warren Williams Homes (184 units) and Elizabeth Canty Homes (249 units). In 2020, the HACG demolished 108 public housing units at Chase Homes under SAC Section 18 demolition approval. All 108 households were relocated through tenant protection vouchers. The site of Chase Homes will be replaced with HCV PBV units, including 76 project-based voucher units available to residents earning 50% AMI, and 11 market-rate units. Former Chase Homes residents will have preference in returning to the new development. Approximately 24 HCV PBV units will also become available at the Warm Springs Senior Village. The HACG also plans to convert 31 public housing units at Patriot Pointe and 24 public housing units at Columbus Commons to project-based vouchers in the next 1-2 years. At the completion of these RAD conversions and demolitions, the HACG will consist entirely of project-based and tenant-based vouchers.

HACG's program of RAD conversions is ongoing, pending the allocation of 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) bonds by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Additionally, the HACG is in an ongoing planning and implementation process regarding modernization and aesthetic improvements to public housing properties. The City of Columbus continues to work with HACG to develop and maintain affordable housing.

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

At each of its public housing sites, the HACG has resident councils, security task forces, educational opportunities, and youth programming. Each of which provides resources to improve their economic conditions and quality of living. Additionally, the HACG reserves one spot on its board for a public housing resident and actively encourages residents to participate in planning meetings.

HACG programs include Moving to Work (MTW) created in 2013, this agency provides for more flexibility in how it uses federal funds. The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program is a voluntary self-sufficiency program that provides participating families the opportunity to identify needs, improve skill sets, work towards life goals, economic independence, and housing self-sufficiency. The FSS program has a program coordinator to assist residents in finding beneficial resources.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Not applicable. As a Moving To Work agency, the HACG is not scored through the Public Housing Assessment System (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)

Over the course of the past year, the city and its partners continued to reduce barriers to affordable housing by allocating CDBG funding for housing rehabilitation that will preserve existing affordable housing. Through the Continuing Hope and Home Accessibility programs, elderly households and households that have members with disabilities are provided with essential repairs and modifications. Also, the City provided HOME funds for both new construction and housing rehabilitation. The city continues to budget for fair housing education and outreach on an annual basis.

In order to continue to address and eliminate any potential barriers to affordable housing, the city has identified the following actions:

1.) Develop partnerships to build and increase the number of affordable units,

2.) Support and coordinate with developers for housing tax credit project applications proposed within the city,

3.) Provide homebuyer education,

4.) Make efforts to coordinate the Land Bank Authority of Columbus Georgia for the development of affordable housing units, and

5.) Recognizing increasing housing prices, in PY 2021 the City amended the parameters of its down payment assistance program, increasing the maximum assistance amount from $10,000 to $14,975, while keeping the affordability period at 5 years

The City's limited CDBG and HOME funds are the primary impediment to meeting underserved needs. As such, additional public and private resources are fundamental in assisting with implementation of policies and programs.

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

Although the city currently works with many community-based organizations, the primary obstacle to the city's ability to meet underserved needs is the limited amount of entitlement funding and the fact that most nonprofit organizations operate on limited budgets. The city has faced a reduction of funding at the local, state, and federal levels which significantly limits the resources available to address the shortfall of affordable housing units and community needs. Because of this shortfall, the city has shifted its strategy to encourage and promote multifamily affordable housing developments which will leverage and expand affordable housing options for income eligible renter households. Additionally, the city will continue its efforts for affordable housing acquisition and/or rehabilitation. These funds will provide additional leverage for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and/or resale of homes to income eligible residents, many of whom will be first time homebuyers.

With its 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, the city has established a new Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) in South Columbus. Creation of a NRSA allows greater flexibility in the use of Community Development Block Grant funds and bridges together government, civic, private businesses, and non-profit organizations to revitalize distressed communities. The South Columbus NRSA allows CDBG funds to be used in a more flexible manner to help with neighborhood revitalization in neighborhoods where at least 70% of the residents are of low-to-moderate incomes. Through this NRSA designation, some of the most distressed residential neighborhoods in South Columbus with high concentrations of low to moderate income individuals will benefit from revitalization efforts. Currently, the City is looking for Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs) to grow their internal technical capacity. Having CBDOs engaged in work within a NRSA opens further funding flexibilities and will help maximize the revitalization efforts concentrated in South Columbus. NRSA accomplishments will be reported on in subsequent Annual Action Plans and CAPERs.

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

The city continues to make every effort to protect persons and the environment through compliance of HUD regulations of controlling lead-based paint hazards with housing receiving federal assistance. The city has established partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, Access 2 Independence, and NeighborWorks of Columbus in administering minor home repair and accessibility modifications for income-eligible elderly and disabled individuals with much needed repair, maintenance, weatherization, safety, and beautification of homes.

These programs are required to implement all aspects of HUD’s lead-based paint regulations with particular emphasis on properties built prior to 1978. These organizations continue their efforts to reduce lead-based paint hazards on all their rehabilitation projects by providing outreach on the dangers, identification, and reduction of lead-based paint hazards to all program participants.

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

The City of Columbus plays an active role in reducing poverty and expanding economic opportunity for job creation and development. The poverty rate is based on whether a household’s income can adequately provide for basic needs, which indicates a strong correlation between the labor market and the poverty rate. Ensuring there are opportunities to those who earn the least is key to reducing the number of families in poverty. Economic development through direct technical and business assistance are the catalyst for the retention and creation of new jobs, subsequently providing opportunities for economic mobility.

For PY 2021, the city promoted economic development through the following means:

- Using CDBG-CV funds, the City set up a highly successful pilot program for business assistance grants. After making 27 $4,000 grants ($108,000 total) to local businesses for space, utilities, and operational retrofits, the City allocated $5 million in other ARP local funds to expand it; and then used that $5 million as match to receive another $4 million in state funds for the program.
- The city has worked to develop a business incubator project in partnership with the Columbus Makes It and the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce called SartUp Columbus. StartUp Columbus provides individuals of all income levels the opportunity to explore business ideas and accelerate their programs.
- The city continues its partnership with Home for Good, whom is the lead agency for the CoC. The CoC has implemented a cohesive comprehensive system to increase access to employment and mainstream benefits. Through its Coordinated Entry System, individuals are assessed through its intake process and subsequently connected to the appropriate services and programs.
- As discussed previously, the city has established a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) in South Columbus which is helping to provide the City a way to target the its CDBG funding resources in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Within an NRSA, the City of Columbus can designate comprehensive strategies to address economic development and housing needs in the targeted area. Job creation and retention activities are part of the NRSA designation and strategy.

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

Over the 2021 program year, the City's Community Reinvestment Department experienced significant staff changes. In taking actions to strengthen the functioning of the department, the many new staff are working on developing and strengthening policies and procedures to ensure all programs and operations are guided by written guidelines. As the new Community Reinvestment team takes shape, the City continually seeks to maintain compliance with regulations and grant guidelines.

The city's Community Reinvestment Department continues to strengthen its working relationships with social service agencies. It is critical that public and local agencies work cooperatively in executing tasks. The city continues to coordinate amongst its partner agencies to promote a broadly shared understanding of community needs, collaborative and complementary approaches to addressing needs, and responsiveness to changes in conditions.

The city has a Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) that consists of board members appointed by the mayor and council members to act as the voice of residents per the Citizen Participation Plan. This committee meets throughout the year to provide recommendations on the city's consolidated planning process.

The city continues to work closely with partner agencies and community stakeholders to develop social response programs based on community need. For example, the Community Reinvestment Department and other city representatives are active members in the CoC board and subcommittees, 211 response line through the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley, the Columbus 2025 Initiative for Economic, Community and Workforce Development, and Neighborhood CDBG Programs. Each program provides a response by the city to respond to the institutional needs of community partners and the individuals they serve. Additionally, the City's partnerships have reached beyond Columbus as staff has forged new peer-to-peer relationships to share best practices and provide technical assistance with other grantees in Savannah and Augusta.

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

The city has established several cooperative partnerships and collaborations with public and supportive housing providers, local government, and mental health and social service agencies to address its priority needs and will continue to do so. Examples Include:

Single- and multifamily housing: the city partners with organizations such as NeighborWorks and Truth Spring Trade School to coordinate the funding, development, and monitoring of single - family and multifamily housing units funded through the HOME and CDBG programs.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance: the city partners with a local non-profit, Open Door Community House, to manage the HOME tenant-based rental assistance program. This program is prioritized for homeless individuals and households. Support services are offered to all Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) households through CoC Programs.

Single-family Housing Rehabilitation: the city partners with the Columbus Area Habitat for Humanity and Access 2 Independence to provide minor home repair and accessibility modifications for income eligible elderly and disabled individuals.

Fair Housing: the city hosts fair housing activities in April to honor Fair Housing Month. Although the pandemic has minimized the amount of celebration that normally occurs, the City took the occasion of Fair Housing Month to rebrand its down payment assistance program as "Sweet Home Columbus" and to announce an increase in the maximum funding provided from $10,000 to 14,975.

The city provides CDBG funding annually and partners with Home for Good (a local nonprofit homeless provider) who serves as the collaborative applicant for the CoC. Home for Good coordinates several homelessness reduction system-wide strategies involving both public and private agencies such as Coordinated Assessment, Housing First, and Rapid Rehousing through the Continuum of Care.

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

During FY 2021, the City of Columbus continued to provide funding to support fair housing activities to promote awareness of the fair housing model. The city has placed particular emphasis in the following:

- Continuing outreach within targeted communities at locations such as recreation centers, community/neighborhood centers, and churches,
- Contracting with a HUD-certified fair housing organization to conduct paired real estate testing in the local rental market. Publish the results in local newspapers as a means of public education and deterrence against future discrimination by landlords.
- Educating elected officials and city department staff responsible for CDBG/HOME funds in their legal obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.
- Targeting education and outreach to landlords who rent a small number of units, as they are likely to be unaware of fair housing laws and their legal responsibilities.
- Designating an existing staff person as the local fair housing officer and establish a formal internal process for referring housing discrimination complaints to the Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity or to HUD.

The city continues its outreach to individuals with limited English proficiency within targeted communities. For example, the Community Reinvestment Department is active on the Hispanic Outreach Committee. The city is currently developing an adequate formal policy for ensuring that persons with limited English proficiency can access its housing and community development services and programs.

As a way to streamline programs such as CDBG and HOME, the city will host a HUD Grant Workshop for these programs in January of 2022. This will provide an overview of CDBG and HOME Programs to interested non-profit organizations and affordable housing developers. The workshop will streamline the annual application process and prepare non-profit organizations and affordable housing developers for funding applications that are due in February 2022.

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 responsibilities for the City's CDBG, and HOME, programs are carried out by Community Reinvestment Department staff. Each year, a risk analysis is completed on all open activities to evaluate financial capacity, management, planning, and national objectives. Risk analysis scores are averaged to determine which activities require on-site monitoring or a desk audit for federal and local compliance. Program staff inspects for key project components during a site visit to ensure compliance with grant regulations. All new subrecipients and agencies that have not been monitored within the past five years are automatically selected, regardless of their risk analysis score.

Once the program staff completes the risk analysis, on-site monitoring visits are scheduled. Monitoring results letters are issued within 30 days of the on-site visit. Subrecipients are required to respond to any concerns or findings within 30 days of receipt of the results letter. All concerns or findings must be resolved by the Community Reinvestment Department for the grantee to qualify for funding during the next application cycle.

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.

On Tuesday, October 11, 2022, the 2021 CAPER was advertised for public comment in the Columbus Ledger Enquirer. The Community Reinvestment Department distributed the Public Notice to organizations that serve low-to-moderate income persons, minorities, or protected classes throughout the city. The City was open to receive public comments from Tuesday, October 11, 2022, through Tuesday, October 25, 2022, and held a public hearing on Monday, October 24, 2022. There were no citizen comments to report.

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.

This CAPER evaluates outcomes from the first year of the City's new 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan. As this plan year immediately followed the development of the current Consolidated Plan and evaluation of the data and public input collected as part of that process, the 2021 program year has not varied in any significant way from the City's program objectives at the outset.

During the development of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, a set of priority needs were identified. These priorities include the expansion of affordable housing supply, housing rehabilitation, blight removal, infrastructure and public facility improvements, public services, fair housing, COVID-19 response, and program administration. The Consolidated Plan also contains goals, measurable objectives, and implementation actions for each of the plan's elements.

Funding for PY 2021 projects was awarded based on the priorities listed above. For the remainder of the city's consolidated plan period, the City of Columbus Community Reinvestment Department staff will continue conducting annual needs assessments to determine if strategic priorities need to be modified.

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

No

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

Not applicable.

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.

While the HOME regulations state that on-site inspections must only be conducted every three years following the initial 12-month post completion inspection, the City of Columbus has chosen to expand on this by requiring our developers and owners to conduct additional in-house inspections. This policy has been adopted into all our written agreements as a means of mitigating potential increased repair and maintenance costs due to negligence or ignorance of issues with rental properties. During the 2021-2022 program year, NeighborWorks inspected 24 HOME rental units and all units passed inspection. These inspections included evaluation of conditions in the kitchen, dining room, living room, all bedrooms and bathrooms, laundry area, and exterior. At the time of inspection, routine maintenance, such as replacing HVAC filters, smoke detector batteries, and lightbulbs, and application of pest control was typically performed.

2021-2022 HOME Rental Inspections		
Address	**Inspection Date**	**Inspection Result**
5031 12th Avenue	3/9/2022	Pass
1327 Dogwood Avenue	3/17/2022	Pass
1518 43rd Street	3/17/2022	Pass
3829 6th Avenue	3/17/2022	Pass
425 Walnut Street	3/17/2022	Pass
426 Central Circle	3/17/2022	Pass
4814 13th Avenue Apt. A	3/17/2022	Pass
506 23rd Street	3/17/2022	Pass
526 Walnut Street	3/17/2022	Pass
719 Apex Road	3/17/2022	Pass
723 Apex Road	3/17/2022	Pass
4803 13th Avenue Apt. A	6/29/2022	Pass
4803 13th Avenue Apt. B	6/29/2022	Pass
4806 13th Avenue Apt. A	6/29/2022	Pass
4806 13th Avenue Apt. B	6/29/2022	Pass
4811 13th Avenue Apt. A	6/29/2022	Pass
4811 13th Avenue Apt. B	6/29/2022	Pass
4814 13th Avenue Apt. B	6/29/2022	Pass
4907 11th Avenue Apt. A	6/29/2022	Pass
4907 11th Avenue Apt. B	6/29/2022	Pass

4909 11th Avenue Apt. A	6/29/2022	Pass
1490 Rochester Avenue	6/30/2022	Pass
2735 Marion Street	6/30/2022	Pass
705 Church Avenue	6/30/2022	Pass

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

Complying with 24 CFR Part 92.351, the City of Columbus and its subrecipients follow the Affirmative Marketing Rules. All recipients of HOME funds are required to follow the affirmative marketing requirements. All printed materials designed to inform the public, owners, or potential tenants wishing to participate in the HOME Program includes a statement regarding the Columbus Consolidated Government's Affirmative Marketing Plan as well asfair housing laws. This information is included in all media released and/or reports informing the public about the HOME Program. All newspaper and other media announcements, as well as any printed materials, include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo, slogan, or statement. Fair Housing Posters are displayed in the offices of all the City's subrecipients.

To market and publicize various housing programs that are available to the public, all of the programs are advertised via the City's website at http://www.columbusga.org/CommunityReinvestment/ and social media accounts. The Community Reinvestment Department utilizes Facebook as a social media tool to reach a greater and diverse audience when publicizing its events. The use of social media has resulted in an increase of individuals showing up to public meetings and forums.

The City of Columbus periodically assesses the Affirmative Marketing Policy to determine the efficacy and make any necessary corrective actions. The assessment of the Affirmative Marketing Policy occurs annually when the city evaluates housing programs in its Annual Action Plan.

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

The City did not use any HOME program income for projects in PY 2021.

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)

The City of Columbus has continued to identify and build on its partnerships with nonprofit housing organizations and private agencies with the goal of increasing the supply of affordable housing. These have included LIHTC and other developers considering housing projects in the city. The City has also continued to increase housing affordability in Columbus through the homebuyer down payment assistance program, tenant-based rental assistance, Continuing Hope Program (critical repairs and/or installations, including heating and air conditioning systems, roofs, flooring, plumbing, electrical updates and repairs, windows and exterior doors), and the Home Access Program (Americans with Disabilities Act modifications for improved accessibility).

The City will continue to evaluate current HOME Program activities and will be proactive in funding projects which address the affordable housing needs in the City of Columbus.

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	0	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	0	0	0	0	0
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0	0	0
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0	0	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	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	0	0	0	0
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	0	0	0	0	0
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0	0	0
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	0	0	0	0	0
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0	0	0
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes,preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	0	0	0	0	0
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0	0	0	0
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	0	0	0	0	0
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.	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted residents with finding child care.	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	0	0	0	0	0
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0	0	0
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	0	0	0	0	0
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0	0	0	0
Other.	0	0	0	0	0

Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

In PY 2021, the City reprogrammed funds from a designed Section 3 project to a different activity, however, Section 3 initiatives are planned for future years. The City is working with Truth Spring, a nonprofit trade school and workforce development organization to build the organization's capacity to successfully partner with the City on Section 3 initiatives.