



INDEPENDENCE
★ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ★

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

For CDBG & HOME Program Year 2020-2021

Prepared by

**Community Development Department
City of Independence, MO**

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 2020 Program Year, which began year four (4) of the established 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan, the City continued to make steady progress across most goals established in the 5-year Consolidated Plan. CDBG and HOME Program funding was used for administration and general oversight, code enforcement, public service programs that provide meals, transitional and emergency shelter, child abuse prevention, rent and utility assistance, development of affordable housing, public facility improvements, and minor home repairs.

In addition to these grants, the City's CDBG-CV funds were awarded to community agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID 19. CDBG-CV funds during the 2020 Program year were expended to assist public transportation and public services that provide meals, transitional and emergency shelter, child abuse prevention, rent and utility assistance. In addition, CDBG-CV funds were awarded to partners to provide rent and utility assistance to low- to moderate-income households and small business assistance; although these funds were not expended during the program year, the impact outcomes and beneficiaries served will be reported separately in a forthcoming report. All funding allocations were focused on achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan as follows:

Quality housing choice for all—Funds were utilized to improve existing housing stock, installation of accessibility improvements, residential rehabilitation for resell for homeownership, and construction of affordable single-family homes to the Community for All Ages standards for homeownership.

Strong, health, well-balanced neighborhoods- Funds were utilized to support property maintenance code enforcement in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and public facility improvements that include street, sidewalk and utility improvements in a low-income neighborhood near the historic Independence Square plus the design of improvements to several public transit stops to include new accessibility.

Commitment to preventing and ending homelessness— Funds were utilized to assist homeless and at-risk homeless through the provision of emergency shelter, rent and utility assistance, subsistence level services, case management services, and transitional housing. HOME Program funds were utilized to support production of homebuyer opportunities for low- to moderate-income families.

Self-sufficiency and family success— Funds were utilized to assist a variety of public service programs aimed at increasing self-sufficiency and

family success including transitional housing for families in crisis, and transitional housing for pregnant teens. Funds were also allocated to provide homebuyer assistance to low- and moderate-income families in partnership with the City's HOME affordable housing production program. CDBG-CV funds were used to assist public transportation during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure this vital service to the community did not need to make reductions in service. This service is relied on by the low- to moderate-income individual for access to jobs, services and health care.

Dependable care for those with special needs— CDBG funds were provided to assistance for childhood education, meal programs for seniors, the disabled and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and child abuse.

Ongoing Capacity Building—Program Administrative funds supported effective administration of eligible projects.

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
Commitment to preventing and ending homelessness	Homeless	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	2500	0	0.00%			
Commitment to preventing and ending homelessness	Homeless	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	350	2556	730.29%	12000	2556	21.30%

Dependable care for those with special needs	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	5000	3917	78.34%	3000	3917	130.57%
Local AFH Goal 1: Reasonable Accommodations Policy	AFFH Goal and Strategies #1	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$0	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	100	0	0.00%			
Local AFH Goal 1: Reasonable Accommodations Policy	AFFH Goal and Strategies #1	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Local AFH Goal 2: Rental Ready Program	AFFH goals and Strategies #2	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$0	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	4000	0	0.00%			
Local AFH Goal 2: Rental Ready Program	AFFH goals and Strategies #2	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1200	0	0.00%
Local AFH Goal 3: Fairmount Business District Plan	AFFH goals and strategies #3	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	15	0	0.00%			
Local AFH Goal 3: Fairmount Business District Plan	AFFH goals and strategies #3	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	5	0	0.00%	1	0	0.00%

Local AFH Goal 4: Comprehensive Plan Update	AFFH Goals and Strateries #4		Other	Other	1	0	0.00%			
Ongoing Capacity Building	Program Administration & Capacity Building	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Other	Other	0	0		2	0	0.00%
Quality housing choice for all	Affordable Housing Fair Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	6	0	0.00%			
Quality housing choice for all	Affordable Housing Fair Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	24	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%
Quality housing choice for all	Affordable Housing Fair Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	200	0	0.00%	40	0	0.00%
Quality housing choice for all	Affordable Housing Fair Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	12	0	0.00%			

Reg AFH Goal 1: Expand Use of CDFI/NMTC	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development AFFH Regional Goal 1	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 10: Promote KC Degrees/KC Scholars	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 11: KC Rising Education and Job Train	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 12: Transportation Option Partnership	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 13: Align Regional Transit to Jobs	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%

Reg AFH Goal 14: Affordable Hsg Education Material	Affordable Housing AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 15: Fair Hsg Goals Metrics	Affordable Housing AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 2: Establish Fair Housing Website	Access to Fair Housing Information	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 3: Fair Hsg Education - Stakeholders	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 4: Advocate for Universal Designs	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 5: Regional Housing Mobility	Affordable Housing Public Housing AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		10	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 6: Develop Compact Use Zoning	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%

Reg AFH Goal 7: Develop Regional Hsg Locator	Affordable Housing AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 8: Encourage Affordable TOD by Zoning	Affordable Housing AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Reg AFH Goal 9: Universal Design Incentive Policy	AFFH	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%
Self-sufficiency and family success	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	0	0		100	0	0.00%
Self-sufficiency and family success	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	200	0	0.00%			
Self-sufficiency and family success	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	18	0	0.00%			
Self-sufficiency and family success	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	5	0	0.00%			
Small Business Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	35	0	0.00%			

Small Business Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	35	0	0.00%			
Strong, healthy, well-balanced neighborhoods	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	3000	2405	80.17%	0	2405	
Strong, healthy, well-balanced neighborhoods	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	12000	0	0.00%	2200	0	0.00%

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.

Funding priorities for the 2020-21 CDBG and HOME Program investments were determined by the results of various citizen participation efforts, and through committee evaluation of competitive grant applications submitted by eligible sub-recipients and third-party developers. City initiated activities including redevelopment planning, affordable housing rehabilitation for resale to low- to moderate-income households, infrastructure improvements activities that also support City Council priorities identified in the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Plans. In addition, housing proposals were solicited to encourage universal design and aging in place, as a part of our Gold Standard Community for All Ages initiatives. The City successfully and efficiently administered the program at less than the regulatory 20% funding level resulting in the opportunity to reprogram the savings into future opportunities for the community.

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	5,617	1
Black or African American	1,706	0
Asian	33	0
American Indian or American Native	76	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	47	0
Total	7,479	1
Hispanic	532	0
Not Hispanic	7,622	1

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

Narrative

During the 2020-21 Program Year, 8,154 households were served. Of these, 69% were white, and the second largest racial group of families assisted was Black/African American (approximately 21%). Data shown in the table above did not capture the racial categories: American Indian/Alaskan Native & White (39), Asian & White (2), Black/African American & White (97), American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American (10), or Other Multi-Racial (527).

The above table and paragraph includes data for the persons served through the City's Public Service Programs completed by CAPA, Community Services League, Hillcrest Transitional Housing, Hope House, Independence Meals on Wheels, Metro Lutheran Emergency Assistance, Mother's Refuge, NWCDC Senior Meal Program, Palmer Center Nutrition Program, Salvation Army Crossroads and Salvation Army Emergency Assistance.

The racial and ethnic composition of families assisted is similar to the overall demographics of the City of Independence as reflected in the most recent American Community Survey data from the US Census.

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	821,542	981,132
HOME	public - federal	465,330	55,000

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

During the reporting period, the following categories of funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) were made available to support the City's 2020-21 Program Year Action Plan activities.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program - \$854,053

FFY 2020 Entitlement Award: \$821,542

Program Income: \$0.00

Reprogrammed from prior grant years: \$32,511

Carried forward from unexpended prior year funding allocations: \$167,096.72

The City continued to draw down previous year funds, largely to complete bigger public facility projects. Additionally, the City successfully met all HUD required expenditure deadlines in Program Year 2020, indicating that the Division is distributing its available funds out in the community in a timely way.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
CDBG Eligible Area Census Tracts	75	85	CDBG Eligible Census Tracts
City-wide	25	15	City-wide

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The basis for allocating 2020-21 CDBG and HOME Program investments within the boundaries of Independence, was determined primarily by the results (identification of needs and priorities) of the annual citizen participation process, and through committee evaluation of competitive grant applications submitted by eligible sub-recipients and third-party developers. Fifteen (15%) of CDBG

(Public Services) was awarded through a formal RFP Process, 40% set aside for public facility and infrastructure improvements in a low to moderate-income neighborhood, and all HOME funds were awarded through a formal RFP with awards to be made in June 2021. Funding decisions were made based on basic project eligibility, applicant capacity, proposed benefit for the low and moderate-income community, and leveraging of other funding resources.

Public service projects selected for funding provided a direct benefit for low- to moderate-income clientele City-wide. These programs were targeted to all qualifying residents of Independence, whose household income falls below 80% of the median income, including the region's homeless.

The City initiated activities including redevelopment planning, program administration, code compliance, and infrastructure improvements accounted for the remaining projects. While the City initiated activities to consider needs identified during the citizen participation process, they also reflect City Council priorities identified in the city's Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Plan Independence for All and Capital Improvement Plan processes. During the 2020-21 Plan period, city driven CDBG and HOME activities continued to focus on supplementing the community's larger redevelopment efforts, the continued work on public transit stop improvements in low and moderate income areas and the repair and replace of missing sidewalks in a low-moderate income neighborhood providing access to groceries, retail and the high school.

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 City leverages many resources outside of direct CDBG entitlement funding to ensure the federal funding goes further and has broader reach. This occurs through City general fund match, partner match funds, use of public resources, and additional grant funding.

The City continued construction on two (2) public facility and infrastructure improvement projects – the College St project and the public transit bus stop project. The College St project involves repair or replace missing sidewalks in a low-moderate income neighborhood providing access to groceries, retail and the high school. Total other investments in this project totaled approximately \$669,000. The Public Transit bus stop project involves the construction of concrete bus stop pads and associated accessibility ramps and bus shelters in select locations. CDBG funds will be used as match to \$150,000 of STP funds.

In addition, the sub-recipient Non-Profit agencies awarded CDBG Public Service dollars were required to document matching funds in the ratio of 5:1 of CDBG dollars contracted. All of the Non-Profit agencies exceeded the minimum matching requirement. The total leveraged funds with Public Service funding are approximately \$7.9 million dollars, which is a 40:1 ratio.

CDBG Allocation: \$854,053

Match funding for CDBG: \$7.9 million dollars

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	3,952,908
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	264,854
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	4,217,762
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	4,217,762

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
1602 - 1300 S. High St	07/01/2020	0	0	0	0	30,973	0	30,973
1603 - 10923 E. 8th Street	07/15/2020	0	604	0	0	53,100	0	53,704
1621 - 1407 S. Willow	07/15/2020	0	0	0	0	13,130	0	13,130
1628 - 1612 S. Harris	07/15/2020	88,050	0	0	0	0	0	88,050
1629 - 2333 S. Hall	07/15/2020	78,997	0	0	0	0	0	78,997

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						
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	500	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	5,000	160
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	500	39
Total	6,000	199

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	50	194
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	4	3
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	2	2
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	56	199

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

The 2020-21 Annual Action Plan goal numbers mistakenly included all anticipated public service numbers as well as numbers from the City's Rental Ready Program, which is not funded through CDBG or HOME. The City of Independence continued efforts to provide affordable housing through our Public Service Programs. CDBG and HOME programs were impacted during the 2020-2021 program year due to COVID-19. Although the City was able to fully fund Public Service Programs, new challenges emerged

in terms of getting services to eligible persons. Problems with maintaining communication with families in need was a challenge faced by organizations seeking to provide services.

HOME- Construction delays due to COVID-19 delayed the completion of projects for Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity and Oikos Development Corporation. Projects are expected to be complete during the 2021-22 program year.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City will continue to gather feedback from the community and HOME sub-grantees to further learn how to incorporate Universal Design and other sustainability measures into affordable housing. Staff will continue exploring new strategies to gather community feedback when planning future annual action plans. To further outreach to the public, the City will explore various avenues to send and receive information, while developing future action plans.

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	2,680	0
Low-income	900	1
Moderate-income	0	0
Total	3,580	1

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

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 City of Independence continues to participate in the Greater Kansas City Continuum of Care. Homeless service providers in Independence continue to participate in the organization. The City of Independence has formed its own coalition to address and prevent homelessness and will continue to further its progress during the 2022-2023 Program Year. This coalition assisted in developing revised regulations pertaining to homeless shelters in the City's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). It is anticipated this revision would be approved in the 2021-22 Program Year.

As a result of COVID-19, the City of Independence's Emergency Management Team established an Emergency Support Function 6 for Eastern Jackson County to lead in areas of Mass Feeding, Homelessness, Mental Health, School Feeding and Communications. As the City moves into recovery phase, plans will further develop to meet the short- and long-term programs to support homeless persons.

With a portion of the City's CDBG-CV funding, the city also awarded grant to support rent and utility assistance to low- to moderate-income household through Community Services League in response to COVID-19. This grant has not all been fully spent down but are open and in progress. Additionally, the City utilized a portion of CDBG-CV to fully fund public service agencies' funding requests.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The following Public Services Programs focus on providing emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons in the City of Independence:

Salvation Army Crossroads (\$25,000) serves as the only family emergency shelter in Eastern Jackson County, CDBG funding was used to assist with general operating cost. Crossroads remains at full capacity, with a turn away rate of 200+ per month.

Salvation Army Emergency Assistance Program (\$15,000) helps program participants from becoming homeless by providing assistance with utility disconnects and rental assistance to prevent eviction. Due to COVID-19 the need for support continues to be greater than the capacity of the agency to meet the growing demand.

Hope House (\$5,745) provided comprehensive supportive services to survivors of domestic violence with meals, legal services, and case management while in shelter. Funds were used to meet the gap

between secured contributions and the forecasted projected budget that feeds approximately 250 people annually.

Hillcrest Transitional Housing (\$25,000) provided transitional housing to formerly homeless families which included life skills classes, finding employment, financial budgeting and providing counseling which allow them to return to independent living.

Metro Lutheran Emergency Assistance (\$10,000) aided those in danger of losing their homes in the form of rent or utility assistance, combined with case management, food pantry and employment counseling.

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 following organizations provided meals to low-income senior and disabled residents throughout the year.

NWCDC Senior Meal Program (\$20,000) provides meals for the elderly and disabled, providing nutrition and the opportunity for social engagement, and promoting common interest and building community. The delivery of meals is important to assist individuals on fixed incomes assists in preventing homelessness by allowing them to use funds previously allocated for food to assist with other living expenses.

Palmer Center Nutrition Program (\$25,000) uses funding to provide whole-person wellness opportunities including physical health, vocational opportunities, environmental awareness, emotional and spiritual health to more than 600 individuals annually.

Independence Meals on Wheels (\$15,000) provides weekday meals delivered to low to moderate income elderly, home-bound, physically handicapped and lack resources to provide their nutritional needs. Delivering approximately 100 meals per day.

Mother's Refuge (\$25,000) provided shelter for homeless, pregnant, and parenting young ladies, 19-years old and younger, along with their babies. The girls are usually from dysfunctional families and often victims of abuse or neglect by boyfriends or family.

CAPA (\$5,000) provided support to families at risk of experience child abuse for families identified by the court system and school district including group and home services. They provide support groups, educational programming and activities for children and parents that promote positive community and problem-solving skills with each family.

Community Service League (\$25,000) provides meals for low-income families and seniors. They provide a community center that has a library, computer lab and houses Tabitha's Closet which provides clothing and shoes for Independence school children in need. They also have planned activities for seniors and youth.

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

Participation in the Greater Kansas City Continuum of Care is the primary vehicle by which the City of Independence and its network of local service providers work to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The City of Independence and the Kansas City area benefit from a mature network of regional public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies that are connected in the delivery of services and programs through the use of a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and social service software suite developed and maintained by the Mid-American Assistance Coalition. The system contains vital information regarding services provided to individuals throughout the communities MARC serves. Access to this information helps service agencies manage limited resources more efficiently by:

- Minimizing duplication of services
- Capturing information about unmet community needs
- Identifying households that could benefit from more comprehensive case management or support services. Service coordination has been further enhanced through local agency participation in Kansas City/Jackson County Missouri Continuum of Care, the Independence Hungry and Homeless Coalition, The City of Independence Emergency Management and Eastern Jackson County Emergency Support Function 6, all of which have joined to help serve the unmet housing and social service needs of our regions homeless and at-risk homeless populations. Additionally, during the 2020-21 program year the City provided Certificates of Consistency upon request to developers of low income and supportive housing projects when determined consistent with the objectives and priorities of the City's Consolidated Plan.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of Independence (IHA) reported the following actions taken during the 2020-21 program year to address the needs of public housing:

IHA continued to utilize the Capital Fund Grants issued by HUD/Congress for physical needs improvements throughout Hocker Heights, Pleasant Heights and Southview Manor. IHA completed the repair of the Southview Manor elevator, focused on emergency repairs as various properties, and made routine repairs to exterior building-related components. Due to COVID-19, repairs have been slower than expected.

CDBG funds will be used (Admin-Professional Services) to cover the cost of the Environmental Review on behalf of the IHA, through Intuition and Logic, for IHA's 5 Year (2021-2025) Environmental Review for the Capital Fund Program for Hocker Heights, Pleasant Heights, and Southview Manor.

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

A continuation of previous actions have continued to serve as a reliable tools to encourage residents to become more involved. Due to COVID-19 made accomplishing each action more challenging.

- All public housing residents are encouraged to participate in Resident Councils, who then bring concerns to the Housing Authority administrations' attention.
- The Housing Authority meets on an annual basis with each Resident Council on input of a physical needs assessment for the Annual Plan that is required.
- The Housing Authority attempts to utilize other local agencies that provide the service of Home Ownership, such as Habitat For Humanity. IHA makes available to interested households a Voucher-to-Home Ownership Program for Housing Choice voucher holders to help offset costs of a mortgage with the voucher assistance.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled 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)

During the 2020-21 Program Year, the City of Independence continued its partnership with five cities in the Kansas City Region, a Regional Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Plan and continues to follow the established 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan that is currently aligned with the Kansas City five-year period.

The City's Homeless Task Force meetings are leading to positive changes in the Unified Development Ordinance pertaining to homeless shelters and group homes. After receiving a recommendation from the Planning Commission, the city is in the process of adopting an amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance to better serve our community and help mitigate the development of homeless camps and provide the possibility of consistent resources to those who may need it the most.

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

In addition to providing direct financial assistance for unmet needs identified as priority during the consolidated planning process, the City continued to work toward building community capacity to overcome barriers through the following efforts.

Housing and Homelessness- The City continued to work with Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity and Oikos Development Corporation on construction or rehab of single-family homes for sale to 50% and 80% of area medium income families, respectively.

Homelessness- The City continues its efforts in meeting the underserved needs of the homeless population through annual financial support and participation in the Greater KC Continuum of Care. CDBG Public Service funds were allocated to the Salvation Army Crossroads Shelter, Hillcrest Transitional Housing, and Mother's Refuge Transitional Housing to assist with staff cost.

Economic Development- The City continued the administration of two 353 development area plans and tax abatement programs. An additional abatement has been implemented in order to remove blight by offering allowing homeowners to freeze their real estate taxes for 7 years, if they make home repairs according to the program guidelines. The Independence Economic Development Council continues to assist the Ennovation Center with professional support and the provision of certain development incentives to promote new micro-business start-ups in Independence.

Supportive Services - The City provided CDBG funding through a competitive request for proposal process for a variety of public service activities intended to create or or expand services that target underserved needs in the community.

Transportation- The City continues to work to overcome one of the largest unmet community needs, availability of and accessibility to public transportation. The City continues to operate the City-owned public transportation system which operates independently of the larger KC Metro system. The City continues to provide additional transit service including IndeAccess, which is a complementary ADA Paratransit Service Available in city limits. CDBG-CV funds were used to assist public transportation during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure this vital service to the community did not need to make reductions in service. This service is relied on by the low- to moderate-income individual for access to jobs, services and health care.

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

The Community Development Department follows the testing protocols and mitigation measures contained in HUD's "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing," 2012 Ed. Among other provisions in the guidelines, HUD mandates that all housing projects assisted with CDBG & HOME funds be evaluated for the presence of lead-based paint hazards.

Oikos Development Corporation, the contractor that does HOME housing rehabilitation activities for the city, tests all homes for lead-based paint and follows proper protocols for controls and abatement. CDBG funded home repair programs conduct lead testing on any project with disturbed paint, and remediation must be included in the scope of work when found. The lead-based paint clearance report is filed with Department of Health and Senior Services with a copy to the City.

The City distributes Lead Hazard brochures to all federally assisted home buyer projects upon application.

The lead-based paint information is provided in the City's Landlord Tenant Guide. It is mandatory for landlords to provide new tenants this guide.

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

The City continued to coordinate implementation of its existing affordable housing programs-HOME multi-family and single-family housing development, including transitional housing for homeless and at-risk households, and minor home repair programs- with social service agencies involved in providing housing and supportive services to populations below the poverty line including low and very low-income populations. Due to COVID-19 the collaboration between agencies allowed for a continued development of wrap around services to help poverty-level families. CAPA, Community Services League, Hillcrest Transitional Housing, Hope House, Independence Meals on Wheels, Metro Lutheran Emergency Assistance, Mother's Refuge, NWCDC Senior Meal Program, Palmer Center Nutrition Program, Salvation Army Crossroads and Salvation Army Emergency Assistance Program provided much needed support to help reduce the number of poverty-level families during the restrictions resulting from the effects of COVID-19.

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

Throughout the program year staff met, consulted and partnered with corporate and non-governmental agencies and individuals to develop institutional structures to support the growing needs of the community. The City continues to utilize its Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce in order to create a lens of diversity to help underserved populations. The City continues to cooperate with many public service agencies, neighborhood revitalization organizations and area housing providers who have a mutual interest in CDBG and HOME program goals. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the city, local school districts, businesses and non- governmental agencies partnered to provide extensive support to surrounding municipalities in Eastern Jackson County providing supplies, information, and other resources.

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

The City of Independence staff attends local and regional meetings on a regular basis to foster a communication network with these agencies and to remain informed regarding local and regional programs. Partnerships with the Independence Housing Authority, Truman Habitat for Humanity and Oikos Development Corporation have assisted the City to investigate ways to more effectively deliver and coordinate services to low and mod income areas.

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 the 2020-21 plan year, the City continued to meet as a Collaborated Regional Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Plan to continue to determine goals and strategies to work toward meeting the gaps in opportunity areas for protected classes. The City will continue to write letters of support for projects seeking LMI tax credits that fit the goals of the Consolidated Plan. The City continues to seek additional methods of encouraging developers to construct LMI housing.

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

During 2020-21 the approach employed by the City of Independence Neighborhood Services Division with regard to the monitoring of grant activities was aimed at achieving the following:

- Ensuring that grant funded activities strive to comply with federal and community regulations governing administrative, financial, and programmatic operations;
 - Ensuring that, to the extent feasible, performance objectives are met within budget and on schedule;
- and,
- Identifying the need, if any, for providing or obtaining technical assistance

In 2020-21 existing systems, standards and procedures were utilized to monitor those areas of program administration and regulatory compliance identified as integral to meeting the goals of the Consolidated Plan and program objectives, including minority business outreach and comprehensive planning requirements. Generally, these areas include: 1) program performance review, which comprises national objectives, eligible activities, contract objectives, scope of work, contract schedule, and contract budget; 2) financial management practices, which comprises the accounting system and internal controls; 3) record keeping and reporting practices; 4) general management practices; and 5) non-discrimination compliance. (Refer to the current Annual Action Plan for a detailed explanation of the City's Monitoring Policy.)

The City of Independence monitors sub-recipients by desk monitoring or on-site monitoring on the following basis:

- New sub-recipients (or those that have high staff turn-over OR not been funded in the prior 2-3 years) will receive an on-site monitoring visit.
- Any sub-recipient who failed to report timely or had difficulty reporting accurately in the prior year will receive an on-site monitoring visit.
- Any sub-recipient that has been consistently funded without reporting delays or errors will be desk monitored or on-site monitored on an every other year basis.

The above items are determined based on the agency, not the program. (i.e. : if an agency is funded for something with a different scope of work, it is still considered consistent funding as the same client intake is generally required).

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 City of Independence Citizen Participation Plan, a notice of the availability for review and comment of its annual Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) was published utilizing an ad in the locally circulated Independence Examiner and by posting on the City of Independence Community Development Web page. This notice included information on how to obtain a copy of the draft CAPER via the Web, in person, or by telephone request, and provided information necessary for anyone needing to request a special accommodation to participate in this process.

The public comment period for the 2020 CAPER will begin August 26, 2021, with a legal advertisement in the Independence Examiner and will be concluded September 25, 2021. The public will be encouraged to give comments regarding the CDBG program as a whole and the CAPER for 2020. All proposed actions under the Entitlement Program were reviewed for compliance under HUD regulations, specifically that they meet a national objective, constitute an eligible activity, and address one of the goals established by the City within its Consolidated Plan.

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 City of Independence's City Council's reaffirmation of "Independence for All" Strategic Plan Update, and "Independence 2040: Community For All Ages" Plan will move the City's Annual Action Plan goals toward common goals with measurable impacts. The Strategic Plan has four primary goals:

- Improve customer service and communication - improve customer service; communicate more effectively internally and externally
- Ensure City finances are stable and sustainable - control long term costs; optimize resources; improve long-range financial planning and decision-making
- Increase economic prosperity of the community - attract and retain quality employers; grow retail and commercial business
- Achieve livability, choice, access, health and safety through a quality-built environment - reduce blight; improve visual appearance; improve public infrastructure and facilities; reduce crime and disorder; increase perception of safety; stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods; build new housing units.

The City of Independence has not changed its goals and/or its objectives and has had no significant negative experiences affecting its CDBG program to date.

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.

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.

The City has three affordable renting housing projects within the affordability period and under monitoring prevue. The City conducts physical inspections bi-annually and resident eligibility monitoring annually. These projects are divided into odd and even years to reduce the number of annual on-site visits required to be completed. Plans are in place to continue monitoring as COVID-19 restrictions allow.

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

2020-21 Program Year projects and initiatives adhere to City-required HOME Program affirmative marketing efforts aimed at soliciting persons who may not likely apply for housing without special outreach, particularly those persons with limited English proficiency, including:

- Developer and subrecipient adoption of affirmative marketing plans that comply with 24 CFR Part 92.351 for projects.
- As appropriate and necessary, utilization of newspaper publications, the City website, City-wide utility billing inserts, church and neighborhood newsletters, school district student/parent handouts, community center events and nonprofit organization efforts, particularly those that serve underrepresented groups, to disseminate information about participation in HOME-assisted, Low Income Housing Tax Credit, and other types of affordable housing opportunities.
- Circulating flyers and direct referrals to applicable homeless and affordable housing advocacy groups, and other organizations as identified by the City, which serve groups that may need special assistance to apply for housing.
- Registration of HOME funded rental units with www.kchousing.org also known as www.SocialServe.com, a regional database of affordable housing opportunities searchable by a wide variety of criteria relevant to affordable housing's target populations

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

No program income FY 2020-21

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)