

State of Connecticut

2020-24 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development



submitted to the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Submitted by

Seila Mosquera-Bruno

Commissioner

Effective July 1, 2020

Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary - 91.300(c), 91.320(b)

1. Introduction

In accordance with Section 8-37t of the Connecticut General Statutes and 24 CFR Part 91, Connecticut's Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development provides the framework for the allocation of federal formula grant funding and describes the methods for the intended distribution of state resources to address the housing and community development needs of extremely low-, low- and moderate-income households in the state over the next five years. This plan includes an overview of the state's economic and demographic characteristics, assesses housing needs, analyzes the current housing market and is the basis for the policies, strategies, goals and objectives which will be implemented by the State of Connecticut with regard to housing and housing related activities. The Consolidated Plan is carried out through annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. The state reports on accomplishments and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals in the Performance Evaluation Report (PER).

The state's long-term vision is to ensure everyone has access to quality housing opportunities and options throughout the state. Enhancing housing mobility and choice across income levels and promoting vibrant, mixed-income neighborhoods through both ownership and rental opportunities are top priorities. To this end, supporting adaptive reuse of historic and other existing structures for use as residential housing promotes "green preservation" and economic development. The revitalization of rural villages and main streets by promoting the rehabilitation and appropriate reuse of historic facilities, such as former mills, to allow a concentration of higher density or multiple use development where practical and consistent with historic character supports transit-oriented developments that are within walking distance to public transportation facilities. Additionally, the state seeks to minimize the potential risks and impacts from natural hazards, such as flooding, high winds, and wildfires, when siting infrastructure and developing property. Consideration of potential impacts of climate change on existing and future developments are also high on the radar.

Housing development is linked to Connecticut's other public policy areas which include, education, transportation, energy cost and availability, public health and safety, environmental quality, and economic development. These are not independent of each other. They are interconnected and interdependent. Public policy and investment decisions made in one area directly and indirectly impact the other areas. As such, the state must comprehensively consider these relationships and take a multifaceted and balanced approach to addressing Connecticut's housing and community development needs.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The overall goal of the housing and community development programs covered by this plan is to ensure everyone has access to quality housing opportunities and options throughout the State of Connecticut. The primary means towards this end is to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, in the preservation, production and operation of affordable housing and its supportive services.

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan is intended to describe the state's strategic goals and objectives relative to the use of its state and federal resources, specifically with regard to: Affordable housing (preservation and creation); Public housing (preservation); Homelessness (rapid rehousing/supportive housing); Other special needs (both family and elderly); and Non-housing community development needs.

In addition, it is intended to address issues related to: Community revitalization; Barriers to affordable housing; Lead-based paint hazards; The state's anti-poverty strategy; Coordination among state agencies and with other interested parties, both public and private; and Low-income housing tax credit use.

In order to address these issues, three overarching goals have been established:

1. Work to Ensure Decent Housing is Available to All: Decent housing includes assisting homeless persons to obtain appropriate housing and assisting persons at risk of becoming homeless; retention and creation of affordable housing stock; and increasing the availability of permanent housing in standard condition and affordable cost to low-income and moderate-income families, particularly to members of disadvantaged minorities, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability. Decent housing also includes increasing the supply of supportive housing, which combines structural features and services needed to enable persons with special needs, including persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, to live with dignity and independence; and providing housing affordable to low-income persons accessible to job opportunities.
2. Work to Ensure That All of the State's Residents Live in a Suitable Living Environment: A suitable living environment includes improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; increasing access to quality public and private facilities and services; reducing the isolation of income groups within a community or geographical area through the spatial de-concentration of housing opportunities for persons of lower income and the revitalization of deteriorating or deteriorated neighborhoods; restoring and preserving properties of special historic, architectural, or aesthetic value; and conservation of energy resources and consideration of potential impacts of climate change on existing and future development.
3. Work to Ensure That All of the State's Residents Have Access to Economic Opportunities: Expanded economic opportunities includes job creation and retention; establishment, stabilization and expansion of small businesses (including micro businesses); the provision of

public services concerned with employment; the provision of jobs involved in carrying our activities under programs covered by this plan to low-income persons living in areas affected by those programs and activities; availability of mortgage financing for low-income persons at a reasonable rate using nondiscriminatory lending practices; access to capital and credit for development activities that promote the long-term economic and social viability of the community; and empowerment and self-sufficiency opportunities for low-income persons to reduce generational poverty in federally assisted and public housing.

3. Evaluation of past performance

During FFY 2015-2019, these five programs were successfully administered by the Department of Housing (DOH):

1. Community Development Block Grant Program-Small Cities (CDBG-SC): the CDBG-SC program assists smaller cities/towns across the state to address their affordable housing, community development and economic development needs.
2. HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME): The HOME program funds the acquisition, construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing around the state.
3. Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG): The ESG program provides funds to emergency shelters, transitional housing for the homeless, and essential housing both to assist the homeless and to prevent homelessness.
4. Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA): the HOPWA program aids non-profit organizations in meeting the housing and social service needs of persons with AIDS and HIV related illnesses and their families.
5. National Housing Trust Program (NHTF): The NHTF program provides formula grants to states to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low-income and very low-income households, including homeless families.

Each of these programs is funded by formula grants from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A recent HUD monitoring of all five programs indicated that the State of Connecticut continues to administer these programs in accordance with federal requirements.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

DOH solicited input into the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the 2020-2021 annual Action Plan by conducting 2 public meetings and 4 municipal/state round table discussions with officials/housing organizations. A legal notice for the public meetings was published in 3 newspapers, including 1 in Spanish. The legal notice was posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials, all public housing authorities, regional planning organizations, and our Community Partners list.

The first public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM at DOH offices in Hartford. The second public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Waterbury. Those that could not attend the meetings were encouraged to submit written comments. People were referred to DOH's website, www.ct.gov/DOH, or the State Library for copies of former documents.

The four round table discussions were held with municipal and state officials and other housing organizations at the following times and locations to seek feedback and discussion on the development of the Plans: New Haven: October 9, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at New Haven City Hall; Hartford: October 16, 2019 from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM at Lyceum; Fairfield: October 21, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at Fairfield Board of Ed; Rocky Hill: October 30, 2019 from 8:30 AM-11:30 AM at CT DPH.

DOH solicited input on the Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and annual Draft 2020-2021 Action Plan through 5-day public comment period from September 3, 2020 to September 8, 2020. DOH held 1 Virtual Public Hearing. The Virtual Public Hearing was held on September 3, 2020 at 11:00 AM through the TEAMS application. A legal notice for the public meetings was published in 4 newspapers, including 1 in Spanish. The legal notice was posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials, all public housing authorities, regional planning organizations, and our community partners list.

DOH took into consideration all comments on the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the annual 2020-2021 Action Plan that were received at the public meetings/hearings and round table discussions, or in writing.

5. Summary of public comments

See Attachment A of the 2020-2021 Action Plan for a summary of public comments received.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

See Attachment A of the 2020-2021 Action Plan for a summary of public comments not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them.

7. Summary

The state's long-term vision and mission is to ensure everyone has access to quality housing opportunities and options throughout the State of Connecticut. The overall goal of the housing and community development programs covered by this plan is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment for very low-, low- and moderate-income persons. The primary means towards this end is to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels

of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations in the preservation, production and operation of affordable housing and its supportive services.

Ensuring affordable housing options, for both owners and renters is an important contributing factor to future economic health. Additionally, many of Connecticut's most vulnerable citizens are in need of quality affordable housing. In order to address these needs, it is important to add new housing as well as preserve affordable housing presently serving households in need.

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development must be in conformance with the state's Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut 2018-2023 (C&D Plan). The state C&D Plan is built around six Growth Management Principles that will impact the Consolidated Plan:

1. Redevelop and revitalize regional centers and areas with existing or currently planned physical infrastructure;
2. Expand housing opportunities and design choices to accommodate a variety of household types and needs;
3. Concentrate development around transportation nodes and along major transportation corridors to support the viability of transportation options;
4. Conserve and restore the natural environment, cultural and historical resources, and traditional rural lands;
5. Protect and ensure the integrity of environmental assets critical to public health and safety; and
6. Promote integrated planning across all levels of government to address issues on a statewide, regional and local basis.

The state intends to use its federal formula grant funding, as well as its state allocations to address Connecticut's housing and community development needs through the application of these six Growth Management Principles by giving funding priority to projects that address multiple needs and leverage existing infrastructure and resources.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.300(b)

1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	CONNECTICUT	Department of Housing
HOPWA Administrator	CONNECTICUT	Department of Housing
HOME Administrator	CONNECTICUT	Department of Housing
ESG Administrator	CONNECTICUT	Department of Housing
	CONNECTICUT	Department of Housing

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

In accordance with Section 91.300(b), the Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) has been designated as the lead agency responsible for the preparation of the five year Consolidated Plans, annual Action Plans and annual Performance Evaluation Reports. DOH administers all five of the federal block grants covered by this Consolidated Plan. Multiple other state agencies and partners (for-profit/non-profit organizations) also participate in providing affordable housing, and community development activity and services throughout the state. Those entities and sources of funding are identified in the Institutional Structure section of this Plan. This section also assesses the strengths and weaknesses within the delivery system and makes suggestions for overcoming deficiencies while addressing housing needs.

This Consolidated Plan is intended to establish the framework for the efficient allocation of both the federal formula grant funding, as well as the state resources provided by the Legislature relative to the activities of the Department of Housing.

Many HUD programs require that either the jurisdiction receiving funds directly from HUD have a consolidated plan that is approved by HUD or the application for HUD funds contain a certification that the application is consistent with a HUD-approved consolidated plan. Also, Public Housing Agency Plan (PHA Plan) submissions (see 24 CFR part 903) require a certification, by the appropriate state or local official, that the PHA Plan is consistent with the applicable consolidated plan for the jurisdiction in which the public housing agency is located and must describe the manner in which the applicable contents of the PHA Plan are consistent with the consolidated plan.

DOH issues such Certifications of Consistency.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Mr. Michael Santoro, Director, Office of Policy, Research and Housing Support, CT Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106; Phone: 860-270-8171; E-mail: Michael.Santoro@ct.gov

PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.200(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

The State of Connecticut recognizes that socio-economic and economic issues and challenges must not be viewed in isolation nor can they be adequately and/or appropriately addressed as such. Housing, social services, education, public safety, transportation, public health, environmental justice, and economic development are all inter-related and intrinsically interconnected. In order to be truly effective and efficiently implemented/executed, efforts and activities to address the state's needs must be comprehensive, inclusive and coordinated.

To encourage, promote and ensure that coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health, and service agencies, the state also participates (via membership) in various associations such as the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (CONN-NAHRO), Connecticut Housing Coalition (CHC), and Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH).

The state also has in place numerous interagency councils, committees, task forces, commissions and working groups.

Provide a concise summary of the state’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

Connecticut is comprised of many types of communities. The complementary nature between proposed services and programs are determined, in part, by the mission of each service provider in the system. Factors such as a municipality's current housing infrastructure, the size and expertise of its professional staff, access to transportation, and the relative affordability of its housing stock, all help determine realistic strategies for a town to pursue. The coordination and delivery capabilities described in the Institutional Structure section of the Consolidated Plan will compliment state efforts to foster coordination of services.

As lead agency designated in the Consolidated Plan to coordinate and manage the process, DOH is responsible for providing oversight and coordination to the related service providers and the public on HUD-related matters. Consultation with outside individuals and agencies was programmed as a vital part of the Consolidated Plan development. Contributors included both public and private, individual and agency, profit and non-profit, local, regional and state entities.

The state provides direct guidance to its funding recipients on various program requirements. Technical assistance and monitoring are the primary means of fostering the state's awareness of program participants meeting requirements of federal funding. These efforts are designed to: 1) achieve various

program objectives; 2) increase capacity to understand and administer all aspects of the various programs; 3) meet statutory requirements and certifications; and 4) resolve any problems or issues identified as a result of a review.

Successful implementation of the state *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice* will require coordination between several state agencies. Connecticut can begin addressing limitations on fair housing choice by achieving the following six objectives: 1) providing better training of state employees in the area of fair housing; 2) expanding fair housing outreach and education activities; 3) increasing monitoring and enforcement of fair housing laws and policies; 4) improving the infrastructure necessary for viable diverse communities; 5) increasing the supply of affordable housing; and 6) increasing the access of racial and ethnic minorities, the disabled and families with children to the existing supply of housing.

The Interagency Council on Supportive Housing and Homelessness was established in 2004. The committee was established to develop and implement strategies and solutions to address the problems associated with homelessness, including the development of supportive housing options and reducing inappropriate use of emergency health care, shelter, chemical dependency, corrections, foster care, and similar services. It also addresses improving the health, employability, self-sufficiency, and other social outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Current membership includes the Commissioners (or their designees) of the departments of Children and Families (DCF), Correction (DOC), Housing (DOH), Mental Health and Addictive Services (DMHAS), Public Health (DPH), Social Services (DSS), and Veterans Affairs (VA), the Secretary of OPM, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the Executive Director (or their designee) of Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA).

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care (CT BOS CoC) is co-chaired by Department of Housing senior staff who provides direct coordination of the policies and services associated with the programs that fall under the responsibilities of the Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care. In addition, this staff person coordinates and collaborates with other local continuum of care on strategies, policies and practices to better serve all persons and families affected by homelessness.

The CT BOS CoC Steering Committee is the planning body that coordinates policies, strategies and activities toward ending homelessness in the CT BOS region. The Steering Committee gathers and analyzes information in order to determine the local needs of people experiencing homelessness, implements strategic responses, educates the community on homeless issues, provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, and measures CoC performance.

The CoC Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of state government agencies (including ESG recipients), nonprofit intermediaries, up to two consumers (homeless/formerly homeless persons),

and homeless provider organizations representing sub-regions (or sub-CoC's) of the BOS. New members may be added by a majority vote of the existing Steering Committee. Government representatives are appointed by their respective commissioners and include the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Housing (ESG recipient), CT Housing Finance Agency, CT Department of Education, CT Department of Social Services, CT Department of Children and Families, CT Department of Correction, CT Department of Veteran Affairs, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the state in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS

Again, Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care (CT BOS CoC) is co-chaired by Department of Housing senior staff who provides direct coordination of the policies and services associated with the programs that fall under the responsibilities of the Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care, including allocation of ESG funds, development of performance standards, evaluation of outcomes and the administration of HMIS. The Steering Committee meets monthly and members are expected to actively participate in CTBOS CoC Committee activities, correspondence, sub-committees, and/or ad-hoc committees.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CORPORATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization Community Development Financial Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Other government - State Planning organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
3	Agency/Group/Organization	The Department of Aging and Disability Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
5	Agency/Group/Organization	State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Education
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Developmental Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

10	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Children and Families
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Child Welfare Agency Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Public Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Health Services-Education Health Agency Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
13	Agency/Group/Organization	CONNECTICUT HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Other government - State Financial Institution Community Development Financial Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Capital For Change
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Financial Institution Community Development Financial Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

15	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY RENEWAL TEAM
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Labor
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Correction
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Education Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

18	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Veterans' Affairs
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Social Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

20	Agency/Group/Organization	Office of Policy and Management
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Other government - State Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders Financial Programs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homelessness
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Other government - State State Agency Task Group
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Statewide Long Term (Disaster) Recovery Committee
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Emergency Management Other government - State State Agency Task Group
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Disaster Recovery/Emergency Mgt
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
23	Agency/Group/Organization	The Governor's Council on Climate Change
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Federal State Agency Task Group
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Climate Change/Emergency Mgt
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

24	Agency/Group/Organization	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - Federal Planning organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Social Security Administration
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Other government - Federal Financial
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Financial
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Federal Home Loan bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Financial/Community Development
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Financial

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Connecticut Association of Realtors
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Connecticut Fair Housing Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Affordable Housing Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Civic Leaders Policy/Advocacy
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Fair Housing Association of Connecticut
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Americans with Disabilities Act Coalition of Connecticut, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Families United for Children's Mental Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Health Agency Children's Advocacy
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Children's Advocacy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
33	Agency/Group/Organization	Connecticut Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Advocacy/Deaf
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Advocacy/Deaf
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

34	Agency/Group/Organization	INFOLINE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Help Line
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Help Line
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations
35	Agency/Group/Organization	Conn Nahro
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization Housing Advocacy
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Housing Advocacy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email blasts; coordinated meetings; one on one consultations

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

DOH has not excluded any agency type.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Department of Housing	The CT BOS CoC is a united coalition of community and state systems that assist homeless and near homeless residents in the BOS region to obtain housing, economic stability, and an enhanced quality of life through comprehensive services. The CT BOS CoC addresses critical issues related to homelessness through a coordinated community-based process of identifying and addressing needs utilizing not only HUD dollars, but also mainstream resources and other sources of funding. Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care (CT BOS CoC) is co-chaired by Department of Housing senior staff who provides direct coordination of the policies and services associated with the programs that fall under the responsibilities of the Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care, including allocation of ESG funds, development of performance standards, evaluation of outcomes and the administration of HMIS. In addition, this staff person coordinates and collaborates with other local continuum of care on strategies, policies and practices to better serve all persons and families affected by homelessness. The goals of the CT BOS Continuum of Care are articulated in the Comprehensive Plan

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination among the State and any units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.315(I))

The state has strengthened its efforts to produce and preserve affordable housing within the state through the involvement of state departments and agencies, as well as other agencies at the local, regional, state and federal level. The state will continue to foster relationships with other governmental agencies, as well as neighboring jurisdictions in the furtherance of the goals and objectives for preserving the supply of affordable housing and promoting community development activities as set forth in this Consolidated Plan.

Connecticut is comprised of many types of communities. The complementary nature between proposed services and programs and other, current government programs are determined, in part, by the mission of each service provider in the system. Factors such as a municipality's current housing infrastructure, the size and expertise of its professional staff, access to transportation, and the relative affordability of its housing stock, all help determine realistic strategies for a town to pursue. The coordination and delivery capabilities described in the ConPlan institutional structure will compliment the state's present efforts to foster coordination of services.

Narrative:

The Department of Housing (DOH) is identified as the "first point of contact" for the institutional structure presented in this plan. This role is supported at three levels through: 1) designation by the legislature to serve as the state's lead agency; 2) the role as "grantee" of various HUD program funds; and 3) the mission to serve all the citizens of Connecticut. DOH will: 1) conduct and foster open participation, including supportive assistance, with the goal of facilitating meaningful involvement; 2) work to increase participation at all levels, especially among extremely low- and very low-income groups, as well as those traditionally under-represented; and 3) involve organizations that represent need populations across Connecticut.

At the state level, the Interagency Council on Supportive Housing and Homelessness is instrumental in the development of the *ConPlan*. The committee was established to develop and implement strategies and solutions to address the problems associated with homelessness, including the development of supportive housing options and reducing inappropriate use of emergency health care, shelter, chemical dependency, corrections, foster care, and similar services. It also addresses improving the health, employability, self-sufficiency, and other social outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Current membership includes the Commissioners (or their designees) of the departments of Children and Families (DCF), Correction (DOC), Housing (DOH), Mental Health and Addictive Services (DMHAS), Public Health (DPH), Social Services (DSS), and Veterans Affairs (VA), the Secretary of OPM, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the Executive Director (or their designee) of Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA).

Consultation with outside individuals and agencies was also programmed as a vital part of the ConPlan development. Contributors include both public and private, individual and agency, profit and non-profit, local, regional and state entities. Non-profit agencies play an important role in the provision of affordable housing, supportive housing and social services, and economic development activities. Local organizations with direct public contact have a clear view and understanding of the state's housing and human service needs. Such organizations are an essential part of the state's institutional structure and typically serve in one or more of the following capacities: 1) are eligible to receive public and private funds or resources targeted at serving need populations; 2) are legally restricted or structured by organizational charter to serve lower income or specific need populations; 3) are identified by regulation, program or otherwise allowed to undertake certain governmental programs serving need populations; or 4) have daily contact with, represent or advocate on behalf of, certain populations in need.

Private sector participants, in the preservation or development of the state's housing and community development delivery system, include financial institutions, builders/developers, foundations and realtors. Local financial institutions provide construction financing, low interest rehabilitation loans, mortgage financing and loan servicing, while builders/developers are active in participating in affordable housing projects. Many private businesses and organizations are involved or support the efforts of public agencies to provide human services and opportunities throughout Connecticut. Based on

the needs and objectives developed in the *ConPlan*, the state is prepared to support applications for assistance by other entities that serve to accomplish goals set forth in the plan.

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

DOH solicited input into the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the 2020-2021 annual Action Plan by conducting 2 public meetings and 4 municipal/state round table discussions with officials/housing organizations. A legal notice for the public meetings was published in 3 newspapers, including 1 in Spanish. The legal notice was posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials, all public housing authorities, regional planning organizations, and our Community Partners list.

The first public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM at DOH offices in Hartford. The second public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Waterbury. Those that could not attend the meetings were encouraged to submit written comments. People were referred to DOH's website, www.ct.gov/DOH, or the State Library for copies of former documents.

The four round table discussions were held with municipal and state officials and other housing organizations at the following times and locations to seek feedback and discussion on the development of the Plans: New Haven: October 9, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at New Haven City Hall; Hartford: October 16, 2019 from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM at Lyceum; Fairfield: October 21, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at Fairfield Board of Ed; Rocky Hill: October 30, 2019 from 8:30 AM-11:30 AM at CT DPH.

DOH solicited input on the Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and annual Draft 2020-2021 Action Plan through 5-day public comment period from September 3, 2020 to September 8, 2020. DOH held 1 Virtual Public Hearing. The Virtual Public Hearing was held on September 3, 2020 at 11:00 AM through the TEAMS application. A legal notice for the public meetings was published in 4 newspapers, including 1 in Spanish. The legal notice was posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials, all public housing authorities, regional planning organizations, and our community partners list.

DOH took into consideration all comments on the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the annual 2020-2021 Action Plan that were received at the public meetings/hearings and round table discussions, or in writing.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Legal notice for the public meetings was published in the Waterbury Republican, Hartford Courant, and LaVoz Hispana on October 31, 2019. The legal notice was also posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials as well as all public housing authorities and regional planning organizations. The first public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM at DOH offices in Hartford. The second public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Waterbury.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The first public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM at DOH offices in Hartford. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input into the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the 2020-2021 annual Action Plan. Those that could not attend the meeting were encouraged to submit written comments. No one from the general public was in attendance.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The second public meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Waterbury. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input into the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the 2020-2021 annual Action Plan. Those that could not attend the meeting were encouraged to submit written comments. No one from the general public was in attendance.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Municipal Round Table Pre 1	Municipalities/Community Partners	The first municipal round table discussion was held in New Haven on October 9, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at the New Haven City Hall. Municipalities, housing authorities, advocacy groups and others were invited to attend and provide oral or written comments on housing and community development needs in CT. People were referred to the Department of Housing's website or the State library for copies of former documents. There were two people in attendance from the general public.	SCROG's Housing Task Force should be engaged; Need more affordable homeownership and other affordable housing opportunities in New Haven; HOME money for homeownership opportunities; ESG and HOPWA money thru CANS for services; Renewed interest in TOD; Type of housing versus housing stock available problem; Programming around homeless needed; CMHC will forward data that is not in HMIS for unsheltered; Medicaid pilot program for 30 supportive housing units; State is working on preservation and adoptive re-use projects	All comments received were accepted and incorporated into the draft Plan, as appropriate.	Not applicable

5	Municipal Round Table Pre 1	Municipalities/Community Partners	<p>The second municipal round table discussion was held in Hartford on October 16, 2019 from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM at the Lyceum. Municipalities, housing authorities, advocacy groups and others were invited to attend and provide oral or written comments on housing and community development needs in CT. People were referred to the Department of Housing's website or the State library for copies of former documents. There were two people in attendance from the general public.</p>	<p>Need for small incremental economic development support in Thompson; Need for training and education opportunities for resources available; Plymouth Housing Authority is in need of renovations; Town of Plymouth is planning for a new police and safety facility; Plymouth Town Hall needs to be more ADA compliant; Need for economic development seed money for luring out of state businesses; The Plymouth Housing Authority has a clash between elderly and young disabled citizens that a part-time community resources person/social services person could be of help with (expand Resident Services Coordinator program); State should advocate for reducing barriers to affordable housing.</p>	<p>All comments received were accepted and incorporated into the draft Plan, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Municipal Round Table Pre 1	Municipalities/ Community Partners	The third municipal round table discussion was held in Fairfield on October 21, 2019 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at the Fairfield Board of Ed. Municipalities, housing authorities, advocacy groups and others were invited to attend and provide oral or written comments on housing and community development needs in CT. People were referred to the Department of Housing's website or the State library for copies of former documents. There were four people in attendance from the general public.	Need for State support in data collection efforts; TOD is on the Radar; Need more money for planning studies; Need money for coastal resilience planning; Interest in state properties for repurposing; Stratford needs a workforce study - there is a disconnect between income and housing; There is interest in Accessory units; Support for municipalities planning for affordable housing; In regard to OPM's C&D Plan, state should not take a one size fits all approach; STEAP was discussed as a possible source of funding for planning related activities.	All comments received were accepted and incorporated into the draft Plan, as appropriate.	Not applicable

7	Municipal Round Table Pre 1	State agency Partners	<p>The state round table discussion was held in Rocky Hill on October 30, 2019 from 8:30 AM-11:30AM at the CT Department of Health. State partners were invited to attend and provide oral or written comments on housing and community development needs in Connecticut's communities. People were referred to the Department of Housing's website or the State library for copies of former documents. There were eighteen people in attendance from other state agencies and organizations.</p>	<p>Conversation around how we might utilize state dollars instead of HUD dollars to address the gap we are finding of people meeting HUD's eligibility requirements for services; Conversation around improving the pipeline of people moving from institutions to group homes to independent living because the transitions are rough; Interdisciplinary training would be good especially with case workers; It might be helpful to create some kind of landlord protection program so landlords feel more comfortable about taking certificates; Green Bank will connect with Department of Public Health on grant with Children's Hospital to help abate homes of children with elevated blood levels; Chief State Attorney's Office is on-board with the State</p>	<p>All comments received were accepted and incorporated into the draft Plan, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
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				<p>Health Improvement Plan especially with the idea of there being a connection between education/injury/illness/housing using when you look at data for mold and children suffering from asthma; We should include the State Health Improvement Plan into our 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan; Recommendation to prioritize the preservation of existing housing stock as a way to stabilize neighborhoods in Connecticut; Prioritize development of a property maintenance code (bring issue to Commissioner of the Department of Public Health); We should provide incentives to developers and homeowners to preserve housing stock; Bring Aging and Disability to the Table; Build/redevelop to changing demographics; Discussion on giving people</p>		
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				<p>carrots for doing the right thing (ie: incentive zoning); Bring TOD Advisor to the Governor to the table; ADA codes do not seem to be as current as they can be and we should bring accessibility issues to the table; Recommendation to set up a sustainability plan for veterans and baby boomers who would like to age in place-change zoning, incentives for developers, creation of housing stock that matches the need better; Visit state funding sources for some of the support services needed because if a person does not have an honorable discharge they may not be eligible for available funding; Share information on hoarding; Need to work more closely with the CAN system on discharging people - there are issues around regulations which may prevent many people</p>		
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				<p>from being supported by the CAN system - discussion of utilizing state funds which are less strict than HUD funds; Education opportunities for people being discharged so that these folks are more aware of what help is out there for them; DOC will connect with DCF and DMHAS on the new NOFA which just came out for Family Unification Vouchers; DDS feels there is a great concern for people we know who are out there but are not officially in the system - strongly support housing first for people with intellectual disabilities and support safe affordable stable integrative housing; Department of Education should be at the table - education of students would be helpful in the long run about these kinds of issues.</p>		
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
8	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Legal notice for the 5-day public comment period from September 3, 2020 to September 8, 2020 and one Virtual Public Hearing was published in the New Haven Register, Hartford Courant, CT Post, and LaVoz Hispana on August 27, 2020. The legal notice was also posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials as well as all public housing authorities and regional planning organizations. The Virtual Public Hearing was held on September 3, 2020 at 11:00 AM at DOH offices in Hartford.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
9	Municipal Round Table Pre 1	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Legal notice for the 5-day public comment period from September 3, 2020 to September 8, 2020 and Virtual Public Hearing was published in the New Haven Register, Hartford Courant, CT Post, and LaVoz Hispana on August 27, 2020. The legal notice was also posted on DOH's web site and forwarded to all 169 municipal chief elected officials as well as all public housing authorities and regional planning organizations.	Not Applicable	All comments received were accepted and incorporated into the draft Plan, as appropriate.	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
10	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The Virtual Public Hearing was held on September 3, 2020 at 11:00 AM through the TEAMS Application. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input on the Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan. Those that could not attend the meeting were encouraged to submit written comments.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	Not applicable

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The Housing Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections that formed the basis of this Consolidated Plan utilized HUD supplied data as well as data collected from our various Connecticut state agencies and community partners. The Housing Needs Assessment and Market Analysis investigate the baseline, trend, and future housing supply and demand at the state and county levels. Special needs housing populations were also examined and they included the following: elderly, homeless, incarcerated, persons with HIV/AIDS, domestic violence victims, persons with disabilities and persons with drug and/or alcohol addiction.

The Housing Needs Analysis and Market Analysis sections of this plan present a variety of statistical and demographic information about the state, its economy and population. It includes an assessment of Connecticut's housing needs over the next five years, data on the Connecticut housing market (including data concerning supply, demand, cost, affordability and the condition of Connecticut's housing stock), information on housing construction in the state and tenant demographic information regarding the residents of state funded housing. The Institutional Structure section of this plan identifies state, federal, and private sector resources for affordable housing programs. This section also assesses the strengths and weaknesses within the delivery system and makes suggestions for overcoming deficiencies while addressing housing needs.

Connecticut's housing environment is both challenging and unique. In order for Connecticut to function at its best, there must be an adequate supply of housing in proximity to employment, public transportation, and community facilities, such as public schools. The housing stock must include affordable and accessible owner-occupied and rental units, not only to meet social equity goals, but in order to ensure community viability. The development of a diverse and affordable housing stock must be carried out without sacrificing sound regulations that are in place to protect the environment and public health. The State of Connecticut is working toward ending chronic and family homelessness, providing opportunities for service-enhanced housing, and has already eliminated chronic veteran homelessness. DOH has worked extensively towards informed decision making that creates housing options for all people.

Overall, with people living longer, healthier lives and contributing to their communities and to society in general, there will be a call to address a wider range of abilities, needs and disabilities. These needs range from the more typical age-related changes such as those relating to vision, hearing, and mobility, to those of mental health, educational opportunities, and transportation. It will grow increasingly important for our communities to plan for and address this spectrum of needs, rather than focus on just one.

It will grow increasingly important for our communities in Connecticut to develop a range of creative and effective programs to address the challenges in providing and encouraging a range of creative and effective programs to address the challenge in providing and encouraging a range of appropriate and affordable housing options for all of our citizens, both young and old. Health care provisions are increasingly relying on community- and home-based care rather than institutional care as detailed in the Affordable Care Act and other federal and state legislation and policies. The shift, in conjunction with the financial pressures the health care industry faces, will likely give rise to new community-based housing models that better link human services and health care with residents.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.305 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

Connecticut statewide data shows that the state is diverse in terms of demographics and socioeconomic characteristics, and therefore housing needs vary somewhat by region. There is a cross cutting need for housing in all tenure types (ownership and rental), bedroom sizes (efficiency to 3+ bedrooms) and income ranges (extremely low-, low-, moderate- and workforce-income). These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

However, there is a disproportionate need for affordable housing among people of color, people with disabilities, single-parent households, and people with a source of income other than employment.

Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	3,574,097	3,593,222	1%
Households	1,327,482	1,352,583	2%
Median Income	\$67,721.00	\$70,331.00	4%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	213,125	169,295	182,275	132,510	655,380
Small Family Households	63,555	55,115	68,475	56,025	358,955
Large Family Households	11,395	11,120	12,990	9,425	56,025
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	40,870	36,375	40,120	29,060	141,125
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	42,740	39,275	28,015	14,800	44,690
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	33,715	24,345	25,015	17,785	54,375

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	3,300	1,490	1,030	365	6,185	525	350	395	370	1,640
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	2,110	1,485	895	405	4,895	185	170	305	220	880
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	4,635	2,775	2,010	1,100	10,520	325	745	1,265	880	3,215
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	83,085	20,130	2,765	455	106,435	45,435	33,270	20,185	6,315	105,205

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	19,385	40,380	24,250	5,155	89,170	9,315	28,065	38,705	29,865	105,950
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	10,340	0	0	0	10,340	5,310	0	0	0	5,310

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 CHAS

Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	93,130	25,880	6,700	2,330	128,040	46,475	34,540	22,155	7,790	110,960
Having none of four housing problems	45,650	59,850	66,605	38,680	210,785	12,215	49,025	86,820	83,715	231,775

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	10,340	0	0	0	10,340	5,310	0	0	0	5,310

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	43,205	27,355	11,225	81,785	10,365	17,050	25,635	53,050
Large Related	7,705	4,710	1,460	13,875	2,190	3,945	5,520	11,655
Elderly	26,645	13,510	4,795	44,950	33,190	32,835	18,075	84,100
Other	33,540	18,880	10,325	62,745	9,815	8,455	10,775	29,045
Total need by income	111,095	64,455	27,805	203,355	55,560	62,285	60,005	177,850

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	36,320	8,280	685	45,285	9,400	11,450	8,980	29,830

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Large Related	6,330	935	110	7,375	2,040	2,385	1,425	5,850
Elderly	18,955	5,640	940	25,535	25,860	14,670	5,955	46,485
Other	28,335	6,255	1,150	35,740	8,810	5,190	4,005	18,005
Total need by income	89,940	21,110	2,885	113,935	46,110	33,695	20,365	100,170

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	5,795	3,555	2,220	1,240	12,810	370	770	1,300	700	3,140
Multiple, unrelated family households	680	485	575	230	1,970	150	155	270	330	905
Other, non-family households	410	305	195	60	970	0	0	0	64	64
Total need by income	6,885	4,345	2,990	1,530	15,750	520	925	1,570	1,094	4,109

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

The data in the above tables show that both small related households and the elderly, with incomes under 30% AMI and a housing cost burden are most in need of housing assistance. Data from the 2009-2013 American Community Survey shows the total number of single person households is 374,214 people. These cover the full age range from 15 years to 84 years old.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Annual Point-In-Time Count (CT-PIT 2019), completed each winter by a host of local and regional volunteers, is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to take a snapshot of homelessness in every state across the country. CT-PIT 2019 annual statewide count was coordinated by the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness. Under the federal guidelines, this year's count included all people (adults and children) who were homeless and unsheltered - living in places unfit for human habitation such as abandoned buildings and under bridges - in addition to those in emergency or domestic violence shelters and transitional housing programs.

A summary of findings:

- On the night of January 22, 2019, 3,033 people were experiencing homelessness in Connecticut. This represents a 32% statewide decrease from 2007.
- The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (long-term homelessness and living with a severe disability) has decreased 75% since 2014, down 32% since 2018.
- Nearly 73% of those counted as chronically homeless were in the process of securing permanent housing.
- 50 Veterans were identified in emergency shelter. 13 self-identified Veterans were unsheltered - this has remained flat from 2017.
- 337 youth age 24 and younger were experiencing unaccompanied literal homelessness, and 674 were counted as "unstably" according to 2019 Youth outreach and Count results.
- 305 families were experiencing homelessness, a decrease of 18% from last year, and 2 unsheltered families were self-reported.
- 2019 now represents the lowest total ever in a statewide CT PIT Count for the overall total population, families, and chronically homeless since the first statewide count in 2007.

Additionally, 484 total people, or 16% of all people who were homeless (sheltered and unsheltered) on the night of the Count said they were homeless because they were fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking; 465 people, or 23% of the 2,000 adults in shelter or transitional housing reported

experiencing homelessness due to fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking; 19 unsheltered people, or 4% of the unsheltered population, said they were homeless because they were fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

What are the most common housing problems?

There is disproportionate need for *affordable housing* among people of color, people with disabilities, single-parent households, and people with a source of income other than employment.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

In Connecticut, there is a cross cutting need for housing in all tenure types (ownership and rental), bedroom sizes (efficiency to 3+ bedrooms), and income ranges (extremely low-, low-, moderate- and workforce-income). These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

Homeless prevention providers have found that many characteristics are shared among low-income households at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Common characteristics include language restrictions, disabilities among one or more household members, low wage jobs, sporadic employment, lower levels of education, and domestic violence. Common needs of low-income households include the following: housing opportunities that are affordable to extremely low and low income families, access to reliable and timely transportation, child care, employment training and legal services/support.

Availability to permanent supportive housing and long term housing vouchers remain the highest need for households nearing termination of their rapid re-housing assistance. Extremely low-income or low-income households are typically the population that is at risk of residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered with the termination of rapid re-housing. Given the short term nature of the rapid re-housing program, households often lack the time necessary to build their income enough to afford market rate housing. A low supply of affordable housing coupled with extremely high rent costs leave households struggling to maintain rent once their rapid re-housing assistance ends. also, it is difficult for

the rapid rehousing program to assist with every barrier in the short period of time that households are enrolled in the program. Many challenges that may have originally led to a housing crisis are left unaddressed upon termination of rapid re-housing assistance.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

See above.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

Housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness include severe cost burden, overcrowding, and substandard housing conditions being experienced by extremely low-income and low-income renters compared to the Connecticut as a whole. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up.

Discussion

The availability and affordability of housing in Connecticut is critical for sustained health and development of our municipalities. Looking at the relationship between demographic trends, and the availability and affordability of housing, there is a great shortage of affordable housing. Affordable housing is defined as households that do not spend more than 30% of their income for housing, including utilities. In its 2018 report, the National Low Income Housing Coalition cited that for Connecticut, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment was \$1,295. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn \$4,317 monthly or \$51,799 annually.

Of great concern is housing that the market is unable or unwilling to produce, without some form of subsidy, including housing that is traditionally for those with incomes between 80% and 120% of Area Median Income. If housing that is affordable to households with incomes between 80% and 120% of AMI is not being produced, then the availability of existing housing in that price range diminishes. In keeping with the economic laws of supply and demand, scarcity increases prices.

The Department of Housing (DOH) contracted \$94,526,681 in FY 2018-19, into 22 projects around the state and, in doing so, created or retained and estimated 1,158 total units. In total, the state has funded over 22,000 housing units across Connecticut.

Annually, DOH collects data in accordance with the requirements of Section 8-30g of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Affordable Housing Land Use Appeal, and publishes a list of "affordable housing" that meets the criteria set forth in that statute which includes governmentally assisted housing, deed restricted housing, and state or federal rental subsidies. These 172,277 units (Connecticut 2019 Affordable Appeals List) are monitored for affordability by a variety of local, state and federal agencies. These include: 1) The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) through mortgage financing, tax credit financing, or through portfolio management; 2) the Department of Housing (DOH); 3) the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); 4) the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Agency; and 5) local municipal "Administrators."

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems - 91.305 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

The data below compares the incidence of housing problems (lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing, more than 1 person per room, and cost burden over 30% of annual household income) among racial/ethnic and income groups.

In Connecticut, there is a cross cutting need for housing in all tenure types (ownership and rental), bedroom sizes (efficiency to 3+ bedrooms), and income ranges (extremely low-, low-, moderate- and workforce-income). These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	168,326	29,159	15,670
White	92,570	15,534	8,814
Black / African American	27,679	4,502	2,681
Asian	4,022	322	903
American Indian, Alaska Native	382	191	15
Pacific Islander	30	0	40
Hispanic	40,510	8,024	2,854

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS

Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	128,832	40,452	0
White	82,030	28,854	0
Black / African American	17,288	4,240	0
Asian	3,575	857	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	180	12	0
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	23,813	5,955	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	91,830	90,454	0
White	63,686	65,685	0
Black / African American	10,896	9,148	0
Asian	2,767	2,162	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	124	109	0
Pacific Islander	74	20	0
Hispanic	12,387	11,963	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	45,153	87,307	0
White	34,643	64,624	0
Black / African American	3,369	8,608	0
Asian	1,666	3,266	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	38	131	0
Pacific Islander	0	4	0
Hispanic	4,732	9,102	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

Data shows the incidence and prevalence of housing problems correlate to income. Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing. All racial and ethnic groups experience proportionately fewer housing problems as they move up the economic ladder. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up. Severe cost burden has been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.305(b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

The data below compares the incidence of severe housing problems (lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing, more than 1.5 person per room, and cost burden over 50% of annual household income) among racial/ethnic and income groups.

There is a disproportionate need for housing that is affordable to households that are at below 50% AMI where they are not paying more than 30% of their income. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	139,621	57,847	15,670
White	76,459	31,640	8,814
Black / African American	23,450	8,742	2,681
Asian	3,548	791	903
American Indian, Alaska Native	318	255	15
Pacific Islander	30	0	40
Hispanic	33,174	15,345	2,854

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS

Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	60,403	108,878	0
White	38,944	72,005	0
Black / African American	7,704	13,822	0
Asian	1,957	2,481	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	84	100	0
Pacific Islander	30	0	0
Hispanic	11,046	18,693	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	28,880	153,450	0
White	19,549	109,832	0
Black / African American	3,315	16,756	0
Asian	1,183	3,774	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	67	162	0
Pacific Islander	19	75	0
Hispanic	3,974	20,376	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	10,110	122,343	0
White	7,188	92,082	0
Black / African American	785	11,217	0
Asian	496	4,428	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	23	146	0
Pacific Islander	0	4	0
Hispanic	1,440	12,382	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

Data shows the incidence and prevalence of housing problems correlate to income. Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing. All racial and ethnic groups experience proportionately fewer housing problems as they move up the economic ladder. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up. Severe cost burden has been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Noteworthy in the data provided above is the prevalence of one or more of the four housing problems (lacks complete kitchen facilities, lacks complete plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 person per room, and cost burden over 50%) in the Hispanic population; followed by the Black/African American, and Asian populations.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.305 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

The table below shows the distribution of housing cost burden among racial/ethnic groups by income category. In Connecticut there is disproportionate need for *affordable housing* among people of color, people with disabilities, single-parent households, and people with a source of income other than employment. These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	846,287	262,036	227,895	16,294
White	674,442	183,601	141,576	9,113
Black / African American	58,100	28,672	32,810	2,816
Asian	31,950	7,614	6,032	913
American Indian, Alaska Native	1,007	283	451	15
Pacific Islander	124	65	84	40
Hispanic	69,983	37,785	43,219	2,925

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Discussion

In protected classes, two groups of households tend to experience cost burden at a higher rate - Black/African American and Hispanic households. This is even more evident for households paying in excess of 50% of their income on housing costs.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.305 (b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

Data in the tables above shows the distribution of housing cost burden among racial/ethnic groups by income category. In Connecticut, there is disproportionate need for affordable housing among people of color, people with disabilities, single-parent households, and people with a source of income other than employment. These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes. These needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

In protected classes, two groups of households tend to experience cost burden at a higher rate - Black/African American and Hispanic households. This is even more evident for households paying in excess of 50% of their income on housing costs.

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

Needs have been identified above.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

While low-income residents reside in every city and town in the Connecticut, areas of low-income concentration are primarily in the larger cities and other larger entitlement communities. The more rural, non-entitlement areas of Connecticut are less densely populated and less ethnically and racially diverse. Connecticut's larger cities and entitlement communities have more diverse populations. The National Center for Health Statistics The 2018 post Census estimates of resident population for the State of Connecticut, put out by the National Center for Health Statistics, calculates the Hispanic population to be 589,809 persons and the Black/African American population to be 387,134 persons.

NA-35 Public Housing

Introduction

Not applicable

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	8	0	6,387	2	5,746	63	168	408

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	27	0	8	19	0	
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	1	0	804	0	608	9	3	
# of Disabled Families	0	3	0	1,346	1	1,059	19	44	

Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	8	0	6,387	2	5,746	63	168
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	7	0	3,745	0	3,313	45	106	281
Black/African American	0	1	0	2,594	2	2,387	17	62	126
Asian	0	0	0	16	0	14	1	0	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	21	0	21	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	11	0	11	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	7	0	2,487	0	2,262	5	77	143
Not Hispanic	0	1	0	3,900	2	3,484	58	91	265

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

Not applicable

What are the number and type of families on the waiting lists for public housing and section 8 tenant-based rental assistance? Based on the information above, and any other information available to the jurisdiction, what are the most immediate needs of residents of public housing and Housing Choice voucher holders?

Not applicable

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

Not applicable

Discussion:

Not applicable

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.305(c)

Introduction:

Every year on a single night in January, the State of Connecticut joins with communities across the country to conduct an annual census of people who are experiencing homelessness known as the Point-in-Time (PIT) count. The PIT count, required by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and organized by the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) serves two purposes: 1) it is the only measure of homelessness that is collected yearly by states and communities across the country and provides one of the only means we have to compare rates of homelessness from year to year and from community to community; and 2) while the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) tracks homelessness on any given day and throughout the course of the year, HMIS data tends to only capture people experiencing homelessness who are known to the homeless service system. The Point-in-Time count captures data on people who are homeless but who, for a variety of reasons, have not been connected to shelters, outreach, workers, or other programs.

The results of the 2019 PIT count, shows that homelessness continues to decline in Connecticut. Compared with 2018, there are 10 percent fewer people experiencing homelessness in 2019. Compared with 2007, when Connecticut began conducting this one-night count, homelessness has declined by 32 percent. Rates of chronic homelessness have declined even faster, down 75 percent since 2014 when the State of Connecticut set a goal to ensure that people with disabilities do not experience long-term homelessness. Homelessness among families with children has also declined by 18 percent from the prior year. And Connecticut appears to be maintaining its progress on ending veteran homelessness as the number of homeless veterans remains low, and homeless veterans that are identified continue to be reconnected to stable housing quickly (e.g., within 90 days). Overall, the 2019 results represent the lowest total number ever found in a statewide homeless count since we began conducting these counts in 2007.

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

According to the 2019 PIT count, on the night of January 22, 2019, the following results were found:

- 3,033 people were experiencing homelessness in Connecticut (2,116 in emergency shelter, 461 in transitional housing, and 456 unsheltered). This represents a 32% statewide decrease from 2007.
- The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (long-term homelessness and living with a severe disability) has decreased 75% since 2014, down 32% since 2018. Nearly 73% of those counted as chronically homeless were in the process of securing permanent housing.

- 50 Veterans were identified in emergency shelter. 13 self-identified Veterans were unsheltered - this has remained flat from 2017.
- 337 youth age 24 and younger were experiencing unaccompanied literal homelessness, and 674 were counted as "unstably housed" according to 2019 Youth Outreach and Count results.
- 305 families were experiencing homelessness, a decrease of 18% from last year, and 2 unsheltered families were self-reported.
- 2019 now represents the lowest total ever in a statewide CT PIT Count for the overall total population, families, and chronically homeless since the first statewide count in 2007.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

According to the 2019 PIT count, 305 families with over 580 children, were experiencing homelessness on one of the coldest nights of the year. There were in total 933 people in families experiencing homelessness this year. This represents a 17% decrease from last year. The total number of homeless families counted as 305, an 18% decrease from the number of families counted last year. Much progress can be made by ramping up our shelter diversion efforts, including scaling up the be homeful fund, CCEH's fund to provide financial assistance for families on the brink of homelessness. In addition, our system needs to ensure that more families are provided with not only rental assistance at various levels, but also connections to early childhood, educational, and wellness supports so that the adverse childhood experience of homelessness does not have to mean a lifetime of poor outcomes.

According to the 2019 PIT count, the total number of veterans counted as homeless remained almost flat from 2018, with a slight increase of five veterans experiencing homelessness. Of the total population of veterans experiencing homelessness, only 50 were counted in emergency shelter, 132 were counted in transitional housing, and 13 were unsheltered. Connecticut has worked diligently on building a system capable of identifying, sheltering, and housing every veteran in need quickly, now and in the future. Federal, state, and nonprofit partners will work together to maintain this system to serve future veterans facing episodes of homelessness. Connecticut was the first state certified by the federal government as functionally ending chronic homelessness among veterans (2015) and one of the first two states certified as ending all homelessness among veterans (2017). Ending veteran homelessness means Connecticut has built an enhanced homeless response system for veterans, through which we quickly identify veterans experiencing homelessness throughout the state, ensure they are offered adequate shelter, rapidly provide them with interim housing (when necessary), and help them secure permanent housing with appropriate supports within 90 days. Services for Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness include: Outreach and early engagement of homeless Veterans; Assessment of housing and medical needs; Referral for mental health or substance abuse treatment; Emergency housing provided at three sites around Connecticut (Hartford, Milford, New Haven); Transitional housing operated by community partners at 16 sites throughout Connecticut; Permanent housing assistance through HUD VASH housing vouchers; Permanent supportive housing at specific supportive housing sites around Connecticut; Referral to benefits, employment, healthcare, housing, food stamps, and other services through SSVF program.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

There does not appear to be a significant disparity between racial and ethnic groups.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

CT PIT 2019 - Sheltered: The number of families in emergency shelter decreased 17% to 232, and the number of families in transitional housing was 71, a decrease of 20%. Individuals in households with no dependent children accounted for 1,381 of the total emergency population, (a decrease of 4%) and there were 265 individuals in transitional housing (an increase of 7%).

Total People 2,577: 2,116 in Emergency Shelter and 461 in Transitional Housing

Total Individuals 1,646: 1,381 in Emergency Shelter and 265 in Transitional Housing

Total Families 303: 232 in Emergency Shelter and 71 in Transitional Housing

Total Children 577: 461 in Emergency shelter and 116 in Transitional Housing

CT PIT 2019 - Unsheltered: The unsheltered count captures the number of people living in a place not meant for human habitation (such as in abandoned buildings, under bridges, or in parks to name a few). On the night of the Count it was estimated that 456 people were experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Of those, the vast majority, 97% or 443 people, were single individuals. There were 2 self-reported unsheltered families experiencing homelessness during CT PIT 2019. There were 7 homeless unaccompanied children counted this year. Overall, unsheltered homelessness was 22% lower this year as compared to 2018. Some of this statistical decrease is likely due to an increase in training efforts aimed at reducing observational surveys for the unsheltered population.

Total Unsheltered Persons: 456

Total Unsheltered Individuals: 443

Total Unsheltered Families: 2

Total Unsheltered Children (Including 7 unaccompanied youth): 11

Discussion:

In addition to the 2019 PIT count, the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) conducted the fourth Youth Outreach and Count during January 23-29, 2019. This count endeavored to assess the number of Connecticut youth experiencing homelessness, gather information about their need and experiences, and make vital recommendations and connections to services.

This year 5,351 surveys were initiated in the 2019 CT Youth Count. Some participants were excluded from the final count for the following reasons: non-consent (n=122), previous survey completion (n=129), age 25 or older (n=160), insufficient data (n=108) and duplicate responses (n=81). After these data exclusions, 4,751 eligible survey respondents age 24 and younger became the sample size. Based on self-reported housing status on January 22, 2019, frequency of moves, not being able to stay as long as needed, and feeling unsafe: 185 youth were categorized as homeless (n=185), 674 as unstably housed, and 3,892 as stably housed. A total of 1011 homeless and unstable housed youth were identified in the 2019 CT Youth Outreach and Count.

In addition, the CT Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was queried for unaccompanied minors and youth age 24 and younger staying in Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing on January 22, 2019. Not counting clients who also took the survey, 141 youth experiencing homelessness were identified through HMIS. Eleven adult youth were identified through the 2019 CT Unsheltered Point in Time Count (Unsheltered PIT). The 2019 CT Youth Outreach and Count includes data aggregated from these three sources, a total of 4,903 individuals.

Race data from the 2019 CT Youth Outreach and Count respondents indicate that that "no race selected" includes 708 (86.0%) youth who identified as Hispanic or Latino. "Multiple races" includes 68 (52.7%) youth who identify as American Indian or Alaskan Native. Nationally, Black/African American youth have an 83% higher risk for homelessness and housing instability than their peers. This data reflects the disproportionality for youth of color falling into homelessness and housing instability.

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment – 91.305 (b, d)

Introduction

The state will emphasize programs targeted at supportive housing, rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention as the primary means to prevent and end homelessness in Connecticut. The state will work to expand permanent supportive housing in Connecticut to break the cycle of long-term, chronic homelessness.

HOPWA

Current HOPWA formula use:	
Cumulative cases of AIDS reported	0
Area incidence of AIDS	0
Rate per population	0
Number of new cases prior year (3 years of data)	0
Rate per population (3 years of data)	0
Current HIV surveillance data:	
Number of Persons living with HIV (PLWH)	310
Area Prevalence (PLWH per population)	488
Number of new HIV cases reported last year	0

Table 26 – HOPWA Data

Data Source: CDC HIV Surveillance

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Connecticut's goal is to create decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income persons with special needs. These needs include the following:

Elderly - Elderly refers to people age 65 and older. Some elderly persons require special adjustments, such as wheelchair-accessible entryways and single-level units.

Frail Elderly - HUD, DOH, and ACS have varying definitions for "frail elderly." HUD defines frail elderly as a person age 62 and older who requires assistance with three or more activities of daily living, such as bathing, walking, and performing light housework. DOH's congregate Housing program has a separate definition for this population group-persons age 62 and over who have limitations in one or more life activities. From the 2017 data collected by ACS, there were 31, 710 frail elderly residents in Connecticut. It is anticipated that this number has grown since that time.

Persons with Mental, Physical, and/or Developmental Disabilities - Persons with disabilities may have one or more physical, mental, and /or developmental conditions that constrain their possibilities for obtaining suitable housing. The disabled may require a single-level home, special equipment to aid them

in carrying out daily functions, or even a regular home nurse or family member to care for them. If their special needs are not met, many may become homeless.

Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking - Based on the information that is available, from the American Institute on Domestic violence, 85-95% of nationwide domestic violence victims were female. Those persons who are victims of domestic violence are forced to turn outside of the home for shelter, safety, and support.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Connecticut will utilize/expand the Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) services to identify and address housing and supportive service needs of special needs populations in the state. The reoccurrence of homelessness will be reduced and those experiencing homelessness will be quickly transitioned into permanent housing.

Housing stabilization case managers with the CT Rapid Re-housing Program will be utilized to provide housing as well as housing support services that will help to reduce the reoccurrence of homelessness by assisting families who are homeless/leaving emergency shelters to achieve housing stability. Households will be helped to find placement/rental assistance as needed with up to 12 months of in-home housing stabilization case management. ESG funds/state funds/other federal funds, through a competitive procurement process, award agencies and shelters funding for the housing relocation, stabilization services and in-home case management. These agencies often receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network. Core services include the following: intake, needs assessment and case management services; educational and vocational services; health/mental health services; shelter and housing assistance; substance abuse counseling; rapid re-housing; transportation/provision of bus tokens; outreach; and workshops on life skills, budgeting, parenting, skills, nutrition, etc. Other related services provided by certain service providers include health care, consumable supplies, food and meal services, employment assistance, client support and childcare.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

Since 1981, over 20,000 HIV cases have been reported in Connecticut residents and of these almost half have died. The Department of Public Health monitors HIV disease through a system of reporting by laboratories and providers. Information gathered through this system is used to analyze trends to determine who is at risk for infection and where services need to be provided. Each year funding from state and federal sources provide prevention services for infected people and others at high risk, HIV medications, housing support, syringe exchange, HIV testing, and other services.

According to the Department of Public Health, as published in their January 2020 HIV in Connecticut - Data reported through 2019 fact sheet:

- There were 10,574 people in Connecticut living with HIV. For people living with HIV, 81% received some HIV care; 61% were retained in care; and 73% were virally suppressed.
- There were 258 new HIV cases reported in Connecticut in 2018.
- Looking at 2018 HIV Diagnoses in Connecticut, Most Affected Subpopulations, we see the following: Black, male-to-male sexual contact at 46 persons; White, male-to-male sexual contact at 44 persons; Hispanic/Latino, male-to-male sexual contact at 41 persons; Black Females, heterosexual contact at 30 persons; Black Males, heterosexual contact at 15 persons; Hispanic/Latina Females, heterosexual contact at 10 persons; and White Females, heterosexual contact at 10 persons.
- Looking at 2018 HIV Diagnoses in Connecticut, Black/African Americans account for 12% of the CT population and 42% of new HIV diagnoses; Hispanic/Latino account for 16% of the CT population and 26% of new HIV diagnoses.
- Looking at 2018 HIV Diagnoses in Connecticut by age-group, we see that 28% were 20-29 years old; 21% were 30-39 years old; 23% were 40-49 years old; 15% were 50-59 years old; 8% were 60 years old or older; and 5% were under 20 years of age.
- There were 168 people diagnosed with HIV in Connecticut who died in 2018.

In comparison, the State of Connecticut's HOPWA housing subsidy served 24 households. Of those households served, 23 were at 30% or below the area median income and 1 household was below 50% of the area median income; 11 persons were Black/African American (with 2 persons also identifying as Hispanic or Latino) and 13 persons were White (with 2 persons also identifying as Hispanic or Latino); 12 persons were male and 12 persons were female; from age 31 to 50 there were 7 males and 10 females; from age 51 and older there were 5 males and 2 females.

Housing affordability, housing availability, and history of evictions tend to be common barriers to successfully housing individuals/families. Affordable rents are difficult to find particularly if they are looking for safe and desirable neighborhoods. Careful negotiation with landlords and leveraging of funds help to bridge the gap and make the rent much more reasonable for the program participant.

Discussion:

Facilities and services for populations with other special needs include assisting non-homeless persons who require supportive housing. The State of Connecticut offers various types of service-enriched housing (including permanent supportive housing). The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) offers service-enriched housing to persons within the DDS system. According to the People and Families First – Five Year Plan 2012-2017, approximately 20,000 individuals and their families are eligible for some types of services from the Department of Developmental Services.

The Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homeless, which includes DMHAS, DSS, OPM, DOC, DOH, and CHFA, is responsible for the creation of more than 4000 units of supportive housing over the last two decades. Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing linked to health, mental health, employment, and other supportive services. Supportive housing is a proven, cost-effective way to end homelessness for people with low income, as it provides chronically homeless people with a way out of expensive emergency public services and back into their own homes and communities.

Numerous state programs offer service-enriched housing and supportive services for persons recovering from mental and physical health problems. DMHAS provides several programs that cater to this target population. The Connecticut Mental Health Center, a collaborative endeavor of DMHAS and Yale University's Department of Psychiatry, has several social integration services that are designed to foster the recovery and community re-integration of the center's patients.

Shelter Plus Care, a HUD funded rental assistance program administered by DMHAS, is designed to provide housing and supportive services to an estimated 940 persons per year who are homeless and disabled.

The DMHAS Housing Assistance Fund Program provides rental assistance in the form of monthly housing subsidy payments to persons with psychiatric disorders on a temporary basis as they wait for permanent subsidies.

DMHAS also has a General Assistance Recovery Supports Program (GA RSP), which is committed to helping State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) recipients meet their basic needs. GA RSP promotes recovery, independence, employment, self-sufficiency, and stability by offering recovery support services including recovery housing, independent housing, bus passes, and personal care items.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs - 91.315 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.

As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the State's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; reuse, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.

How were these needs determined?

Non-housing community development needs are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.

As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the State's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; reuse, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.

How were these needs determined?

Non-housing community development needs are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.

As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the State's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; reuse, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.

How were these needs determined?

Non-housing community development needs are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

DOH has fully embraced the challenge of providing a variety of housing options for all income levels, tenancy and age groups in our diverse state. DOH has leveraged state, federal and private resources to identify and employ tools to develop and preserve all kinds of housing, from ownership to rental, from conventional rental to supportive housing, and from rapid to long term production. Connecticut's housing environment is both challenging and unique. In order for Connecticut to function at its best, there must be an adequate supply of housing in proximity to employment, public transportation, and community facilities, such as public schools. The housing stock must include affordable and accessible for sale and rental units, not only to meet social equity goals, but in order to ensure community viability. The development of a diverse and affordable housing stock must be carried out without sacrificing sound regulations that are in place to protect the environment and public health. The State of Connecticut is working toward ending chronic and family homelessness, providing opportunities for service-enhanced housing and has already eliminated chronic veteran homelessness. DOH has worked extensively towards informed decision-making that creates housing options for all people including low- and moderate-income households, seniors, people with special needs, families and children, and the homeless in both rural and urban areas.

Overall, with people living longer, there will be a call to address a wider range of abilities, needs and disabilities. These needs range from the more typical age-related changes such as those relating to vision, hearing, and mobility; to those including mental, physical and developmental health, educational and transportation needs among the many. It will grow increasingly important for our communities to plan for and address this spectrum of needs, rather than focus on just one. Health care provisions are increasingly relying on community- and home-based care rather than institutional care as detailed in the Affordable Care Act and other federal and state legislation and policies. This shift, in conjunction with financial pressures the health care industry faces, will likely give rise to new community-based housing models that better link human services and health care with residents.

Housing affordability is a key factor in assessing the housing market. Affordable housing is defined as households that do not spend more than 30% of their income for housing, including utilities. In its 2018 report, the National Low Income Housing Coalition cited that for Connecticut, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment was \$1,295. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn \$4,317 monthly or \$51,799 annually. Assuming a 40-hour workweek (52 weeks per year), this level of income translates into an hourly housing wage of \$24.90 per hour, the 9th highest in the nation. Additionally, mortgage rates increased to the highest level since 2010. According to Freddie Mac, the conventional 30-year mortgage rate on an annual average basis was 4.54% last year, up from 3.99% in 2017, 3.65% in 2016 and 3.85% in 2015.

Finally, we see a trend toward the need for additional multifamily housing. New housing can be broken down into single-family and multifamily homes that range from two-unit duplexes to large apartment buildings with hundreds of units. Although the majority of households live in single-family homes, multifamily units have become increasingly important to the housing market. In 1998, Connecticut's multifamily units accounted for 23.0% of housing permits authorized, but that share has doubled to 47.0% in 2018.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.310(a)

Introduction

In Connecticut there is a cross cutting need for housing in all tenure types (ownership and rental), bedroom sizes (efficiency to 3+ bedrooms), and income ranges (extremely low-, low-, moderate- and workforce-income). These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes; these needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.

Of great concern is housing that the market is unable or unwilling to produce, without some form of subsidy, including housing that is traditionally for those with incomes between 80% and 120% of Area Median Income/Median Family Income (AMI/MFI). If housing that is affordable to households with incomes between 80% and 120% of AMI/MFI is not being produced, then the availability of existing housing in that price range diminishes. In keeping with the economic laws of supply and demand, scarcity increases prices. Adding to increased prices was the rising of federal interest rates four times in 2018. As a result, mortgage rates increased to the highest level since 2010. According to Freddie Mac, the conventional 30-year mortgage rate on an annual average basis was 4.54% last year, up from 3.99% in 2017, 3.65% in 2016 and 3.85 % in 2015.

Research, however does show a trend toward the need for additional multifamily housing. New housing can be broken down into single-family and multifamily homes that range from two-unit duplexes to large apartment buildings with hundreds of units. Although the majority of households live in single-family homes, multifamily units have become increasingly important to the housing market. In 1998, Connecticut's multifamily units accounted for 23.0% of housing permits authorized, but that share has doubled to 47.0% in 2018.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	882,941	59%
1-unit, attached structure	80,636	5%
2-4 units	253,922	17%
5-19 units	138,553	9%
20 or more units	123,561	8%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	12,173	1%
Total	1,491,786	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	2,101	0%	23,329	5%
1 bedroom	27,925	3%	130,999	29%
2 bedrooms	181,293	20%	175,129	39%
3 or more bedrooms	694,908	77%	116,899	26%
Total	906,227	100%	446,356	99%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

In FY 2018-19 the Department of Housing (DOH) contracted \$94,526,681 (\$88,926,681 DOH + \$5,600,000 Federal) into 22 projects around the state and, in doing so, created or retained and estimated 1,158 total housing units, of which 957 units will be affordable. Of the affordable units, 847 units were family units and 110 were elderly units. During this fiscal year the total value of DOH's housing development portfolio grew to over \$1 billion.

Annually, DOH collects data in accordance with the requirements of Section 8-30g of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Affordable Housing Land Use Appeal, and publishes a list of "affordable housing" that meets the criteria set forth in that statute. As of June 30, 2019, approximately 172,277 units in Connecticut were considered affordable housing through federal or state financing or rental assistance, or deed restrictions. These 172,277 affordable housing units are monitored for affordability by a variety of state and federal agencies. These include: 1) the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) through mortgage financing, tax credit financing, or through portfolio management; 2) the Department of Housing (DOH); 3) the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); 4) the United State Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Agency; and 5) local municipal "administrators."

FY 2019-2020 estimated Federal dollars for HOME, SC/CDBG, ESG, HOPWA, NHTF, SSBG and Section 8 is \$125,566,960.

FY 2019-2020 estimated state dollars for programs is roughly \$213,906,731.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

A majority of this affordable housing is required to remain affordable through restrictions that are put in place through mortgage financing, when receiving tax credits, or through deed restrictions. These restrictions are not perpetual and expire by their terms upon maturity of their mortgages or other agreement. Of the 172,277 units in Connecticut, approximately 547 will lose their obligation to remain affordable from 2020-2024.

As these properties age and struggle with physical deterioration, many are provided financing that will have affordable housing restrictions placed on them again - usually an additional 30 years. Over the past several years, CHFA, DOH, and HUD have been working to offer financing to many of these properties that are at risk of expiring so that they may remain part of the assisted housing inventory in the state. While it may not always ensure that the properties will retain their most restrictive subsidies and income limits during this period, these agencies hope their efforts will help to stabilize the affordable housing market while at the same time add new affordable units through housing development programs.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

No, there is a shortage of safe, decent, affordable, and accessible housing in Connecticut.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

The pipeline of projects currently in development is lengthy and the need for the units is significant. Located in every region of the state, the rental units funded through the state serve many populations, including extremely low-, low- to moderate-income families; elderly; frail elderly; homeless individuals and families; person with special needs; persons with disabilities; veterans; victims of domestic abuse; and others. These projects cover a wide range from urban revitalization projects, to projects located near major transit, to projects located in some of the state's most rural communities.

It is difficult to evaluate the need for affordable rental units because there is no single housing market. There are many housing markets depending on location and they vary significantly from each other. The 2019 CT area median income in the Stamford-Norwalk HMFA is \$144,300; while the area median income in the Waterbury HMFA is \$76,300. The median home sales prices in the most affluent communities of Connecticut exceed \$1,000,000, yet homebuyers in the more rural areas of the state can still find units prices below \$150,000.

There is an increasing need for supportive housing strategies that improve linkages between residents' housing, human services, and health care needs. Many communities have developed housing assistance programs that often include one or more programs specifically targeted toward meeting the housing needs of disabled individuals. Housing authorities have increasingly become an important vehicle in the development of creative strategies to support their residents as their needs evolve. Additional strategies include the built environment where design promotes accessibility, visitability, and universal creativity that allow for flexible housing options such as accessory dwelling units and shared housing.

Discussion

Increasing the supply of quality affordable housing can be accomplished in multiple ways including new construction and rehabilitation of existing units. Adaptive re-use of historic structures provides multiple benefits to communities. Redevelopment lowers the ratio of poor quality or unused structures. Additionally, re-use lessens sprawl in rapidly developing areas by preserving open space/undeveloped land. Adaptive re-use is very likely to engender community support by preserving structures that have long been part of the community.

DOH focuses its available resources to achieve the creation of new quality affordable rental units; to achieve the creation of new affordable homeownership opportunities; to achieve the preservation of existing affordable rental housing units; and to maintain homeownership opportunities.

Program success is measured through increased rental homeowner housing opportunities that serve low- and moderate-income households in a variety of geographies.

The state utilizes its federal formula grant funding, as well as its state allocations to address Connecticut's housing and community development needs through the application of Six Growth Management principles by giving funding priority to projects that address multiple needs and leverage existing infrastructure and resources, with a focus on addressing homelessness and expanding supportive housing opportunities.

MA-15 Cost of Housing – 91.310(a)

Introduction

Data shows the incidence and prevalence of housing problems correlate to income. Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing. All racial and ethnic groups experience proportionately fewer housing problems as they move up the economic ladder. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up. Severe cost burden has been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	295,800	270,500	(9%)
Median Contract Rent	793	895	13%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	81,417	18.2%
\$500-999	196,079	43.9%
\$1,000-1,499	117,186	26.3%
\$1,500-1,999	30,940	6.9%
\$2,000 or more	20,734	4.7%
Total	446,356	100.0%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	55,160	No Data
50% HAMFI	159,225	49,630
80% HAMFI	305,060	160,560
100% HAMFI	No Data	268,170
Total	519,445	478,360

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	0	0	0	0	0
High HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Low HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source Comments:

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

There is a shortage of safe, decent, affordable and accessible housing at all income levels in Connecticut. Affordable housing is defined as households that do not spend more than 30% of their income for housing, including utilities. In its 2018 *Out of Reach* study, the National Low Income Housing Coalition cited that for Connecticut, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment was \$1,295. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn \$4,317 monthly or \$51,799 annually. Assuming a 40-hour workweek (52 weeks per year), this level of income translates into an hourly housing wage of \$24.90 per hour, the 9th highest in the nation.

The *Out of Reach* study estimates that more than half of Connecticut renters are unable to afford the fair market rate for a two-bedroom unit. This data is consistent with the "housing wage" or self-sufficiency standard, mentioned above. Many state residents simply do not earn enough to live in the state without being burdened by housing costs.

DOH's housing programs focus on creating housing options for all people including low- and moderate-income households, seniors, people with special needs, families and children, and the homeless in both rural and urban areas. The state is working toward ending chronic and family homelessness, providing opportunities for service-enhanced housing and has already eliminated chronic veteran homelessness.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

In addition to rising rents in Connecticut, mortgage rates also increased to the highest level since 2010. According to Freddie Mac, the conventional 30-year mortgage rate on an annual average basis was 4.54% last year, up from 3.99% in 2017, 3.65% in 2016 and 3.85% in 2015. Households are considered cost burdened when 30% or more of their income is spent on housing costs. Roughly 30% of Connecticut's homeowner households and 50% of renter households are cost burdened. With nearly half a million households in Connecticut paying more than 30% of their incomes for housing, it is extremely important to preserve the affordable housing that is currently in Connecticut and add to the affordable housing stock in the state. This is especially true in certain target areas and towns such as

New Haven and Fairfield counties, where the cost of living is generally higher than in other areas of the state.

Housing in CT 2019, the Partnership for Strong Communities' annual assessment of housing in the state shows that Connecticut ranks among the lowest in the nation when it comes to affordability and housing construction. The assessment finds that nearly half of Connecticut's renter population spends over 30% of their income on housing. A quarter of this population spends over 50% of their income on housing, virtually ensuring that these households will not have enough money left over for health care, child care, groceries, and other essential expenses. The study also shows that in 2017, the number of building permits for 2+ unit homes in Connecticut declined to the lowest level since 2011. In total, 2,067 multifamily permits were issued, a decline from 3,043 the previous year. The total number of units counted as affordable by DOH numbered 167,911 in 2018 and 176,277 in 2019 (this includes rental certificates and supportive housing). After evaluating the data, we can see it is extremely important to preserve and add to the affordable housing that is currently in Connecticut.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

When looking at 80% of area median income, in communities where rents are higher, fewer vouchers will be utilized because of the higher rent costs and limited amount of funds. There has been discussion with community groups on quality of living versus number of vouchers distributed. In regard to development, in areas where the HOME rents are lower, the development budget may require additional subsidy for project feasibility.

Discussion

Connecticut, not unlike a majority of America, is in an affordable housing crisis. The Partnership for Strong Communities' December 9, 2019 IForum - featured an event, titled *A Presentation by Alan Mallach: Understanding America's Multiple Affordable Housing Crises* that provided an overview of the complexities of housing affordability across the United States. Mallach recommends that towns and states take action to preserve their stock of small multifamily, or "missing middle" housing. This type of housing makes up a large proportion of housing that is affordable to lower-income residents in Connecticut. However, it is often quite a bit older than the general housing stock, and is in need of preservation or repair. Mallach also encouraged public policy to encourage homeownership among lower-income residents, as well as training them to become small landlords in their communities. Doing so could boost local incomes, provide financial stability, and decrease absenteeism among landlords. Mallach also stressed the creation of a "national housing allowance program," administered by the federal government, to provide housing assistance to all who need it. Unlike programs like Medicaid or SNAP, current federal voucher programs do not provide housing assistance for everyone who qualifies for it. To end mass evictions and provide stable housing for all levels of income, Mallach argues, a significant federal investment is necessary.

MA-20 Condition of Housing – 91.310(a)

Introduction:

Connecticut has a large inventory of older housing, of which 69% were built prior to 1980. This can be problematic for statewide housing conditions; the oldest housing stock may not have the improvements and amenities expected in today's market. The older units may lack complete plumbing or kitchen facilities for example. Approximately half of Connecticut's homes (45%) were between 40 and 70 years old. Roughly one quarter of Connecticut's housing stock (24%) is at least 70 years old. Another 30% of Connecticut's homes are relatively new, having been built after 1980.

Definitions

An important indicator of housing conditions is the number of occupied housing units that have complete plumbing and kitchen facilities.

There are more units in the state without kitchen facilities than units without plumbing facilities.

When one considers vacant housing units as well, the statewide percentage of units lacking complete plumbing facilities and the statewide percentage of units lacking complete kitchen facilities increases by about one-half of these values. These increases indicate that a significant number of units lacking plumbing or kitchen facilities are vacant, which implies that housing condition is an important determinant of occupancy. This would suggest that a disproportionate number of units in substandard housing condition are vacant, and that improving housing conditions across the state would result in a decrease in the vacancy rate.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	279,437	31%	209,735	47%
With two selected Conditions	4,067	0%	13,269	3%
With three selected Conditions	410	0%	994	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	61	0%
No selected Conditions	622,313	69%	222,297	50%
Total	906,227	100%	446,356	100%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	75,283	8%	30,796	7%
1980-1999	202,354	22%	83,936	19%
1950-1979	412,024	45%	171,228	38%
Before 1950	216,566	24%	160,396	36%
Total	906,227	99%	446,356	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	628,590	69%	331,624	74%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	57,165	6%	38,130	9%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Because of Connecticut's large inventory of older housing stock (built before 1980), both owner-occupied housing and rental properties are experiencing at least one condition where the house may not have amenities expected in today's market such as kitchens and plumbing. 31% of owner-occupied housing stock has at least one condition in need of addressing, while 47% of Connecticut's rental housing stock is assessed at having at least one condition in need of addressing for the unit to be considered inhabitable.

There are nearly 160,396 renter-occupied housing units in Connecticut that were built before 1950. These units will need more frequent and possibly more expensive maintenance and repairs in

the coming years. Most of the oldest renter-occupied units are in New Haven, Hartford, and Fairfield counties.

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that although lead-based paint was available for use in residential housing units as late as 1978, it was used more extensively in pre-1950 housing and contained a higher concentration of lead. This is compounded by the fact that older housing is more likely to be deteriorated and therefore contain flakes of lead-based paint hazards. Connecticut's pre-1950 residential stock is comprised of 216,566 owner-occupied units (24%) and 160,396 renter-occupied units (36%). Connecticut's pre-1980 residential housing stock is comprised of 628,590 owner-occupied units (69%) and 331,624 renter-occupied units (74%), of those units built before 1980, 57,165 owner-occupied units (6%) are units with children and 38,130 are renter-occupied units (9%) with children. Furthermore, 2011-2015 CHAS data indicates that 58,060 households have least one or more children under the age of 6 who reside there and they are at 50% or below the median income.

Discussion:

Of all the conditions of housing affecting Connecticut residents, the most medically significant is that of deteriorated lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) which is a hazard that needs immediate attention. Lead-based paint may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as: on windows and window sills; doors and door frames; and stairs, railings, banisters, and porches.

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6. Children can easily ingest chipped lead-based paint and toxic dust particles through normal hand-to-mouth contact. Excess lead in a child's body is very harmful to both physical and mental development. In Connecticut, the most detailed statistics concerning the prevalence of lead-based paint hazards come from the Department of Public Health (DPH) Annual Disease Surveillance Report on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control, which annually publishes the results from confirmed blood lead-level tests of children under age six by town.

As above statistics indicate, the need for affordable housing is complex and factors looked at include availability of housing stock, age and condition of housing stock as well as if children are present, and income level of occupants.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – (Optional)

Introduction:

There are 107 Public Housing Authorities in Connecticut. The state's housing needs have been identified in the housing needs section of this plan. In Connecticut, there are approximately 28,900 public housing units. Of that number 11,900 are federal housing units, those units supported by Annual Contribution Contracts, and 17,000 are state-financed housing units, which are not supported at all by federal dollars. Additionally, the 2019 Affordable Housing Appeals List has governmentally assisted housing units at 90,396.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	8		6,600	17	6,583	180	2,700	4,050

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data PIC (PIH Information Center)

Source:

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

In Connecticut, there are approximately 28,900 public housing units. Of that number 11,900 are federal housing units, those units supported by Annual Contribution Contracts, and 17,000 are state-financed housing units which are not supported at all by federal dollars. Connecticut is one of four states with state-financed public housing. Connecticut's first state-financed units were occupied in 1948 and the stock is among the oldest in the state. These state-financed public housing units are managed primarily by local housing authorities and do not receive any federal support. It has been determined that the most immediate threat to the state's public housing units, mostly due to the age of the stock and its level of deferred maintenance, is its preservation.

Describe the Restoration and Revitalization Needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

Connecticut's first state-financed units were occupied in 1948 and the stock is among the oldest in the state. These state-financed public housing units are managed primarily by local housing authorities and do not receive any federal support. It has been determined that the most immediate threat to the state's public housing units, mostly due to the age of the stock and its level of deferred maintenance, is its preservation.

Recognizing this need, Governor Malloy created a \$30 Million 10-year investment initiative for the revitalization of the State Sponsored Housing Portfolio, for both elderly and family units.

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

Preservation: the state will identify opportunities for the potential loss of public housing units due to expiring contracts or owner choice to preserve existing public housing, and work with those owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the preservation of these units.

Replacement: The state will identify opportunities for the potential replacement of public housing units due to obsolescence or other environmental concerns, and work with the owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the replacement of these units.

Discussion:

To address the housing needs of residents of public housing through preservation of existing housing units, the creation of replacement units and additional rent subsidies, the state anticipates accomplishing the following:

- Preserve or replace state or federally assisted housing units annually by working with current owners and prospective developers/purchasers of these projects to retain them in service to low-income households over the long-term with a focus on projects nearing the end of their current mortgage service periods and those in need of capital reinvestment to provide quality rental housing through a new extended use period.
- Invest in the maintenance/rehabilitation/modernization of existing publicly-assisted rental housing units annually to preserve them as a long-term resource.
- Encourage local public housing authorities and DOH to respond to all notices of funding availability from HUD.
- Increase the supply of state and federal Housing Choice Vouchers.

The state is also working with HUD on efforts to provide support services in addition to rental certificates when working with our special needs populations.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities – 91.310(b)

Introduction

Through competitive procurement, DOH awards shelters funding for families and individuals. As needs are identified in the communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. In addition to ESG funded shelters, DOH also funds an additional 30+ shelters utilizing state and federal funds.

Connecticut will utilize/expand the Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) services to identify and address housing and supportive service needs of special needs populations in the state. The reoccurrence of homelessness will be reduced and those experiencing homelessness will be quickly transitioned into permanent housing.

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons

Housing stabilization case managers with the CT Rapid Re-housing Program will be utilized to provide housing as well as housing support services that will help to reduce the reoccurrence of homelessness by assisting families who are homeless/leaving emergency shelters to achieve housing stability. Households will be helped to find placement/rental assistance as needed with up to 12 months of in-home housing stabilization case management. ESG funds/state funds/other federal funds, through a competitive procurement process, award agencies and shelters funding for the housing relocation, stabilization services and in-home case management. These agencies often receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network. Core services include the following: intake, needs assessment and case management services; educational and vocational services; health/mental health services; shelter and housing assistance; substance abuse counseling; rapid re-housing; transportation/provision of bus tokens; outreach; and workshops on life skills, budgeting, parenting, skills, nutrition, etc. Other related services provided by certain service providers include health care, consumable supplies, food and meal services, employment assistance, client support and childcare.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

DOH has negotiated client-based outcomes and measures with directors of the emergency shelters it works with. Each shelter will select and negotiate individual numerical outcomes and measures with DOH staff and will submit monthly statistical demographics reports, as well as ESG annual performance reports. DOH has also added contractual language as it relates to Homeless Management information System (HMIS) requirements and utilization. The projected numerical goals represent statewide outcomes that will be evaluated every six months:

- Measure 1: At least 40% of clients access permanent housing.
- Measure 2: No more than 15% of clients are discharged to homelessness.
- Measure 3: At least 100% of clients access additional social and/or outpatient treatment services as needed in the housing plan.
- Measure 4: For clients whose housing plans include agreed upon goals of accessing information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services as defined in the program component selected above, in order to make informed decisions about their health, education, finances, housing and other identified needs, 100 percent will be provided with such information, as individually appropriate.
- Measure 5: The monthly shelter utilization rate, as reported in the Monthly Shelter Utilizer Report, shall be at or above 80%.
- Measure 5: If the monthly shelter utilization rate falls under 80% for more than 3 months consistently during this contract period, the contractor will communicate with DOH to explain the reasons for the low utilization rate.

Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and/or treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include but are not limited to domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and financial counseling, child care, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential, outpatient mental health, substance abuse treatment, and medical treatment.

For youth, DOH provides funding for the youth transitional living program for the provision of multi-family or single room residency living arrangement. A variety of support services are provided to these individuals during their stay in the program. Stays can range from a period of six months to two years. The goal is to have these youth gain self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Housing options for offenders coming out of incarceration continues to be one of the more significant challenges for the Department of Correction, and their continued participation in the Interagency Committee on supportive Housing and Homelessness continues to provide opportunities to address this challenge such as contracts with some of the shelters to provide beds for persons being released from prisons as well as for the provision of case management services; and for rental subsidies and wrap-around services they may need in order to become self-sufficient.

The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence shelters almost 2,000 persons per year through their Safe Home Service. Safe home or emergency shelter services are provided to female, male, and child victims in serious physical danger who have no other safe housing options.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.310(c)

Introduction

To create decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons with special needs is a major goal for Connecticut. Connecticut will achieve this goal by improving coordination of the efforts of state agencies and quasi-public entities involved in housing and the provision of social services to persons with special needs. Connecticut supports and promotes the coordination of multi-agency resources and inter-agency cooperation that will lead to providing permanent housing, employment and support services, and rental subsidies to meet the needs of each individual by providing appropriate services to ensure long-term housing stability and independence.

HOPWA Assistance Baseline Table

Type of HOWA Assistance	Number of Units Designated or Available for People with HIV/AIDS and their families
TBRA	0
PH in facilities	0
STRMU	0
ST or TH facilities	0
PH placement	0

Table 38 – HOPWA Assistance Baseline

Data Source: HOPWA CAPER and HOPWA Beneficiary Verification Worksheet

To the extent information is available, describe the facilities and services that assist persons who are not homeless but who require supportive housing, and programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

Connecticut will utilize/expand the Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) services to identify and address housing and supportive service needs of special needs populations in the state. The reoccurrence of homelessness will be reduced and those experiencing homelessness will be quickly transitioned into permanent housing.

Housing stabilization case managers with the CT Rapid Re-housing Program will be utilized to provide housing as well as housing support services that will help to reduce the reoccurrence of homelessness by assisting families who are homeless/leaving emergency shelters to achieve housing stability. Households will be helped to find placement/rental assistance as needed with up to 12 months of in-home housing stabilization case management. ESG funds/state funds/other federal funds, through a competitive procurement process, award agencies and shelters funding for the housing relocation, stabilization services and in-home case management. These agencies often receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network. Core services include the following: intake, needs assessment and case management services; educational and

vocational services; health/mental health services; shelter and housing assistance; substance abuse counseling; rapid re-housing; transportation/provision of bus tokens; outreach; and workshops on life skills, budgeting, parenting, skills, nutrition, etc. Other related services provided by certain service providers include health care, consumable supplies, food and meal services, employment assistance, client support and childcare.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

Permanent supportive housing is strongly supported in Connecticut. In January 2002, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by several state agencies including the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), DOH, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) and the Corporation of Supportive Housing (CSH). This MOU supported the statewide PILOTS Supportive Housing Initiative and the purpose was to increase service-supported, affordable housing for people with mental illness or substance abuse problems who face homelessness. DOH devoted both Section 8 and State Rental Assistance to project-based programs developed as part of this initiative. DOH actively participated in the Balance of State Continuum of Care Steering Committee and HMIS Steering Committee Meetings. DOH was also a member of the Reaching Home Steering Committee.

Since 2002, Connecticut has created over 3000 units of permanent housing and has leveraged over \$200 million in state general and bond funds for these units.

Numerous state programs offer service-enriched housing and supportive services for persons recovering from mental and physical health problems:

- DMHAS provides several programs that cater to this target population. The Connecticut Mental Health Center, a collaborative endeavor of DMHAS and Yale University's Department of Psychiatry, has several social integration services that are designed to foster the recovery and community re-integration of the center's patients.
- Shelter Plus Care, a HUD-funded rental assistance program administered by DMHAS, is designed to provide housing and supportive services to an estimated 940 persons per year who are homeless and disabled.
- The DMHAS Housing Assistance Fund Program provides rental assistance in the form of monthly housing subsidy payments to persons with psychiatric disorders on a temporary basis as they wait for permanent subsidies.
- DMHAS also has a General Assistance Recovery Supports Program (GA RSP), which is committed to helping State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) recipients meet their basic needs. GA RSP promotes recovery, independence, employment, self-sufficiency, and stability by offering recovery support services including recovery housing, independent housing, bus passes, and personal care items.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

Connecticut will continue to utilize/expand the Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) services to identify and address housing and supportive service needs of special needs populations in the state. The reoccurrence of homelessness will continue to be reduced and those experiencing homelessness will be quickly transitioned into permanent housing.

Housing stabilization case managers with the CT Rapid Re-housing Program will continue to be utilized to provide housing as well as housing support services that will help to reduce the reoccurrence of homelessness by assisting families who are homeless/leaving emergency shelters to achieve housing stability. Households will be helped to find placement/rental assistance as needed with up to 12 months of in-home housing stabilization case management. ESG funds/state funds/other federal funds, through a competitive procurement process, will award agencies and shelters funding for the housing relocation, stabilization services and in-home case management. These agencies often receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network. Core services include the following: intake, needs assessment and case management services; educational and vocational services; health/mental health services; shelter and housing assistance; substance abuse counseling; rapid re-housing; transportation/provision of bus tokens; outreach; and workshops on life skills, budgeting, parenting, skills, nutrition, etc. Other related services provided by certain service providers include health care, consumable supplies, food and meal services, employment assistance, client support and childcare.

Permanent supportive housing will continue to be utilized in Connecticut. Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing coupled with individualized supports intended to assist the individual in maintaining his or her tenancy. Along with rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention efforts, and the creation of affordable housing, supportive housing is a crucial method to reduce homelessness. Individualized supports can include case management, peer supports, employment supports, daily living skills, social and family connections, access to medical, mental health and substance abuse services and other services as needed. Supportive housing is designed to serve those who would not be able to stay housed without such services. People living in supportive housing usually have a long history of homelessness and often face persistent obstacles to maintaining housing, such as a serious mental illness, a substance abuse problem, or a chronic medical problem. Many tenants face more than one of these serious conditions.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.310(d)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

Housing is a basic need of every person and family regardless of age, race, or income level. The lack of housing choices for all citizens affects the state's fiscal condition, the quality of life, and the vitality of our cities, towns and neighborhoods. The availability and quality of housing choices have substantial impacts on economic competitiveness, responsible growth, and the cost of infrastructure, not just roads and bridges, but also the cost of municipal services and local schools.

As is the case nationwide, decades of public and private policies and practices have resulted in high levels of segregation within many Connecticut communities. Demographic and geographic data indicate that several groups including people of color, people with lawful sources of income other than employment, people with disabilities, and single-parent households are particularly concentrated in the state's lowest income communities.

The state needs to raise the prominence of quality, affordable housing to the top of the local, state, and federal agenda. The affordable/workforce housing issue must reach beyond the development community and housing advocates to a broad range of constituents, including businesses, utilities, trade organizations, public and private sector employees, community leaders, and government officials.

Housing prices nationwide have increased dramatically over the past several years. A number of factors have contributed to the rising prices, including federal, state and local regulations that affect land and housing development. Regulations that affect housing prices occur in several categories, as a component of building codes, environmental stipulations, land use and zoning, impact fees, and administrative processes. The point at which a regulation/policy becomes a barrier is not always clear. Regulations, in general, should serve a greater public purpose; therefore, regulations that raise housing costs must serve a greater purpose. The regulations/policies that should raise concern are those which disproportionately impact low- and moderate-income individuals by deliberately or indirectly prohibiting or discouraging the development of affordable housing, with little compensating public benefit.

By creating and preserving affordable housing units throughout the state, placing greater emphasis on expanding the creation of affordable housing in local and state planning documents, promoting zoning ordinances that allow multifamily housing, emphasizing mobility counseling, promoting fair lending practices, foreclosure prevention, affordable homeownership, mixed-use transit oriented development, and other initiatives, the state can change its current demographic patterns.

As mounting social science research confirms the significant role that housing location plays in enabling people to access and make the most of educational, economic, employment, and social opportunities, it is clear that affordable housing policy is critical to ensuring a promising future for every resident of Connecticut and the state itself.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets -91.315(f)

Introduction

The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low-and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.

As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the State's Conservation and Development Plan (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; reuse, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all of the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.

The state will encourage the maximization of existing infrastructure and resources and the re-use of blighted and brownfield properties through the application of responsible growth principles and strategies and livability principles and provide incentives for community revitalization efforts as per the state's responsible growth strategies and the growth management policies specified in the current C&D Plan as well as in concert with the federal government's Sustainable Communities Initiative.

With specific regard to the Small Cities SC/CDBG program, the state will provide assistance to help undertake community infrastructure, facility and service projects (public facilities) affecting public health, safety and welfare.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	3,597	4,499	0	1	1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	77,743	78,030	10	12	2
Construction	35,264	33,664	5	5	0
Education and Health Care Services	170,997	118,254	23	18	-5

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	77,592	53,260	10	8	-2
Information	19,251	11,151	3	2	-1
Manufacturing	99,809	102,021	13	15	2
Other Services	32,951	30,433	4	5	1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	78,360	65,729	10	10	0
Public Administration	2	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	99,994	100,484	13	15	2
Transportation and Warehousing	23,018	25,307	3	4	1
Wholesale Trade	39,176	38,596	5	6	1
Total	757,754	661,428	--	--	--

Table 39- Business Activity

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	1,067,405
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	992,240
Unemployment Rate	7.04
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	17.47
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.03

Table 40 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People /
Management, business and financial	294,672
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	36,051
Service	84,969
Sales and office	231,813
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	72,116
Production, transportation and material moving	47,707

Table 41 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	588,749	64%
30-59 Minutes	263,542	28%
60 or More Minutes	73,967	8%
Total	926,258	100%

Table 42 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	25,936	3,996	19,480

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	181,648	17,406	51,078
Some college or Associate's degree	216,658	15,766	44,320
Bachelor's degree or higher	388,259	15,527	59,772

Table 43 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	1,082	1,813	3,115	10,118	18,274
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	14,680	7,267	7,124	19,996	24,815
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	47,071	44,342	49,489	156,792	107,864
Some college, no degree	68,251	38,905	40,329	107,046	50,626
Associate's degree	7,235	14,882	20,235	56,743	19,509
Bachelor's degree	22,835	55,089	65,686	145,005	52,541
Graduate or professional degree	1,780	29,498	50,221	119,224	53,756

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	5,953,617
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	9,140,773
Some college or Associate's degree	10,515,127
Bachelor's degree	14,589,086
Graduate or professional degree	18,648,929

Table 45 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within the state?

According to the data above, the major employment sectors are Education and Health Care Services; Manufacturing; and Retail Trade. Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; Arts, Entertainment, and Accommodations; Professional, Scientific and Management Services are also major employment sectors.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of business in the state.

Connecticut is the home of highly educated and professional workforce. It is understood by many that the cost of housing is an important factor in Connecticut's ability to effectively attract and retain employees and businesses.

Housing prices nationwide have increased dramatically over the past several years. A number of factors have contributed to the rising prices, including federal, state, and local regulations that affect land and housing development.

Regulations that affect housing prices occur in several categories, as a component of building codes, environmental stipulations, land use and zoning, impact fees, and administrative processes. The point at which a regulation/policy becomes a barrier is not always clear. Regulations, in general should serve a greater public purpose; therefore, regulations that raise housing costs must serve a greater public purpose. The regulations/policies that should raise concern are those which disproportionately impact low-and moderate-income individuals by deliberately or indirectly prohibiting or discouraging the development of affordable housing, with little compensating public benefit.

The availability of workforce housing, both ownership and rental, plays an important role in growing and sustaining the state's economic future. It is recognized by many in the business and governmental sectors that barriers to the creation of a full range of housing choices exist on both the state and local levels. Improved integration of housing, zoning, and land use polices with economic development and transportation policies will strengthen the state's ability to compete in the global economy.

In addition to housing, the state also suffer from an older infrastructure in many areas, requiring expensive upgrades to help us maintain our economic competitiveness. Many roads and bridges are in need of repair, mass transit needs capital investment, and cities and towns have aging utility/sewer systems. Also of concern are sidewalk and other infrastructure components that are not yet fully accessible and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Connecticut also needs to invest in 21st century technology and telecommunications infrastructure in order to stay competitive.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Connecticut's Economic Development Strategy, May 2018, indicates that the state's strategic plan calls for investing in targeted industries, retaining anchor companies, expanding STEM education and improving the quality of life that provide a strong foundation for the state's economy. Many companies in Connecticut participate in national and international trade across various sectors. The Manufacturing Innovation Fund, the Bioscience Innovation Fund, the Technology Talent Fund, Innovation Places,

and the Connecticut Port Authority are examples of the recent initiatives coming out of our strategic plan that are helping to expand business opportunities in CT.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the state?

Connecticut's Economic Development Strategy, May 2018, is to build on our established strengths, invest in growth and emerging sectors; and differentiate based on our key assets. A Major goal is to ensure a workforce that meets the needs of the future. Two things the state is doing to ensure the skills/education of our current workforce correspond to employment opportunities are the following: 1) Understand the future needs of employers; and 2) With education partners, grow and enrich our talent pool and develop both short and long range initiatives to invest in our institutions around the key STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) skills.

Describe current workforce training initiatives supported by the state. Describe how these efforts will support the state's Consolidated Plan.

The state is addressing immediate skills challenges, disparities in educational attainment and long-term demographic changes that will impact our workforce. Additionally, with the increasingly technical nature of jobs across all sectors, many Connecticut organizations are evaluating how best to attract and retain individuals with the necessary technical skills and capabilities.

The state recognizes that a multi-tiered approach to developing a workforce and providing the skills needed to meet the market demand is required. A strong partnership amongst education organizations, the training delivery system, and industry is essential. An example of this is the investment of \$20 million in the Advanced Manufacturing Centers at four of the Connecticut community colleges. This investment was a direct result of manufacturers indicating that they were struggling to find talent with manufacturing skills. Additionally, \$15 million in federal funding has been leveraged in three additionally community colleges to purchase additional equipment and provide more training at these centers.

The federal funding has also been utilized to establish the "MAKE IT HERE" marketing campaign that is creating awareness and has increased manufacturing enrollment statewide by 60%. Building on that campaign, many of the community colleges have extended their outreach to high schools and middle schools, seeking to inform them of opportunities in the manufacturing industry, and providing them with a better understanding of advanced manufacturing today. The goal is to expand the pool of prospects available to grow the student population at these programs in our community colleges in the next 5 to 10 years, adding to the pipeline of skilled workers available to our industry partners.

These efforts will support the broader community development goals of the Consolidated Plan, especially in our larger cities/communities where there are more manufacturing opportunities.

Describe any other state efforts to support economic growth.

The State Historic Preservation office supports and strengthens our communities by investing in the historic places that define our state's character. Each year the SHPO distributes millions of dollars in assistance to owners of historic properties through its tax credit and grant programs; reviews thousands of projects through its environmental review program; provides technical assistance to communities across the state; and adds scores of historic properties to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Discussion

Not only is Connecticut's landscape diverse but so is its population - another strength, since a diverse workforce is critical in communities that inspire and encourage innovation. The Small Business Express program emphasizes assistance to minority- and women-owned businesses, ensuring that investments made by the state reach across Connecticut to provide tools that all residents need to succeed.

Additionally, through its grants and technical support, the Department of Economic and Community Development is helping to strengthen organizations in the arts and culture sector, thereby enhancing each community's competitive edge, bridging the social and economic divide, creating rich and meaningful experiences for residents and visitors, helping communities define and celebrate their distinct assets, and contributing to the development and retention of a creative workforce.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

Data shows the incidence and prevalence of housing problems correlate to income. Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up. Severe cost burden has been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Please see opportunity mapping on the Department of Housing website for details on these areas.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated?

All racial and ethnic groups experience proportionately fewer housing problems as they move up the economic ladder. However, there tend to be larger concentrations of ethnic minorities and low-income families in our more populated areas. Significant disparities in income and poverty are evident for several groups in Connecticut. The *2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice 2015* indicates that as a result of these income and wealth disparities, non-Hispanic Blacks, Hispanics, women, single parent families, people with disabilities under the age of 65, and people with a source of income other than employment have a disproportionate need for affordable housing. Increasing the supply of affordable housing and locating it in communities throughout the state will promote integration.

Please see opportunity mapping on the Department of Housing website for details on these areas.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

Typically, Connecticut's urban housing market conditions include lower home values, older housing stock, and housing quality issues. The rural housing market conditions can include a lack of housing type (not as many multi-family units), lower home values and prices, and issues with housing quality. Additionally, with the older housing stock, there are housing accessibility issues for persons with disabilities.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Not currently detailed in the Opportunity Mapping.

However, there is a push to allocate and leverage resources in transit-oriented development areas where there is existing infrastructure and resources; access to housing; and availability of jobs and amenities like grocery stores/pharmacies/shops.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

This would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

According to Evidence Matters, *Transforming Knowledge into Housing and Community Development Policy, Fall 2016*, research on digital inequality shows that low-income households have lower rates of in-home Internet connectivity compared with higher-income groups. Connectivity rates are particularly low among HUD-assisted renter households, who are also more likely to depend exclusively on smartphones and other handheld devices to access the Internet in the home. Low-income households are most like to cite affordability constraints as a substantial barrier to in-home broadband adoption. Eighty percent of respondents to the 2015-2016 ConnectHome survey who lacked Internet access at home cited Internet costs as one reason they lacked in-home Internet access, and 37 percent cited device costs.

As information, services, and resources increasingly move online, digital inequality has come to both reflect and contribute to other persistent forms of social inequality. Disparate access to the Internet and digital devices corresponds closely with longstanding inequalities in income, education, race and ethnicity, age, immigration status, and geography. Internet access, and particularly broadband Internet access, has become an important tool for taking full advantage of opportunities in education, employment, health, social services, and the production and dissemination of knowledge and digital content. Those who are most in need of social services are often least able to get online to access those services, and low-income children, who are 4 times less likely to have access to broadband at home than their middle- and upper-income counterparts, are particularly vulnerable to the long-term detrimental effects of constrained access to technology-enriched education. These trends suggest that digital access will play an increasingly central role in socioeconomic inclusion.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

There is a need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider in jurisdictions for healthy economic competition which would drive costs down and help make Internet access more affordable, especially to extremely low- and low-income households.

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

As indicated by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office in its *Shared Stewardship: 2018-2023 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan*, Connecticut is vulnerable to natural hazards ranging from snowstorms, droughts, and wildfires to coastal storms such as hurricanes and nor'easters. Climate change is intensifying the risks from these hazards, even as it presents the stewards of properties with new hazards related to rising sea levels and environmental change. These include: Inundation from storm surge and riverine flooding; Structural stress from high winds; Erosion from flooding, storm surge, and high winds; Debris damage related to high winds and flooding; Structural damage from snow loads; Freeze-thaw damage related to extreme temperature swings; and Damage to exterior materials due to increased pollution.

Although no area is risk-free, coastal and riverine zones are especially vulnerable because of flood risks. Data collected by the SHPO in Connecticut's four coastal counties show that almost percent of designated historic properties, more than 3,000 historic buildings and districts, are at risk of flooding during coastal storms. They also show that many of these and other resources will be inundated under median projections for sea level rise.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

Please see opportunity mapping on the Department of Housing website for details on areas of low- and moderate-income households.

As indicated by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office in its *Shared Stewardship: 2018-2023 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan*, climate change and associated sea level rise have emerged as serious and immediate threats to the preservation of Connecticut's historic properties and other resources. As the science of climate change has advanced, with patterns of projected change demonstrated empirically, threats to historic and other resources have become a focus of public, private, and professional concern. The categories of impacts to properties have emerged from current scientific data and from our current national posture:

Storm Events: the first major threat is the increased number, severity, and frequency of storm events with the potential to result in substantial damage to and /or loss of properties

Sea Level Rise: the second category of impact is sea level rise. Major threats with sea level rise are resource inundation, loss or damage from increased storm surge, loss of access and services related to

disruptions to infrastructure including bridges, roads, and services, and loss of resources related to the implementation of abandonment as an adaptation measure.

Environmental Change: the third category of threat is associated with the trajectory of environmental change that will impact the physical patterns of care. New and unexpected conditions of conducive material deterioration are anticipated to emerge in the state; they will require increased conservation intervention. These include increased temperatures resulting in increased thermal movement; changes in expansion and contraction rates associated with altered seasonal cycles; and invasive species, including vegetation, insects, biological, and microbiological agents, that are anticipated to become more common and to pose increasing threats through infestation or decay.

Integrating resources resiliency into state and local government plans is critical to ensure that preservation values are represented in plans for hazard mitigation, conservation, and development, and climate preparedness. The effects of climate change and rising sea levels are real and the benefits of preservation-friendly resiliency and sustainability measures will be critical in protecting our coastal and riverine zones, particularly in low-lying areas where low- and moderate-income households are often located.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The Connecticut Department of Housing's (DOH) mission is to ensure everyone has access to quality housing opportunities and options throughout the State of Connecticut. DOH has fully embraced the challenge of providing a variety of housing options for all income levels, tenancy and age groups in our diverse state. DOH has leveraged state, federal and private resources to identify and employ tools to develop and preserve all kinds of housing, from ownership to rental, from conventional rental to supportive housing, and from rapid to long-term production. Connecticut's housing environment is both challenging and unique. In order for Connecticut to function at its best, there must be an adequate supply of housing in proximity to employment, public transportation, and community facilities, such as public schools. The housing stock must include affordable and accessible for sale rental units, not only to meet social equity goals, but in order to ensure community viability. The development of a diverse and affordable housing stock must be carried out without sacrificing sound regulations that are in place to protect the environment and public health. The State of Connecticut is working toward ending chronic and family homelessness, providing opportunities for service-enhanced housing, and has already eliminated chronic veteran homelessness. DOH has worked extensively towards informed decision making that creates housing options for all people including: very low-, low- and moderate-income households, seniors, people with special needs, families and children, and the homeless in both rural and urban areas.

The strategic plan establishes the framework for the efficient allocation of all state and federal resources available to DOH, including federal formula grant funding, for the development and preservation of affordable housing and community development activity that assists extremely low-, low- and moderate-income households in the state over the next five years. The consolidated plan articulates policies, strategies, goals and objectives, which are based on an analysis of the state's housing needs, housing market, and community development needs.

Housing is a key component of attaining and sustaining local viability, community health and ensuring a thriving community. Ensuring affordable housing options for both owners and renters is an important contributing factor to future community health. Additionally, many of Connecticut's most vulnerable citizens are in need of quality affordable housing with the availability of services. In order to address these needs, it is important to add new housing as well as preserve affordable housing presently serving households in need in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Housing development is linked to Connecticut's other public policy areas which include, education, transportation, energy cost and availability, public health and safety, environmental quality, and economic development. These areas are not independent of each other. They are interconnected and interdependent just as transportation is not just a network of roads and bridges, housing is not just

shelter. It is an integral part of the state's socio-economic fabric. Public policy and investment decisions made in one area directly and indirectly impact the other areas. As such, the state must comprehensively consider these relationships and take a multifaceted and balanced approach to addressing Connecticut's housing and community development needs.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.315(a)(1)

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The following federal resources will be directed toward specific geographic areas as described below:

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) - Emergency Solutions Grant Funds are awarded through a formula established by the federal government. The state's allocation of ESG funds may be used anywhere in Connecticut without restriction. Four jurisdictions (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury) receive their own allocations of ESG funds directly from the federal government, thus, are not eligible for the state allocation. Because of the nature of homelessness, the ESG program is exempt from Priority Funding Area requirements.

Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF)- The state's allocation of HOME and NHTF funds may be used anywhere within the State of Connecticut. Priority will be given to activities in higher opportunity areas as demonstrated through Opportunity Mapping at the DOH website in accordance with the most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (FLIHTC) - Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits may be used anywhere within the State of Connecticut. However, in accordance with federal law, states are required to develop allocation criteria that disperse the tax credits across the state through an IRS-approved competitive process. CHFA is Connecticut's tax credit administrating agency and has an approved competitive process that allows points to be given to rental housing projects. CHFA's allocation plan must be consistent with the recommended State Plan of Conservation and Development.

Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG) - Small Cities Community Development Block Grant funds are awarded through a formula established by the federal government. The state's allocation of SC/CDBG funds may not be used in the following jurisdictions: Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Milford Town, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Stamford, Stratford, Waterbury, West Hartford, West Haven. These jurisdictions receive their own allocations of CDBG funds directly from the federal government and are not eligible for use of the state allocation designated for Small Cities.

HOPWA - The majority of HOPWA dollars allocated to Connecticut are apportioned through the eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA) of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and their surrounding areas. DOH receives a small amount of "Balance of State Dollars" and uses a competitive procurement process for HOPWA services to ensure statewide coverage for the balance of state catchment area: Windham County, New London County, Middlesex County and Litchfield County.

SP-25 Priority Needs – 91.315(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 46 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Development of Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Quality Affordable Housing Public Housing Strategies

	Description	Owner-occupied and rental housing projects that create extremely low-, very low-, low- and moderate-income housing in High Opportunity Communities.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on housing and community development needs, and past funding requests, demand remains high for the development and rehabilitation of affordable housing units.
2	Priority Need Name	Permanent Supportive Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Quality Affordable Housing Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing

	Description	Permanent supportive housing provides housing and improves linkages between residents' housing, human services and health care needs (housing + services).
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on the need for increased service-supported affordable housing.
3	Priority Need Name	Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing.
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Quality Affordable Housing Public Housing Strategies

	Description	Preservation of existing owner occupied and rental housing for extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income households.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on housing need and past funding request, demand remains high for housing rehabilitation.
4	Priority Need Name	Transit-Oriented Development
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	

	Associated Goals	Quality Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development Community Revitalization
	Description	Concentrate affordable housing and community development around transportation nodes and along major corridors to support the viability of transportation options.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on affordable housing and community development needs as well as leveraging resources in areas of existing transportation hubs including housing, jobs, education, and recreational opportunities.
5	Priority Need Name	Homelessness Prevention
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence

	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing
	Description	Need for enhancing suitable living environment, create decent housing, and address the shelter, housing and service needs of the homeless, and those threatened with homelessness with an emphasis on ending chronic homelessness, including veteran's and family homelessness, as well as preventing future homelessness.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on data collected for homeless and service supportive housing needs.
6	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - General
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - General
	Description	Create decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons with special needs.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on the needs of individuals and households with special needs the state will work to expand housing opportunities linked to services
7	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - Elderly and Frail Elderly
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Elderly Elderly Frail Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly
	Description	Maintain housing choice opportunities for the elderly and the frail elderly, including access to appropriate services.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on the need of housing for elderly and frail elderly populations, and the need to promote efficiency in service delivery to the elderly and frail elderly.
8	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Mentally Ill Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities

	Description	Increase the number of linkages among federal agencies, state agencies and consumers in providing resources to continue family cohesion with those individuals with disabilities through placement in stable living situations and providing them with appropriate supportive services.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on the need to create a continuum of affordable housing with support services and increase the supply of appropriate housing so that the disabled can live independently within their community of choice.
9	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Persons with HIV/AIDS Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa
	Description	Continue to support people with HIV/AIDS and their families by increasing access to supportive housing services.
	Basis for Relative Priority	DOH will be assessing the effectiveness of supportive housing programs for people living with HIV/AIDS periodically through the use of performance measures and ongoing mechanisms to track client preferences and needs.
10	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Substance Abuse Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction
	Description	Continue existing substance abuse programs at levels permitted by funding availability. Link employment services, housing subsidies and long term supportive care to meet the needs of each beneficiary, by adapting services that anticipate and deal with changes in age, health, income other circumstances.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on need for long-term stability for individuals who have alcohol or substance abuse problems.
11	Priority Need Name	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Other
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders

	Description	Increase the availability of permanent supportive housing as a housing option to assist individuals leaving the correction system, to facilitate their integration back into the community.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Individuals leaving the corrections system and in need of long-term supports could either immediately, or after living for a short time in halfway house, live in supportive housing.
12	Priority Need Name	Non-Housing Community Development
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Non-Housing Community Development
	Description	The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.
	Basis for Relative Priority	The state will provide assistance to help undertake community infrastructure, facility and service projects (public facilities) affecting public health, safety and welfare.
13	Priority Need Name	Community Revitalization
	Priority Level	Low

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Community Revitalization
	Description	Community Revitalization - Pursuant to Section 91.315(g), the state will utilize, to the fullest extent possible, SC/CDBG Community Revitalization Strategies (CRS) and Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRZ) in executing its community revitalization strategies.
	Basis for Relative Priority	In 1996, HUD established criteria, which allowed states to approve a locally determined strategy for revitalizing an area that is among the community's most distressed. In order to provide some incentive for communities to undertake such revitalization, the SC/CDBG Program regulations provide certain benefits for the use of SC/CDBG funds in such an area. DOH will apply the same criteria to communities eligible for the SC/CDBG Program.
14	Priority Need Name	Barriers to Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High

<p>Population</p>	<p>Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence</p>
<p>Geographic Areas Affected</p>	
<p>Associated Goals</p>	<p>Barriers to Affordable Housing</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice provides a very clear and attainable road map for addressing the various barriers to affordable housing Connecticut.</p>

	Basis for Relative Priority	<p>The state will implement a variety of action steps to address a majority of the barriers identified in The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and rehabilitation of affordable housing in a variety of locations. • Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing. • Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments. • Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility. • Promote fair housing enforcement and education.
15	Priority Need Name	Lead Based Paint Hazards
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Other
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Lead-Based Paint Hazards
	Description	In coordination with the Healthy Homes Initiative, which is spearheaded by the Department of Public Health (DPH), DOH supports the federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medical Primary prevention Project (LAMPP).

	Basis for Relative Priority	There is a need to protect children before they are poisoned by lead hazards or injured by safety hazards in their homes. The Healthy Homes Program integrates health and safety interventions, lead hazard control, energy efficiency interventions, and housing rehabilitation for property owners by coordinating resources in an efficient manner to produce healthy homes.
16	Priority Need Name	Anti-Poverty Strategy
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Anti-Poverty Strategy

	Description	The five programs covered by the state's Consolidated Plan - SC/CDBG, HOME, NHTF, ESG and HOPWA - directly support the overall State Anti-Poverty Strategy by addressing the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of persons at or below the poverty level.
	Basis for Relative Priority	In addition to the five programs by the Consolidated Plan, the State of Connecticut, through several agencies and organizations, employs numerous policies and programs to reduce the number of poverty level households within the state. These programs and the organizations that administer them are described within the Institutional Structure section of this plan. Additionally, the State of Connecticut has several statutory and federally mandated interconnected/interrelated plans that further articulate and constitute the State's Anti-Poverty Strategy.
17	Priority Need Name	Fair Housing and Housing Choice
	Priority Level	High

<p>Population</p>	<p>Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence</p>
<p>Geographic Areas Affected</p>	
<p>Associated Goals</p>	<p>Fair Housing and Housing Choice Barriers to Affordable Housing</p>
<p>Description</p>	<p>Within available appropriations, the DOH will continue to support the Connecticut Fair Housing Center with their efforts to assist the State of Connecticut to fulfill the recommendations in the state's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for state level action.</p> <p>DOH will continue to conduct regular monitoring of its funding recipients in the areas of civil rights and fair housing and enforcement.</p>

	Basis for Relative Priority	The state will update and redraft the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations consistent with guidance from the Fair Housing Enforcement Office HUD.
18	Priority Need Name	Public Housing Strategies
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Public Housing Strategies
	Description	Provide decent housing and enhance suitable living environments for residents of public housing.

Basis for Relative Priority	DOH will address the housing needs of residents of public housing through preservation of existing housing units, the creation of replacement units and additional rent subsidies.
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Narrative (Optional)

Priority ratings were established after a thorough examination of Connecticut's housing and community development needs and the state's current and historical housing market (See Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections.) Based on the state's review of all relevant and available data, specific issues were selected at the Department of Housing. Issues chosen to be assigned high priority funding status within this plan were selected based on four primary factors: 1) the primary eligibility criteria of the respective funding; 2) the availability of "other" funds to address the issue, 3) the issue's relative demonstrated need (as identified in the needs assessment), and 4) the impact of the issue on the prevention and reduction of homelessness.

This does not exclude the state from funding lower priority projects. The high priority designation serves to emphasize to the public, the areas in which the state will concentrate its efforts over the next five years, in terms of housing and community development. Further, it defines where the state will focus its usage of the federal funds accessed through the four state administered federal programs governed by this plan.

A proposed project that addresses a high priority need is not guaranteed funding based solely on the fact that it will address a high priority need. All projects funded by the state must be financially and logistically feasible as well as meet all of the eligibility criteria of the proposed funding source. When two or more projects are competing for funding dollars (all things being equal), the project addressing the high priority need will be given funding preference.

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.315(b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	<p>Statewide, 77% of households with incomes under 50% AMI including both renters and homeowners pay at least 30% of their income for housing. 78% of the lowest income households (households with incomes at 30% AMI or less) pay more than 30% of their income for housing. Housing cost burden and severe housing cost burden are the largest problems facing households at risk of being homeless. As income level goes down, housing cost burden (households spending 50% or more of their income) goes up. Severe cost burden has been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.</p>
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	<p>Connecticut has a population of residents who are not homeless, but have special needs that may require service-enriched housing, including elderly, frail-elderly, persons with physical or mental disabilities, and domestic violence victims. Often these individuals are disproportionately low-income earning a fraction of what people without disabilities earn. There is a connection between age and disability. Although a wide variety of disabilities exists in Connecticut, the most common difficulty is mobility. As a result, the availability of housing that is accessible or visitable is an important factor to consider as we develop and rehabilitate Connecticut's housing.</p> <p>Persons with disabilities may have one or more physical, mental, and /or developmental conditions that constrain their possibilities for obtaining suitable housing. Persons with disabilities may require a single level home, special equipment to aid them in carrying out daily functions, or even a regular home nurse or family member to care for them. If their special needs are not met, many may become homeless.</p>

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
New Unit Production	<p>Of great concern is housing that the market is unable or unwilling to produce, without some form of subsidy, including housing that is traditionally for those with incomes between 80% and 120% of Area Median Income/Median Family Income (AMI/FMI). If housing that is affordable to households with incomes between 80% and 120 % of AMI/FMI is not being produced, then the availability of existing housing in that price range diminishes. In keeping with economic laws of supply and demand, scarcity increases prices. Adding to increased prices was the rising of federal interest rates four times in 2018. As a result, mortgage rates increased to the highest level since 2010. According to Freddie Mac, the conventional 30-year mortgage rate on an annual average basis was 4.54% last year, up from 3.99% in 2017, 3.65 % in 2016 and 3.85% in 2015.</p> <p>After nearly a decade of low levels of building, housing stock is well short of what Connecticut needs. If supply continues to fall short of demand, home prices and rents are likely to outpace income and household formation will fail to reach potential. The inadequate level of housing supply is a major challenge facing the Connecticut housing market today and for years to come.</p>
Rehabilitation	<p>Connecticut has a large inventory of older housing, of which 69% were built prior to 1980. This can be problematic for statewide housing conditions; the oldest housing stock may not have the improvements and amenities expected in today's market. The older units may lack complete plumbing or kitchen facilities for example. Approximately half of Connecticut's homes (45%) were between 40 and 70 years old. Roughly, one quarter of Connecticut's housing stock (24%) is at least 70 years old. Another 30% of Connecticut's homes are relatively new, having been built after 1980.</p> <p>When one considers vacant housing units as well, the statewide percentage of units lacking complete plumbing facilities and the statewide percentage of units lacking complete kitchen facilities increases by about one-half of these values. These increases indicate that a significant number of units lacking plumbing or kitchen facilities are vacant, which implies that housing condition is an important determinant of occupancy. This would suggest that a disproportionate number of units in substandard housing condition are vacant, and that improving housing conditions across the state would result in a decrease in the vacancy rate.</p>

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Acquisition, including preservation	<p>In Connecticut, there is a cross cutting need for housing in all tenure types (ownership and rental), bedroom sizes (efficiency to 3+ bedrooms), and income ranges (extremely low-, low-, moderate-, and workforce-income). These needs vary not only by county, region and municipality, but by neighborhood and borough. These needs are not limited by race, ethnicity, disability, gender, or any other characteristic among the protected classes; these needs cross all boundaries, both geographically and demographically.</p> <p>However, there is a disproportionate need for affordable housing among people of color, people with disabilities, single-parent households, and people with a source of income other than employment.</p> <p>Despite a growing need, gauging the supply of housing available to people with mobility impairments is difficult. While by law multifamily housing built since 1991, with a few exceptions, should be accessible, it is unclear how many accessible units actually exist in Connecticut, where they are, and if they are available. What is clear is that 95.1% of owner-occupied multi-unit housing in Connecticut was built prior to 1980. Furthermore, 94.3% of renter-occupied multi-unit housing was built before 1980. In total, 94.5% of all multi-unit housing (either owner-occupied or renter-occupied) in Connecticut was built before 1980. Since the effective date of the amendments to the Fair Housing Act was 1991, it is likely that 94.5% of multifamily units are not accessible unless modifications were made after 1991. In many cases, it is difficult for people with disabilities who are disproportionately low-income to pay for such modifications.</p>

Table 47 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.315(a)(4), 91.320(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The strategic plan establishes the framework for the efficient allocation of all state and federal resources available to DOH, including federal formula grant funding, for the development and preservation of affordable housing and community development activity that assists extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income households in the state over the next five years. The consolidated plan articulates policies, strategies, goals and objectives which are based on an analysis of the state's housing needs, housing market, and community development needs.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	13,851,472	0	0	13,851,472	55,405,888	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	9,447,328	0	0	9,447,328	37,789,312	
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	265,668	0	0	265,668	1,062,672	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	2,366,278	0	0	2,366,278	9,465,112	
HTF	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Homebuyer assistance Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	3,750,859	0	0	3,750,859	15,003,436	
Other	public - state	Other	135,872,911	0	0	135,872,911	543,346,565	These numbers are for CDBG-DR grant which includes the Recovery Rebuild by Design program.

Table 48 - Anticipated Resources

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

Financial leveraging and firm financial commitments are important considerations in awarding funding for projects/services. DOH adheres to all matching requirements for each federal funding source.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the state that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Not applicable

Discussion

The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new *Developer Engagement Process*.

This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.

Developers/applicants should complete the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile* that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*.

Upon receipt of a *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including CDBG, HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.315(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
CORPORATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING	Non-profit organizations	Ownership Planning Rental	State
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
The Department of Aging and Disability Services	Government	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities	Government	Planning public services	State
State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	Government	Planning public services	State

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind	Government	Planning public services	State
Department of Education	Government	Planning public services	State
Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired	Departments and agencies	Planning public services	State
Department of Developmental Services	Government	Planning public services	State
Department of Children and Families	Government	Planning public services	State
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	Government	Planning public services	State
Department of Public Health	Government	Planning public services	State
CONNECTICUT HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY	Government	Ownership Rental	State
Capital For Change	Non-profit organizations	Economic Development Ownership Planning Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
COMMUNITY RENEWAL TEAM	Non-profit organizations	Planning public services	State
Department of Labor	Government	Economic Development Planning public services	
Department of Correction	Government	Non-homeless special needs Planning	State

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Government	Non-homeless special needs Planning public services	State
Department of Social Services	Government	Planning	State
Office of Policy and Management	Government	Planning public services	State
Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homelessness	Departments and agencies	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Planning public services	State
Statewide Long Term (Disaster) Recovery Committee	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
The Governor's Council on Climate Change	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	Nation
Social Security Administration	Government	Planning public services	Nation
Federal Home Loan bank	Other	Economic Development Ownership Planning	Nation
Connecticut Association of Realtors	Regional organization	Ownership Planning public services	State
Connecticut Fair Housing Center	Non-profit organizations	Planning public services	State
Affordable Housing Alliance	Non-profit organizations	Planning public services	State
Fair Housing Association of Connecticut	Non-profit organizations	Planning public services	State
Americans with Disabilities Act Coalition of Connecticut, Inc.	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs Planning public services	State
Families United for Children's Mental Health	Regional organization	Planning public services	State
Conn Nahro	Regional organization	Planning public services	State

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Connecticut Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf, Inc.	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs Planning public services	State
Balance of State Continuum of Care	Government	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental public services	State
INFOLINE	Other	Planning public services	State

Table 49 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The Department of Housing (DOH) is identified as the "first point of contact" for the institutional structure presented in this plan. This role is supported at three levels through: 1) designation by the legislature to serve as the State's lead agency; 2) the role as "grantee" of various HUD program funds; and 3) the mission to serve all the citizens of Connecticut. DOH will: 1) conduct and foster open participation, including supportive assistance, with the goal of facilitating meaningful involvement; 2) work to increase participation at all levels, especially among extremely low- and very low-income groups, as well as those traditionally under-represented; and 3) involve organizations that represent need populations across Connecticut.

The State of Connecticut recognizes that socio-economic and economic issues and challenges must not be viewed in isolation nor can they be adequately and/or appropriately addressed as such. Housing, social services, education, public safety, transportation, public health and housing are all inter-related and intrinsically interconnected. In order to be truly effective and efficiently implemented/executed efforts and activities to address the state's needs must be comprehensive, inclusive and coordinated.

To encourage, promote and ensure that coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health, and service agencies, the state also participates (via membership) in various associations such as the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (CONN-NAHRO), Connecticut Housing Coalition (CHC), and Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH).

The state also has in place numerous interagency councils, committees, task forces, commissions and working groups. Examples of some of these groups are as follows:

Connecticut Housing Finance Authority Board (CHFA) (C.G.S. Sec. 8-244)- established in 1969, is a 15-member board charged with making housing mortgage loans (via the Connecticut housing Finance Authority) to alleviate the shortage of housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families.

Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homeless (C.G.S. Sec. 17a-485c) - established in 2004 to develop and implement strategies and solutions to address the problems associated with homelessness, including the development of supportive housing options and reducing inappropriate use of emergency health care, shelter, chemical dependency, corrections, foster care, and similar services.

Long Term Care Planning Committee (C.G.S. Sec. 17b-337) - established in 1998, is a 12 member commission created to establish a plan for a long-term care system for all persons in need of long-term care, to coordinate policy development, exchange information on long-term care issues, and promote consumer-directed care and provisions to support care-giving by family and other informal caregivers, and study issues relative to long-term within available appropriations.

Community Mental Health Strategy Board (C.G.S. Sec. 17a-485b) - established in 2001, is a 19 member board whose charge is to assist, expand access, integrate prevention, early intervention, recovery and rehabilitation services to adults and children or youth with mental illness.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance	X	X	X
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	X
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	X
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	X
Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X

Supportive Services			
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
Other			
	X	X	X

Table 50 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe the extent to which services targeted to homeless person and persons with HIV and mainstream services, such as health, mental health and employment services are made available to and used by homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families and unaccompanied youth) and persons with HIV within the jurisdiction

Effective July 1, 2020, in order to fully coordinate HOPWA activities with assistance provided under the Continuum of Care Program, the Department of Housing's HOPWA program will be integrated with the state's Coordinated Entry System known as the Coordinated Access Networks (CANs). The use of the CANs' coordinated entry system will help to assure that HOPWA assistance is provided to those living with HIV/AIDS with the highest vulnerability and risks to housing stability. All referrals for permanent housing (TBRA) funded through HOPWA will occur through the CAN system. HOPWA grantees will be required to report permanent supportive housing (TBRA) vacancies to their local CAN and to accept only applicants referred by their local CAN off the By-Name List (BNL). This will ensure that applicants who have been homeless the longest and have the most intensive service needs receive priority access to HOPWA resources. If there are no literally homeless people living with HIV/AIDS in the geographic area, the local CAN will prioritize people at risk of homelessness with the most intensive service needs for referral to HOPWA funded TBRA.

The pool of federal and state dollars, allocated to local community and faith-based organizations and municipalities, is for the provision of temporary shelter for homeless individuals and families. The funds provide operational costs, essential services such as counseling, case management, health, education, employment and training as well as HMIS costs and rapid-rehousing tenant based rental assistance. It is projected that under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG), federal ESG funds will be targeted as follows: Operations (Emergency Shelter) - 54.02%; Essential Services (Emergency Shelter) - 8.58%; HMIS - 3.79%; Rapid Re-Housing - Tenant Based Rental Assistance - (29.51 %) and administration - (4.10%).

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

The state recognizes the importance of partnering with other agencies to help serve its housing and community development needs. Nonprofit agencies play an important role in the provision of affordable housing, supportive housing and social services, and economic development activities. Local organizations with direct public contact have a clear view and understanding of the state's institutional structure and typically serve in one or more of the following capacities: 1) are eligible to receive public and private funds or resources targeted at serving need populations; 2) are legally restricted or structured by organizational charter to serve lower income or specific need populations; 3) are identified by regulation, program or otherwise allowed to undertake certain governmental programs serving need populations; or 4) have daily contact with, represent or advocate on behalf of, certain populations in need.

ESG Monitoring: DOH Grants and Contracts staff monitor ESG Programs using a tool developed by the staff which, in a comprehensive manner, reviews each program's administration, personnel policies and procedures, accounting, budgeting, reporting, program services, goals and objectives, outcomes and measures, contractor's self-evaluation process, quality assurance/licensure compliance, and state and federal regulations. After all phases of the program have been evaluated, the staff representatives will write up any areas of concern with whatever follow-up is needed. DOH staff will provide follow-up if it is deemed necessary.

HOPWA Monitoring: HOPWA contracts are handled a little differently than ESG. In addition to the above review, a coordinated effort between DOH staff representative and the staff of AIDS Connecticut (ACT) perform a Standards of Care Review. HOPWA contracts are also monitored to federal regulations with programmatic and fiscal presentation from DOH.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

Connecticut is comprised of many types of communities. The complementary nature between proposed services and programs and other current government programs are determined, in part, by the mission of each service provider in the system. Factors such as a municipality's current housing infrastructure, the size and experience of its professional staff, access to transportation, and the relative affordability of its housing stock, all help determine realistic strategies for a town to pursue. The coordination and delivery capabilities described in the ConPlan institutional structure will compliment the state's present effort to foster coordination of services. Illustrations of these services include:

Consolidated Planning Process: As lead agency designated in the *ConPlan* to coordinate and manage the process, DOH is responsible for providing oversight and coordination to the related service providers and the public on HUD-related matters. Consultation with outside individuals and agencies was programmed as a vital part of the ConPlan development. Contributors included both public and private, individual and agency, profit and non-profit, local, regional and state entities.

Small Cities CDBG: Technical assistance and monitoring are the primary means of fostering the state's awareness of Small Cities/CDBG program participants meeting the requirements of the federal CDBG program.

Fair Housing Action Plan: Through implementation of the *Fair Housing Plan*, Connecticut can begin addressing limitations on fair housing choice by achieving the following six objectives: 1) providing better training of state employees in the area of fair housing; 2) expanding fair housing outreach and education activities; 3) increasing monitoring and enforcement of fair housing laws and policies; 4) improving the infrastructure necessary for viable diverse communities; 5) increasing the supply of affordable housing ; and 6) increasing the access of racial and ethnic minorities, the disabled and families with children to the existing supply of housing.

Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homelessness: The Council was established in 2004 to develop and implement strategies and solutions to address the problems associated with homelessness, including the development of supportive housing options and reducing inappropriate use of emergency health care, shelter, chemical dependency, corrections, foster care, and similar services. It also addresses improving the health, employability, self-sufficiency, and other social outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Coordination between area service providers:

Non-profits: Connecticut has a large network of capable non-profit housing and social service providers. Of particular note is the on-going communication between the state and such organizations in the areas of fair housing, program policy and funding requests. Through these types of working partnerships, the lead agency can ensure that available resources are used to their fullest potential.

Private Sector: As part of the development process for the Consolidated Plan, the lead agency has held public hearings and has invited housing and social service providers to discuss the most pressing needs of the community. These hearings have helped bring groups together in an effort to coordinate their resources and efforts.

Coordination between state and other agencies: Through intergovernmental coordination, the state has strengthened its efforts to produce and preserve affordable housing within the state through the involvement of state departments and agencies, as well as other agencies at the local, regional, state and federal level.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.315(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Fair Housing and Housing Choice	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Fair Housing and Housing Choice		Other: 500 Other
2	Quality Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Development of Affordable Housing Permanent Supportive Housing Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing. Transit-Oriented Development		Rental units constructed: 5000 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 5000 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 500 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 300 Household Housing Unit
3	Public Housing Strategies	2020	2024	Public Housing		Development of Affordable Housing Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing. Public Housing Strategies		Rental units rehabilitated: 5000 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing	2020	2024	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Permanent Supportive Housing Homelessness Prevention		Homelessness Prevention: 6500 Persons Assisted
5	Special Needs - General	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - General		Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 250 Households Assisted
6	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Elderly and Frail Elderly		Other: 5800 Other
7	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities		Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 250 Households Assisted
8	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa		Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added: 100 Household Housing Unit
9	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction		Other: 0 Other
10	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Ex-Offenders		Other: 0 Other
11	Non-Housing Community Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Transit-Oriented Development Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
12	Community Revitalization	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Transit-Oriented Development Community Revitalization		Rental units constructed: 100 Household Housing Unit
13	Barriers to Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Barriers to Affordable Housing Fair Housing and Housing Choice		Other: 50 Other
14	Lead-Based Paint Hazards	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Lead Based Paint Hazards		Rental units rehabilitated: 100 Household Housing Unit
15	Anti-Poverty Strategy	2020	2024	Anti-Poverty		Anti-Poverty Strategy		Other: 0 Other

Table 51 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Fair Housing and Housing Choice
	Goal Description	<p>Over the five-year period covered by this plan, the state will focus its resources to achieve the following goals related to fair housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within available appropriations, the DOH will continue to support the Connecticut Fair Housing Center with their efforts to assist the State of Connecticut to fulfill the recommendations in the state's AI for state level action. • DOH will continue to conduct regular monitoring of its funding recipients in the areas of civil rights and fair housing and enforcement. • Update and redraft the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations consistent with guidance from the Fair Housing Enforcement Office HUD

2	Goal Name	Quality Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	<p>The state will work to preserve and increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing available to low- and moderate-income households and improve the ability of low- and moderate-income residents to access homeownership opportunities and, within available resources, assist distressed households in maintaining homeownership. While increasing the supply of low- and moderate-income homes available for ownership, the quality of the living environment can be improved by incorporating responsible development strategies such as mixed-use and transit-oriented developments.</p> <p>Increasing the supply of quality affordable housing can be accomplished in multiple ways including new construction and rehabilitation of existing units. Adaptive re-use of historic structures provides multiple benefits to communities. Redevelopment lowers the ratio of poor quality or unused structures. Additionally, re-use lessens sprawl in rapidly developing areas by preserving open space/undeveloped land. Adaptive re-use is very likely to engender community support by preserving structures that have long been part of the community.</p> <p>The state will focus its resources to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regard to New Affordable Rental Housing, DOH will work to create 5,000 new quality affordable rental housing units. • With regard to New Homeownership Opportunities, DOH will work to create 500 new affordable homeownership opportunities. • With regard to Preserving Existing Affordable Rental Units, DOH will work to preserve 5,000 existing affordable rental housing units. • With regard to Maintaining Homeownership, DOH will work to maintain homeownership for 300 households.

3	Goal Name	Public Housing Strategies
	Goal Description	<p>Preservation - The state will identify opportunities for the potential loss of public housing units due to expiring contracts or owner choice to preserve existing public housing, and work with those owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the preservation of these units.</p> <p>Replacement - The state will identify opportunities for the potential replacement of public housing units due to obsolescence or other environmental concerns, and work with the owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the replacement of these units.</p>
4	Goal Name	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing
	Goal Description	Enhance suitable living environment, create decent housing, and address the shelter, housing and service needs of the homeless, and those threatened with homelessness with an emphasis on ending chronic homelessness, including veteran's and family homelessness, as well a preventing future homelessness.
5	Goal Name	Special Needs - General
	Goal Description	<p>Create decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons with special needs.</p> <p>The state will emphasize programs targeted at rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention as the primary means to address the needs of this population group. The state will work to expand housing opportunities linked to services.</p>
6	Goal Name	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly
	Goal Description	<p>Assist the special needs of elderly and frail elderly:</p> <p>Maintain the housing choice opportunities for the elderly and the frail elderly, including access to appropriate services.</p> <p>Promote efficiency in service delivery to the elderly and frail elderly.</p>

7	Goal Name	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities
	Goal Description	<p>Assist special needs persons with disabilities:</p> <p>Increase the number of linkages among federal agencies, state agencies and consumers in providing resources to continue family cohesion with those individuals with disabilities through placement in stable living situations and providing them with appropriate supportive services.</p> <p>Increase the accessibility of DMHAS provided client support services connected to affordable housing for individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Continue to provide for accessibility modifications.</p> <p>Expand accessibility modification activities to: 1) specifically target persons with disabilities who are ready and willing to leave nursing facilities and return to community living; 2) provide a full range of supportive services, including but not limited to employment training, social, health, recreational, housing and transportation services to ensure successful transition and long-term independence.</p> <p>Create a continuum of affordable housing with support services and increase the supply of appropriate housing so that the disabled can live independently within their community of choice.</p>
8	Goal Name	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa
	Goal Description	<p>Assist special needs persons with HIV/AIDS and their families:</p> <p>Continue to fund existing HIV/AIDS programs and seek additional federal funding for existing HIV/AIDS programs.</p> <p>Increase access to supportive housing services for people living with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Assess the effectiveness of supportive housing programs for people living with HIV/AIDS periodically through the use of performance measures and ongoing mechanisms to track client preferences and needs.</p>

9	Goal Name	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction
	Goal Description	Assist special needs persons with alcohol or drug addiction: Continue existing substance abuse programs at levels permitted by funding availability. Link employment services, housing subsidies and long term supportive care to meet the needs of each beneficiary, by adapting services which anticipate and deal with changes in age, health, income and other circumstances. These actions will influence long-term stability.
10	Goal Name	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders
	Goal Description	Help persons with special needs who are ex-offenders: Increase the availability of permanent supportive housing as a housing option, to assist individuals leaving the correction system, to facilitate their integration back into the community. Individuals leaving the corrections system and in need of long-term supports could either immediately, or after living for a short time in a halfway house, live in supportive housing. The Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC) will work with other state agencies to maximize the use of various funding streams to assist persons to reintegrate into their communities after release from DOC facilities.

11	Goal Name	Non-Housing Community Development
	Goal Description	<p>The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate -income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.</p> <p>The state will encourage the maximization of existing infrastructure and resources and the re-use of blighted and brownfield properties through the application of responsible growth principles and strategies and livability principles and provide incentives for community revitalization efforts as per the state's responsible growth strategies and growth management policies specified in the current C&D Plan as well as in concert with the federal government's Sustainable Communities Initiative.</p> <p>As a general rule, the state will adopt and emply, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the state's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; re-use, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all of the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.</p> <p>With specific regard to the Small Cities SC/CDBG program the state will provide assistance to help undertake community infrastructure, facility and service projects (public facilities) affecting public health, safety and welfare.</p>

12	Goal Name	Community Revitalization
	Goal Description	<p>Community Revitalization - Pursuant to Section 91.315(g), the state will utilize, to the fullest extent possible, SC/CDBG Community Revitalization Strategies (CRS) and Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRS) in executing its community revitalization strategies.</p> <p>In 1996, HUD established criteria, which allowed states to approve a locally determined strategy for revitalizing an area that is among the community's most distressed. In order to provide some incentive for communities to undertake such revitalization, the SC/CDBG Program regulations provide certain benefits for the use of SC/CDBG funds in such an area. DOH will apply the same criteria to communities eligible for the SC/CDBG Program.</p> <p>A community that is interested in undertaking a Community Revitalization Strategy (CRS) must submit a request to DOH prior to applying for SC/CDBG funds. A community's revitalization strategy must be designed to provide for the economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents of a particular area that is among the community's most distressed. It must also provide for other long-term improvements within a reasonable period of time.</p> <p>The state will promote projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut's focus will be on housing and economic development programs that directly benefit these individuals.</p> <p>The state will encourage the maximization of existing infrastructure and resources and the re-use of blighted and brownfield properties through the application of responsible growth principles and strategies and livability principles and provide incentives for community revitalization efforts as per the state's responsible growth strategies and growth management policies specified in the current C&D Plan as well as in concert with the federal government's Sustainable Communities Initiative.</p> <p>As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the state's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; re-use, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all of the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.</p>

13	Goal Name	Barriers to Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	<p>The recently completed update of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) provides a very clear and attainable road map for addressing the various barriers to affordable housing in Connecticut.</p> <p>The state will implement a variety of action steps to address a majority of the barriers identified in the AI, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and rehabilitation of affordable housing in a variety of locations. • Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing. • Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments. • Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility. • Promote fair housing enforcement and education.

14	Goal Name	Lead-Based Paint Hazards
	Goal Description	<p>In coordination with the Health Homes initiative, which is spearheaded by the Department of public Health (DPH), DH continues to administer the federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP).</p> <p>Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program improves children's health by making their homes healthier, safer places to be. They are committed to protecting children from lead poisoning and making homes in Connecticut green, safe and healthy. The Healthy Homes Program receives funding through the US Department of Housing and Urban development and the State of Connecticut Department of Housing.</p> <p>Their goal is to protect children before they are exposed by lead hazards or injured by safety hazards in their homes. The Healthy Homes Program integrates health and safety interventions, lead hazard control, energy efficiency interventions, and housing rehabilitation for property owners by coordinating resource in an efficient manner to produce healthy homes.</p> <p>Connecticut has statutes, regulations, technical standards, guidance documents and policies that relate to health and housing. The DOH would continue to comprehensively address lead-based paint issues as required under HUD's Lead - Safe Housing Regulation. The Healthy Homes Initiative encompasses several known home-based health hazards and programs, and seeks to coordinate the delivery of services through collaboration with the DOH and other state and community stakeholders. Initial strategies for statewide implementation include training and technical capacity building of housing and health partners, development and implementation of healthy homes materials, assessments (inspection forms) and evidence-based interventions in DOH-eligible communities.</p>

15	Goal Name	Anti-Poverty Strategy
	Goal Description	<p>The five programs covered by the state's Consolidated Plan - SC/CDBG, HOME, NHTF, ESG and HOPWA - directly support the overall State Anti-Poverty Strategy by addressing the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of persons at or below the poverty level.</p> <p>In addition to the five programs covered by the Consolidated Plan, the State of Connecticut, through several agencies and organizations employs numerous policies and programs to reduce the number of poverty level families' within the state. These programs and the organizations that administer them are described within the Institutional Structure section of this plan.</p> <p>Additionally, the State of Connecticut has several statutory and federally mandated interconnected/interrelated plans that further articulate and constitute the State's Anti-Poverty Strategy.</p>

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The State of Connecticut's annual goals are subject to change, based on funding allocations, funding award decisions, and local needs and priorities,

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.315(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

There are 107 public housing authorities in Connecticut. The state's housing needs have been identified in the housing needs section of this plan. In Connecticut, there are approximately 28,900 public housing units. Of that number 11,900 are federal housing units, those units supported by Annual Contribution Contracts, and 17,000 are state-financed housing units which are not supported at all by federal dollars. Connecticut is one of a handful of states with state-financed public housing, i.e. pre-housing finance authorities. Connecticut's first state-financed units were occupied in 1948 and the stock is among the oldest in the state. These state financed public housing units are managed primarily by local housing authorities and do not receive federal support. It has been determined that the most immediate threat to the state's public housing units mostly due to the age of the stock and its level of deferred maintenance, is its preservation. The objective identified below responds to the state's public housing needs.

The state will identify opportunities for the potential loss of public housing units due to expiring contracts or owner choice to preserve existing public housing, and work with those owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the preservation of these units.

The state will identify opportunities for the potential replacement of public housing units due to obsolescence or other environmental concerns, and work with the owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the replacement of these units.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

The state will work to preserve federally assisted housing units annually by working with current owners and prospective purchasers of these projects to retain them in service to low-income households over the long-term with a focus on projects nearing the end of their current mortgage service periods and those in need of capital reinvestment to provide quality rental housing through a new extended use period.

The state will invest in the maintenance/rehabilitation/modernization of 5,000 existing publicly-assisted rental housing units annually to preserve them as a long-term resource.

The state will preserve or replace state or federally assisted housing units annually by working with current owners and prospective developers of these projects to retain them in service to low-income households with a focus on projects in need of capital reinvestment to provide quality rental housing through a new extended use period.

The state will encourage local public housing authorities and DOH to respond to all notices of funding availability from HUD to increase the supply of Federal Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers by 50 new vouchers annually.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.315(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Housing is a basic need of every person and family regardless of age, race, or income level. The lack of housing choices for all citizens affects the state's fiscal condition, the quality of life, and the vitality of our cities, towns and neighborhoods. The availability and quality of housing choices have substantial impacts on economic competitiveness, responsible growth, and the cost of infrastructure, not just roads and bridges, but also the cost of municipal services and local schools.

As is the case nationwide, decades of public and private policies and practices have resulted in high levels of segregation within many Connecticut communities. Demographic and geographic data indicate that several groups including people of color, people with lawful sources of income other than employment, people with disabilities, and single-parent households are particularly concentrated in the state's lowest income communities.

The state needs to raise the prominence of quality, affordable housing to the top of the local, state, and federal agenda. The affordable/workforce housing issue must reach beyond the development community and housing advocates to a broad range of constituents, including businesses, utilities, trade organizations, public and private sector employees, community leaders, and government officials.

Housing prices nationwide have increased dramatically over the past several years. A number of factors have contributed to the rising prices, including federal, state and local regulations that affect land and housing development. Regulations that affect housing prices occur in several categories, as a component of building codes, environmental stipulations, land use and zoning, impact fees, and administrative processes. The point at which a regulation/policy becomes a barrier is not always clear. Regulations, in general, should serve a greater public purpose; therefore, regulations that raise housing costs must serve a greater purpose. The regulations/policies that should raise concern are those which disproportionately impact low- and moderate-income individuals by deliberately or indirectly prohibiting or discouraging the development of affordable housing, with little compensating public benefit.

By creating and preserving affordable housing units throughout the state, placing greater emphasis on expanding the creation of affordable housing in local and state planning documents, promoting zoning ordinances that allow multifamily housing, emphasizing mobility counseling, promoting fair lending practices, foreclosure prevention, affordable homeownership, mixed-use transit oriented development, and other initiatives, the state can change its current demographic patterns.

As mounting social science research confirms the significant role that housing location plays in enabling people to access and make the most of educational, economic, employment, and social opportunities, it is clear that affordable housing policy is critical to ensuring a promising future for every resident of Connecticut and the state itself.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

The state will implement a variety of action steps to address a majority of the barriers identified in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, including the following:

- Creation and rehabilitation of affordable housing in a variety of locations: DOH will continue to prioritize developments that achieve fair housing goals in historically under-served communities; DOH will increase funding flexibility to seize immediate development opportunities to increase affordable housing units in high opportunity communities; and, DOH will evaluate the effectiveness of funding rounds in facilitating the creation of new family affordable housing units to ensure the availability of affordable family housing in diverse areas.
- Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing: DOH will participate in new and existing opportunities to align policies and funding with other agencies.
- Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments: DOH will convene partner agencies, organizations and stakeholders in the redrafting of the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations and Waiting List Regulations.
- Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility: DOH will work with mobility counselors under contract to improve processes.
- Promote fair housing enforcement and education: DOH will work with mobility counselors under contract to improve processes.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.315(d)

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

For more than twenty years, various agencies, both public and quasi-public, along with private organizations have joined in a collaborative effort to identify and develop long-term solutions to end chronic and long-term homelessness. The current partners in this effort are DOH, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), Court Support Services Division - Judicial (CSSD), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), CHFA, and the Corporation of Supportive Housing (CSH). Connecticut is the only state in the nation consistently investing in the development of supportive housing on a statewide basis.

The state will emphasize programs targeted at supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and homelessness prevention as the primary means to prevent and end homelessness in Connecticut. The state will work to expand permanent supportive housing in Connecticut to break the cycle of long-term, chronic homelessness and it will utilize the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) to produce better placements and outcomes for the most vulnerable individuals in need of assistance. Each of these programs is designed to assist the target population with staying stably housed and thus not breaching the emergency shelters/transitional living system.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

DOH will continue to maintain and fund "Homeless Shelters" across the state. The state has successfully ended chronic veteran's homelessness and will continue to support this effort as well as redirect efforts to address ending homelessness among youth/families. The state's commitment to ending chronic homelessness is achieved through the placement of all known homelessness in permanent supportive housing in service-enhanced housing with subsidies.

Through competitive procurement, DOH has awarded 5 shelters: three (3) shelters that support families and two (2) shelters that support families and individuals. These shelters were previously established due to the documented need to support homeless individuals and families. As needs are identified in local communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. DOH currently has 5 ESG funded shelters, and an additional 32 shelters utilizing state and federal funds, which bring the total funded shelters to 37.

DOH intends to utilize ESG monies for Rapid Re-housing over the next five-year period. DOH has awarded a non-profit the right to act as the ESG financial assistance fiduciary agency. At a minimum 40% of the annual ESG allocation will go to this fiduciary to administer financial assistance requested by housing relocation and stabilization agencies.

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.

DOH has leveraged existing resources to provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed. Through competitive procurement, seven (7) agencies have been awarded assistance to aid our homelessness population with housing relocation and up to 12 months of stabilization services and in-home case management. These seven agencies receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network (CAN).

Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and /or treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include, but are not limited to, domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and financial counseling, childcare, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and medical treatment.

DOH also provides funding for the Youth Transitional Living Program to two contractors for the provision of multi-family or single room residency living arrangements. A variety of support services are provided to these individuals during their stay in the program. Stays can range from a period of six months to two years. The goal is to have these youth gain self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

DOH regularly consults with the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc. for the provision of technical assistance, programmatic training needs, program development service model recommendations and program evaluation.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

Connecticut has a long history of providing permanent supportive housing to the most vulnerable homeless and at-risk of becoming homeless individuals and families in our state. In April of 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by several state agencies including the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), DOH, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA)

and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH). This MOU was in support of the statewide Next Steps Supportive Housing Initiative and the purpose was to increase service-supported, affordable housing for people with mental illness or substance abuse problems who face homelessness. DOH has devoted both Section 8 and state Rental Assistance to project-based programs developed as part of this initiative. DOH actively participates, a member of DOH staff is one of the chairs, in the Balance of State Continuum of Care Steering Committee and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Steering Committee Meetings. DOH is also a member of the Reaching Home Steering Committee. Reaching Home is the leadership structure for planning and oversight of a framework to end homelessness in Connecticut modeled after the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, *Opening Doors*.

Connecticut currently is implementing a Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grant, funded through CSH, in which we created a data match between our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and our Medicaid data, to locate and provide permanent supportive housing to the high cost users of Medicaid who are also homeless.

Connecticut also created a Connecticut Collaborative on Re-entry (CCR), formerly known as the Frequent User Service Engagement (FUSE) program in which we matched data from the HMIS and our criminal justice system to permanently house individuals that cycle between jails and homeless shelters. Both programs are successful in reducing high cost institutional care. Services are designed to address the individual needs of the residents, and include the help of a case manager, connections to community treatment and employment services, and rehabilitation services that help the client achieve and retain permanent housing.

The State of Connecticut is planning to build on these successes to bring these programs to full scale. Although our state has been generous in appropriating over 100 million dollars for capital work, support services and rental assistance for permanent supportive housing, more resources are needed to meet the goal of ending chronic homelessness and youth and family homelessness. Connecticut has been successful in creating over 50 single site supportive housing properties that have resulted in over 1200 units of permanent supportive housing. In the past five years, Connecticut has been able to develop an additional 632 units of permanent supportive housing by prioritizing efforts through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC), the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP), and the Competitive Housing Assistance for Multifamily Properties (CHAMP).

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.315(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

In coordination with the Healthy Homes Initiative, which is spearheaded by the Department of Public Health (DPH), DOH continues to administer the federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP).

The goal is to enhance suitable living environments and create decent, healthy, and safe housing for low- and moderate-income persons through evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards and the implementation of Healthy Homes principles, assessment practices, and evidence-based interventions.

DOH will enhance suitable living environments and ensure the availability of a healthy, safe, and decent housing supply that is free of lead-based paint, will incorporate the healthy housing principle (dry, clean, pest-free, ventilated, safe, without contaminants, maintained and accessible), and measures radon and reduces elevated levels. To achieve this DOH will do the following:

- Actively participate in the Statewide Healthy Homes Initiative meetings, as scheduled.
- Collaborate with the DPH Healthy Homes Initiative on the development and implementation of a uniform healthy homes assessment and intervention approach.
- Support the abatement or remediation of lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards, damaged asbestos containing materials, elevated indoor radon levels, and other identified or known environmental hazards in housing units in collaboration with other state agencies and in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Lead-based paint testing, and remediation or abatement activities will be conducted in accordance with Regulations of CT State Agencies Section 19a-111 et.al., the final lead-safe housing rule - {Title X of the Lead-based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (24CFR Pt 35)} the EPA Lead Paint: Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program (RRP) effective April 22, 2010, and through healthy homes assessments and intervention strategies established in concert with the Department of Public Health.
- Fund up to three housing rehabilitation projects per year with the goal of making 20 units per year healthy homes (as defined in concert with the Statewide Healthy Homes Initiative).
- Build the technical capacity of local housing agencies by sponsoring five (5) National Center for Healthy Homes (NCHH) training courses (1 course held annually, or as needed).
- Support the training and certification of DOH and/or local housing staff who are interested in seeking national certification as "healthy homes specialists." In particular, support two "Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners" training courses per year.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

In coordination with the Healthy Homes Initiative which is spearheaded the Department of Public Health (DPH), DOH continues to administer the Federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP).

Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program improves children's health by making their homes healthier, safer place to be. They are committed to protecting children from lead poisoning and making homes in Connecticut green, safe and healthy. The Healthy Homes Program receives funding through US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of Connecticut Department of Housing.

Their goal is to protect children before they are poisoned by lead hazards or injured by safety hazards in their homes. The Healthy Homes Program integrates health and safety interventions, lead hazard control, energy efficiency interventions, and housing rehabilitation for property owners by coordinating resources in an efficient manner to produce healthy homes.

The Healthy Homes Program's services are available in 15 towns and cities across Connecticut. The Healthy Homes Program provides qualified homeowners and tenants with:

- Inspections and plans for lead and home safety hazard removal
- Financial assistance to remediate hazards
- Relocation assistance during construction
- Referrals to low- or no-cost home weatherization programs designed to increase energy efficiency lead hazard and healthy homes education. we

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.315(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

The five programs covered by the state's Consolidated Plan - SC/CDBG, HOME, NHTF, ESG and HOPWA - directly support the overall State Anti-Poverty Strategy by addressing the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of persons at or below the poverty level.

In addition to the five programs covered by the Consolidated Plan, the State of Connecticut, through several agencies and organizations employs numerous policies and programs to reduce the number of poverty level families within the state. These programs and the organizations that administer them are described within the Institutional Structure section of this plan.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan?

Additionally, the State of Connecticut has several statutory and federally mandated interconnected/interrelated plans that further articulate and constitute the state's Anti-Poverty Strategy.

These plans include but are not limited to those enumerated below:

- Connecticut's Economic Development Strategy
- Conservation & Development Policies Plan: The Plan for Connecticut 2018-2023
- State of Connecticut Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan
- Department of Housing Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Plan
- Department of Housing Rental Assistance Payment Program Plan

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.330

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

DOH monitors recipients' compliance to program requirements in accordance with all federal requirements. Recipients are made aware of the compliance requirements associated with their respective projects in advance of accepting a contract for funding with DOH.

Small Cities - DOH performs monitoring to ensure that funds are being spent correctly and in compliance with federal regulations. Each grant must be monitored on-site at least once prior to closeout. DOH monitors program compliance and financial compliance with federal regulatory mandates. The on-site monitoring visit and the desk reviews are mechanisms used for in-depth investigation and overall assessments. Quarterly financial reports are required for all grant recipients.

Grant subrecipients of federal funds are also monitored for compliance with Single Audit, OMB Circulars, and contractual financial requirements. In-depth financial monitoring and technical assistance are provided to improve financial accountability and fiscal responsibility. DOH staff will provide follow up if it is deemed necessary.

HOME & NHTF - All recipients are required to submit quarterly status reports to the Office of Housing Finance (OHF) on their projects. DOH conducts site inspections with grantees, as warranted. Site inspections may include, but not be limited to, a review of the rent structure, utility allowance, yearly re-certification of income, verification of income and review of resident folders. DOH staff will provide follow up if it is deemed necessary.

Six months prior to expected project completion, OHF staff coordinates with agency audits staff in scheduling of the Pre-occupancy monitoring visit. After project completion, DOH's Compliance Manual is used though the affordability period.

ESG - the Grants and Contract staff monitor ESG programs using a tool which, in a comprehensive manner, reviews each program's Administration, Personnel Policies and Procedures, Accounting, Budgeting, Reporting, Program Services, Goals and Objectives, Outcomes and Measures, Contractor's Self Evaluation Process, and Quality Assurance/Licensure Compliance. After all phases of the program have been evaluated, the Staff Representative will write up any areas of concern with whatever follow up is needed. DOH staff will provide follow up if it is deemed necessary.

HOPWA - HOPWA contracts are handled a little differently than ESG. In addition to the above review, a coordinated effort between DOH staff representatives and the staff of the Connecticut AIDS Residence Coalition (CARC) perform a "Standard of Care" review and HOPWA monitoring requirements.

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.320(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The strategic plan establishes the framework for the efficient allocation of all state and federal resources available to DOH, including federal formula grant funding, for the development and preservation of affordable housing and community development activity that assists extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income households in the state over the next five years. The consolidated plan articulates policies, strategies, goals and objectives which are based on an analysis of the state's housing needs, housing market, and community development needs.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	13,851,472	0	0	13,851,472	55,405,888	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	9,447,328	0	0	9,447,328	37,789,312	
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	265,668	0	0	265,668	1,062,672	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	2,366,278	0	0	2,366,278	9,465,112	
HTF	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Homebuyer assistance Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	3,750,859	0	0	3,750,859	15,003,436	
Other	public - state	Other	135,872,911	0	0	135,872,911	543,346,565	These numbers are for CDBG-DR grant which includes the Recovery Rebuild by Design program.

Table 52 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

Financial leveraging and firm financial commitments are important considerations in awarding funding for projects/services. DOH adheres to all matching requirements for each federal funding source.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Not applicable

Discussion

The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new *Developer Engagement Process*.

This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.

Developers/applicants should complete the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile* that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*.

Upon receipt of a *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including CDBG, HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives – 91.320(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Fair Housing and Housing Choice	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Fair Housing and Housing Choice		Other: 100 Other
2	Quality Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Development of Affordable Housing Permanent Supportive Housing Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing. Transit-Oriented Development		Rental units constructed: 1000 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 1000 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 100 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 60 Household Housing Unit
3	Public Housing Strategies	2020	2024	Public Housing		Development of Affordable Housing Preservation of Existing Affordable Housing. Public Housing Strategies		Rental units rehabilitated: 1000 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing	2020	2024	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Permanent Supportive Housing Homelessness Prevention		Homelessness Prevention: 1300 Persons Assisted
5	Special Needs - General	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - General		Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 50 Households Assisted
6	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Elderly and Frail Elderly		Other: 1160 Other
7	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities		Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 50 Households Assisted
8	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa		HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 20 Household Housing Unit
9	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction		Other: 0 Other
10	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Special Needs - Ex-Offenders		Other: 0 Other
11	Non-Housing Community Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Transit-Oriented Development Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
12	Community Revitalization	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Transit-Oriented Development Community Revitalization		Rental units constructed: 20 Household Housing Unit
13	Barriers to Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Barriers to Affordable Housing Fair Housing and Housing Choice		Other: 10 Other
14	Lead-Based Paint Hazards	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Lead Based Paint Hazards		Rental units rehabilitated: 20 Household Housing Unit
15	Anti-Poverty Strategy	2020	2024	Anti-Poverty		Anti-Poverty Strategy		Other: 0 Other

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Fair Housing and Housing Choice
	Goal Description	<p>Over the next year the state will focus its resources to achieve the following goals related to fair housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within available appropriations, the DOH will continue to support the Connecticut Fair Housing Center with their efforts to assist the State of Connecticut to fulfill the recommendations in the state's AI for state level action. • DOH will continue to conduct regular monitoring of its funding recipients in the areas of civil rights and fair housing and enforcement. • Update and redraft the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations consistent with guidance from the Fair Housing Enforcement Office HUD

2	Goal Name	Quality Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	<p>The state will work to preserve and increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing available to low-and moderate-income households and improve the ability of low- and moderate-income residents to access homeownership opportunities and, within available resources, assist distressed households in maintaining homeownership. While increasing the supply of low- and moderate-income homes available for ownership, the quality of the living environment can be improved by incorporating responsible development strategies such as mixed-use and transit-oriented developments.</p> <p>Increasing the supply of quality affordable housing can be accomplished in multiple ways including new construction and rehabilitation of existing units. Adaptive re-use of historic structures provides multiple benefits to communities. Redevelopment lowers the ratio of poor quality or unused structures. Additionally, re-use lessens sprawl in rapidly developing areas by preserving open space/undeveloped land. Adaptive re-use is very likely to engender community support by preserving structures that have long been part of the community.</p> <p>The state will focus its resources to achieve the following in FY 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regard to New Affordable Rental Housing, DOH will work to create 1,000 new quality affordable rental housing units. • With regard to New Homeownership Opportunities, DOH will work to create 100 new affordable homeownership opportunities. • With regard to Preserving Existing Affordable Rental Units, DOH will work to preserve 1,000 existing affordable rental housing units. • With regard to Maintaining Homeownership, DOH will work to maintain homeownership for 60 households.

3	Goal Name	Public Housing Strategies
	Goal Description	<p>Preservation - The state will identify opportunities for the potential loss of public housing units due to expiring contracts or owner choice to preserve existing public housing, and work with those owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the preservation of these units.</p> <p>Replacement - The state will identify opportunities for the potential replacement of public housing units due to obsolescence or other environmental concerns, and work with the owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the replacement of these units.</p>
4	Goal Name	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing
	Goal Description	Enhance suitable living environment, create decent housing, and address the shelter, housing and service needs of the homeless, and those threatened with homelessness with an emphasis on ending chronic homelessness, including veteran's and family homelessness, as well a preventing future homelessness.
5	Goal Name	Special Needs - General
	Goal Description	<p>Create decent housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons with special needs.</p> <p>The state will emphasize programs targeted at rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention as the primary means to address the needs of this population group. The state will work to expand housing opportunities linked to services.</p>
6	Goal Name	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly
	Goal Description	<p>Assist the special needs of elderly and frail elderly:</p> <p>Maintain the housing choice opportunities for the elderly and the frail elderly, including access to appropriate services.</p> <p>Promote efficiency in service delivery to the elderly and frail elderly.</p>

7	Goal Name	Special Needs - Persons with Disabilities
	Goal Description	<p>Assist special needs persons with disabilities:</p> <p>Increase the number of linkages among federal agencies, state agencies and consumers in providing resources to continue family cohesion with those individuals with disabilities through placement in stable living situations and providing them with appropriate supportive services.</p> <p>Increase the accessibility of DMHAS provided client support services connected to affordable housing for individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Continue to provide for accessibility modifications.</p> <p>Expand accessibility modification activities to: 1) specifically target persons with disabilities who are ready and willing to leave nursing facilities and return to community living; 2) provide a full range of supportive services, including but not limited to employment training, social, health, recreational, housing and transportation services to ensure successful transition and long-term independence.</p> <p>Create a continuum of affordable housing with support services and increase the supply of appropriate housing so that the disabled can live independently within their community of choice.</p>
8	Goal Name	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa
	Goal Description	<p>Assist special needs persons with HIV/AIDS and their families:</p> <p>Continue to fund existing HIV/AIDS programs and seek additional federal funding for existing HIV/AIDS programs.</p> <p>Increase access to supportive housing services for people living with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Assess the effectiveness of supportive housing programs for people living with HIV/AIDS periodically through the use of performance measures and ongoing mechanisms to track client preferences and needs.</p>

9	Goal Name	Special Needs - Alcohol or Drug Addiction
	Goal Description	Assist special needs persons with alcohol or drug addiction: Continue existing substance abuse programs at levels permitted by funding availability. Link employment services, housing subsidies and long term supportive care to meet the needs of each beneficiary, by adapting services which anticipate and deal with changes in age, health, income and other circumstances. These actions will influence long-term stability.
10	Goal Name	Special Needs - Ex-Offenders
	Goal Description	Help persons with special needs who are ex-offenders: Increase the availability of permanent supportive housing as a housing option, to assist individuals leaving the correction system, to facilitate their integration back into the community. Individuals leaving the corrections system and in need of long-term supports could either immediately, or after living for a short time in a halfway house, live in supportive housing. The Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC) will work with other state agencies to maximize the use of various funding streams to assist persons to reintegrate into their communities after release from DOC facilities.

11	Goal Name	Non-Housing Community Development
	Goal Description	<p>The state will promote community development projects that are targeted to low- and moderate -income persons. The State of Connecticut will focus on housing and community development programs that directly benefit these individuals.</p> <p>The state will encourage the maximization of existing infrastructure and resources and the re-use of blighted and brownfield properties through the application of responsible growth principles and strategies and livability principles and provide incentives for community revitalization efforts as per the state's responsible growth strategies and growth management policies specified in the current C&D Plan as well as in concert with the federal government's Sustainable Communities Initiative.</p> <p>As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the state's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; re-use, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all of the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.</p> <p>With specific regard to the Small Cities SC/CDBG program the state will provide assistance to help undertake community infrastructure, facility and service projects (public facilities) affecting public health, safety and welfare.</p>

12	Goal Name	Community Revitalization
	Goal Description	<p>Community Revitalization - Pursuant to Section 91.315(g), the state will utilize, to the fullest extent possible, SC/CDBG Community Revitalization Strategies (CRS) and Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRS) in executing its community revitalization strategies.</p> <p>In 1996, HUD established criteria, which allowed states to approve a locally determined strategy for revitalizing an area that is among the community's most distressed. In order to provide some incentive for communities to undertake such revitalization, the SC/CDBG Program regulations provide certain benefits for the use of SC/CDBG funds in such an area. DOH will apply the same criteria to communities eligible for the SC/CDBG Program.</p> <p>A community that is interested in undertaking a Community Revitalization Strategy (CRS) must submit a request to DOH prior to applying for SC/CDBG funds. A community's revitalization strategy must be designed to provide for the economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents of a particular area that is among the community's most distressed. It must also provide for other long-term improvements within a reasonable period of time.</p> <p>The state will promote projects that are targeted to low- and moderate-income persons. The State of Connecticut's focus will be on housing and economic development programs that directly benefit these individuals.</p> <p>The state will encourage the maximization of existing infrastructure and resources and the re-use of blighted and brownfield properties through the application of responsible growth principles and strategies and livability principles and provide incentives for community revitalization efforts as per the state's responsible growth strategies and growth management policies specified in the current C&D Plan as well as in concert with the federal government's Sustainable Communities Initiative.</p> <p>As a general rule, the state will adopt and employ, to the greatest extent possible, responsible growth strategies, including but not limited to: consistency with the state's Conservation and Development (C&D) Plan; inter-municipal or regional collaborations; re-use, rehabilitation, and revitalization of land, property and infrastructure; urban infill development; mixed-use developments; walkable environments; transit-oriented developments; and incorporation of sustainable development standards in the implementation of all of the strategies and objectives outlined in this plan.</p>

13	Goal Name	Barriers to Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	<p>The recently completed update of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) provides a very clear and attainable road map for addressing the various barriers to affordable housing in Connecticut.</p> <p>The state will implement a variety of action steps to address a majority of the barriers identified in the AI, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and rehabilitation of affordable housing in a variety of locations. • Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing. • Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments. • Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility. • Promote fair housing enforcement and education.

14	Goal Name	Lead-Based Paint Hazards
	Goal Description	<p>In coordination with the Health Homes initiative, which is spearheaded by the Department of Public Health (DPH), DH continues to administer the federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP).</p> <p>Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes Program improves children's health by making their homes healthier, safer places to be. They are committed to protecting children from lead poisoning and making homes in Connecticut green, safe and healthy. The Healthy Homes Program receives funding through the US Department of Housing and Urban development and the State of Connecticut Department of Housing.</p> <p>Their goal is to protect children before they are exposed by lead hazards or injured by safety hazards in their homes. The Healthy Homes Program integrates health and safety interventions, lead hazard control, energy efficiency interventions, and housing rehabilitation for property owners by coordinating resource in an efficient manner to produce healthy homes.</p> <p>Connecticut has statutes, regulations, technical standards, guidance documents and policies that relate to health and housing. The DOH would continue to comprehensively address lead-based paint issues as required under HUD's Lead - Safe Housing Regulation. The Healthy Homes Initiative encompasses several known home-based health hazards and programs, and seeks to coordinate the delivery of services through collaboration with the DOH and other state and community stakeholders. Initial strategies for statewide implementation include training and technical capacity building of housing and health partners, development and implementation of healthy homes materials, assessments (inspection forms) and evidence-based interventions in DOH-eligible communities.</p>

15	Goal Name	Anti-Poverty Strategy
	Goal Description	<p>The five programs covered by the state's Consolidated Plan - SC/CDBG, HOME, NHTF, ESG and HOPWA - directly support the overall State Anti-Poverty Strategy by addressing the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of persons at or below the poverty level.</p> <p>In addition to the five programs covered by the Consolidated Plan, the State of Connecticut, through several agencies and organizations employs numerous policies and programs to reduce the number of poverty level families within the state. These programs and the organizations that administer them are described within the Institutional Structure section of this plan.</p> <p>Additionally, the State of Connecticut has several statutory and federally mandated interconnected/interrelated plans that further articulate and constitute the State's Anti-Poverty Strategy.</p>

AP-25 Allocation Priorities – 91.320(d)

Introduction:

The consolidated submission described in Title 24, Part 91 of the CFR requires that the state articulate in one document its plan to pursue the following goals for all the community planning and development programs, as well as for housing programs. It is these goals against which the plan and the state's performance under the plan will be evaluated by HUD.

1. Work to ensure decent housing is available to all.
2. Work to ensure that all of the state's residents live in a suitable living environment.
3. Work to ensure that all of the state's residents have access to economic opportunities.

Each goal in the plan is supported by specific objectives (objectives are either specific actions to be taken or specific milestones to be achieved) designed to help achieve the goal. Each of these objectives is, in turn, followed by an output, a corresponding proposed outcome and an indicator. Outputs are the products of the activities undertaken to meet the objectives and outcomes are the benefits that result from undertaking those activities. Indicators are the metric that will gauge the performance of the state in meeting the objectives and ultimately the goal to which they relate.

Funding Allocation Priorities

	Fair Housing and Housing Choice (%)	Quality Affordable Housing (%)	Public Housing Strategies (%)	Homeless Prevention and Supportive Housing (%)	Special Needs - General (%)	Special Needs - Elderly/Frail Elderly (%)	Special Needs - Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Fa (%)	Non-Housing Community Development (%)	Barriers to Affordable Housing (%)	Lead-Based Paint Hazards (%)	Anti-Poverty Strategy (%)	Total (%)
CDBG	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
HOME	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
HOPWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100

ESG	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
HTF	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other CDBG-DR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
Other CDBG-NDR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
Other Congregate Operating Subsidy	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Crumbling Foundations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
Other Elderly Rental Registry & Counselor	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Elderly/Congregate Rental Assistance	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Fair Housing	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Homeless Youth	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Housing Homeless Services - Municipality	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Housing/Homeless Services	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other LIHTC	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other State Bond Funds	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Other Subsidized Assisted Living Demonstration	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100

Table 54 – Funding Allocation Priorities

Reason for Allocation Priorities

Each objective also has a proposed funding source (or sources), a targeted population and geographic target, and a priority rating. Each objective is supported by a brief discussion of the need/basis for assigning the priority and identifying obstacles to meeting underserved needs summarized for the Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections of this plan.

Priority ratings were established after a thorough examination of Connecticut's housing and community development needs and the state's current and historical housing market. (See Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections). Based on the state's review of all relevant and available data, specific issues were selected at the Department of Housing. Issues chosen to be assigned high priority funding status within this plan were selected based on four primary factors: (1) the primary eligibility criteria of the respective funding; (2) the availability of "other" funds to address the issue, (3) the issue's relative demonstrated need (as identified in the needs assessment), and (4) the impact of the issue on the prevention and reduction of homelessness.

How will the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and specific objectives described in the Consolidated Plan?

As stated above, only those issues deemed to be a high priority to the state have been identified in this plan. All other issues are, by default, deemed to be a lower priority in terms of funding attention.

This does not exclude the state from funding lower priority projects. The high priority designation serves to emphasize to the public, the areas in which the state will concentrate its efforts over the next five years, in terms of housing and community development. Further, it defines where the state will focus its usage of the federal funds accessed through the five state administered federal programs governed by this plan.

A proposed project that addresses a high priority need is not guaranteed funding based solely on the fact that it will address a high priority need. All projects funded by the state must be financially and logistically feasible as well as meet all of the eligibility criteria of the proposed funding source. When two or more projects are competing for funding dollars (all things being equal), the project addressing the high priority

need will be given funding preference.

Note: For the purposes of this plan, "other" funds include all available state, federal or private funds other than those identified.

AP-30 Methods of Distribution – 91.320(d)&(k)

Introduction:

The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new *Developer Engagement Process*.

This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.

Developers/applicants should complete the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile* that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*.

Upon receipt of a *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.

For CDBG funding opportunities, communities can participate in a competitive application process at least annually for CDBG funds to implement their proposed community and economic development projects. For ESG and HOPWA funding, the state holds a competitive RFP for services every three years.

Distribution Methods

Table 55 - Distribution Methods by State Program

1	State Program Name:	Community Development Block Grant - Small Cities
	Funding Sources:	CDBG

<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>Communities funded under the SC/CDBG Program can undertake a wide range of activities in the areas of housing, economic development, community facilities, and public services, provided each activity meets one of the three national program objectives (see criteria that will be used to select applications below).</p> <p>Eligible activities include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of real property; • Clearance (including assessment and remediation of known or suspected environmentally contaminated sites), rehabilitation, reconstruction, and construction of buildings; • Code enforcement; • Disposition of real property; • Economic development assistance to for-profit business; • Energy efficiency/conservation; • Housing services; • Loss of rental income; • Micro-enterprise assistance; • Planning and capacity building; • Program administrative costs; • Public facilities and improvements; • Public services; • Relocation assistance; • Removal of architectural barriers (commonly called ADA improvements); and • Technical assistance.
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	<p>Communities participate in a competitive application process at least annually for CDBG funds to implement their proposed community and economic development projects. Generally, applications are due in early spring and will be rated and ranked according to current DOH policy. This process is subject to change annually and will be communicated by DOH. Method of Distribution includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process is started by the applicant completing/submitting an Intent to Apply Form. It is noted that all proposed projects must meet eligibility requirements and national objective criteria. It is understood that the proposed project could change by the time applications are submitted; • Attend the Application Workshop and receive the application form; • Hold Public Hearing (eventually there will be two public hearings at different times during the project): Notice to be published at least twice in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the municipality; Affidavit of Publication and meeting minutes will be a part of application; • Conduct an Environmental Review: Establish Environmental Review Record; Determine type of activity and environmental impact; Publish request for release of funds; Request release of funds from DOH; • Write Application: Select eligible activity; Determine National Objective; Prepare and submit application to DOH; • Rate and Rank: DOH receives and reviews application; DOH rates and ranks applications; • Award: DOH submits ratings and rankings to Commissioner of Housing for award approval; Governor's Office announces the awards; • Contract Documents: DOH prepares contract documents; DOH sends contract documents to grantee; Grantee returns signed documents to DOH; Commissioner of Housing executes contract documents; • Construction Period; • DOH conducts Monitoring and Closeout.
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>Communities can meet a national objective through one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low- and Moderate-Income Benefit: area benefit, limited clientele, direct benefit; • Slum and blight: prevention or elimination on an area basis; or prevention or elimination on a spot slum and blight basis; • Urgent Need: sudden and unexpected need; threat to the health and welfare of the community; occurred within 18 months; and no other funds available. <p>DOH will conduct due diligence and evaluate all eligible applications using the evaluation criteria described herein. Depending on the nature of the proposed activity, site inspections may be conducted by DOH staff. An evaluation of the site's feasibility will be completed and considered as part of the final review. Staff review will include but not be limited to the following:</p> <p>Need and Impact - Project Need and Impact can result in 28 points total and includes points for income levels served; relocation assistance; whether a town meets the goals listed in the current Plan of Conservation and Development; and support letters.</p> <p>Capacity - Capacity can result in 27 points total and includes points for members of the applicant team having experience with the CDBG program with excellent performance; number of non-SC projects completed on time and within budget; completed SC/CDBG grants; number of Small Cities grants currently open; compliance; litigation; citizen complaints; returned funds; leveraged funds; program income; and staffing.</p> <p>Construction and Environment - Construction and Environment can result in 210 points total and includes points for Standard Projects (Site and Building Report, Coordination/Approval/Clearances, Construction, Sustainable Energy Features and Design); Residential Rehab Program (Procurement, Site Evaluation, Hazardous Material Process, Construction, Monitoring, Approvals/Permitting, Schedule, Compliance, Budget, Administration, Sustainability); Infrastructure (Infrastructure, Approvals, Permit Coordination, Construction Documents, Sustainable Features)</p> <p>Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity - Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity can result in 20 points total and includes points for identifying Fair Housing Action Steps completed or in process within the last three years. We look at number of awards made to Section 3 residents or contractors; good faith</p>
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	<p>efforts to reach Section 3 residents or contractors; awards made to small and minority and women owned businesses; if an applicant is a new grantee; identification of projects in the last 3 years that promote principles of Fair Housing; follows all ADA requirements.</p> <p>Other - Other can result in 3 additional points and includes: Fiscal and Grants Management; Consistency with State Consolidated Plan; DOH Training; and General Application Information.</p>
<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	<p>FY 2020-21 funding for the SC/CDBG Program will be available for all eligible activities through a competitive application funding round. DOH will provide adequate advance notice of fund availability and reserves the right to cease accepting applications at any time that all available funds have been committed. Based on funding availability and other considerations, DOH may limit the number of applications that can be submitted by a municipality in a funding round. Notification of such limitation will be included in DOH's notice of fund availability should DOH elect to set such a limitation. In the case of Urgent Need, DOH will accept applications on a first-come first-serve basis, if funds are available. Application materials are available at the DOH website, www.ct.gov/doh, or by contacting Miguel Rivera, CT Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Phone: 860-270-8012.</p>
<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	

<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	
<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The FY 2020-21 allocation to DOH for the Small Cities/CDBG Program is anticipated to be \$13,851,472. Funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. Under the Connecticut Small Cities/CDBG Program, DOH will use \$100,000 plus 2% of the award for its administration of the SC/CDBG Program. DOH will also use up to 1% of the award for technical assistance activities including technical assistance training sessions for grantees and handbooks for use by local governments.</p> <p>The remainder of funds will be utilized for CDBG projects including the following: Up to \$1,500,000 for Public Housing Modernization (including predevelopment and construction); Up to \$800,000 for a Housing Rehabilitation Program; Up to \$1,000,000 for Infrastructure (e.g., streets and sidewalks); Up to \$350,000 for Public Services (e.g. Youth Homelessness and Shelter Diversion programs in participation with CAN); Up to \$1,000,000 for Public Facilities (e.g., construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities and improvements and fire protection equipment).</p>

<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>DOH has established the following threshold requirements in order for applicants to be eligible to apply for funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lead applicant must be a non-entitlement city, county or incorporated town that possesses the legal capacity to carry out the proposed program. • The lead applicant may contract with a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization to carry out the activities of an eligible project, provided that the organization can document its not-for-profit status with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services. • The proposed project must meet a national objective and be an eligible activity under the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Act. In general, the project must either: benefit an area or clientele whose population is at least 51% low- and moderate-income aid in prevention or elimination of slums or blight. • Applicant must provide certification of compliance with citizen participation criteria. • Applicant must identify how the project is consistent with the goals and strategies of the Consolidated Plan. • Applicant must submit a Fair Housing Action Plan that complies with DOH’s guidelines/policies. • Applicant must be in compliance with all existing DOH agreements and cannot be in default under any CHFA or HUD-administered program. • No more than 3 open grants are allowed per applicant. • Applicant must be in compliance with established expenditure rate requirements for the Current Year 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Grants for the year immediately preceding the current year must be 10% expended by the last business day of February of the current year. Request for waivers will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Grants awarded two years prior to the current year must be 50% expended by the last business day of February of the current year. o Grants awarded three years prior to the current year must be 100% expended, have a Pre-closeout Certificate, and submitted the Final Semi-Annual Report by the last business day in February of the current year. o Grants awarded four years prior, or longer, must have been closed out with a Certificate of Completion by the last business day of February of the current year. DOH may issue a waiver to this requirement on a case-by-case basis. <p>Grant size limits include the following: Up to \$1,500,000 for Public Housing Modernization (including predevelopment and construction); Up to \$800,000 for a Housing Rehabilitation Program; Up to \$1,000,000 for Infrastructure (e.g., streets and sidewalks); Up to \$350,000 for Public Services (e.g. Youth Homelessness and Shelter Diversion programs in participation with CAN); Up to \$1,000,000 for Public Facilities (e.g., construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities and improvements and fire protection equipment).</p>
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<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>Each goal is supported by specific objectives (objectives are either specific actions to be taken or specific milestones to be achieved) designed to help achieve the goal. Each of these objectives is, in turn, followed by an output, a corresponding proposed outcome, and an indicator. Outputs are the products of the activities undertaken to meet the objectives and outcomes are the benefits that result from undertaking those activities. Indicators are the metric that will gauge the performance of the state in meeting the objective and ultimately the goals to which they relate.</p> <p>Outcomes measures for Small Cities/ Community Development Block Grant program can include but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New affordable rental housing; • New homeownership opportunities; • Preservation of existing affordable rental units; • Preservation of homeownership; • Increased opportunities for housing choice; • Increased rental housing opportunities that serve ELI, low-and moderate-income households in a variety of geographies. • Increased homeowners housing opportunities that serve low- and moderate-income households in a variety of geographies. • Expansion of access to rental and homeowner housing that serves low- and moderate-income households. • New/improved availability/accessibility and affordability in public housing. • New/improved availability/accessibility thru a non-housing community development project. • New/improved availability/accessibility thru an infrastructure/public facilities project. • New and improved sustainable communities.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved accessibility to housing free of lead-based paint and other environmental health and safety hazards.
2	State Program Name:	Emergency Solutions Grant/ State Bond Funds
	Funding Sources:	ESG State Bond Funds

<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>The ESG (and State Bond Fund dollars) program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide states and localities with resources and incentives to devise and implement long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the emergency shelter and housing needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>ESG and State Bond Fund dollars are utilized in conjunction with the Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care (CT BOS CoC) and the Connecticut Balance of State Steering Committee (CT BOS CoC Steering Committee).</p> <p>The CT BOS CoC is a united coalition of community and state systems that assist homeless and near homeless residents in the BOS region to obtain housing, economic stability, and an enhanced quality of life through a coordinated community-based process of identifying and addressing needs utilizing ESG and State Bond Fund dollars. Avoiding duplication of efforts, leveraging resources and coordinated planning are other purposes of the CT BOS. More specifically the CT BOS CoC is responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the knowledge of the service and housing providers to address the housing and service needs of homeless and formerly homeless persons in CT; • Identify housing needs of homeless and low-income persons in Connecticut on an ongoing basis; • Identify the gaps and needs of homeless households in Connecticut and participate in the process of prioritizing local, state and federal funding to meet these needs; • Support planning and development of housing and services to meet prioritized needs within Connecticut; • Participate in the development and operation of a coordinated access system (CAN) that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services and helps direct those persons to the appropriate providers;
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate outcomes of projects funded under Emergency Solutions Grant and CoC programs and report to HUD;• Ensure that there is a single Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the CT BOS CoC area; and• Ensure that there is at least a biennial point-in-time count of homeless persons in the CT BOS CoC region. <p>CT BOS CoC Steering Committee is the planning body that coordinates policies, strategies and activities toward ending homelessness in the CT BOS region. The Steering Committee gathers and analyzes information in order to determine the local needs of people experiencing homelessness, implements strategic responses, educates the community on homeless issues, provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services and measures CoC performance.</p>
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>It is the intent of DOH to conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of proposals received during any RFP process. When evaluating proposals, negotiating with successful proposers, and awarding contracts, DOH conforms to the Department’s written procedures for POS procurements and the State’s Code of Ethics.</p> <p>DOH will designate a Screening Committee to evaluate proposals submitted in response to an RFP. The contents of all submitted proposals, including any confidential information, will be shared with the Screening Committee. Only proposals found to be responsive (complying with all instructions and requirements) will be reviewed, rated, and scored.</p> <p>All proposals must comply with the minimum submission requirements specified in the RFP. To be eligible for evaluation, proposals must: (a) be received on or before the due date and time; (b) meet the Proposal Format requirements; (c) follow the required Proposal Outline; and (d) be complete. Proposals that fail to follow instructions or satisfy these minimum submission requirements may not be reviewed further at the discretion of the Department. DOH will reject any proposal that deviates significantly from the requirements of the RFP.</p> <p>Proposals meeting the minimum submission requirements will be evaluated according to the established criteria. The criteria are the objective standards that the Screening Committee will use to evaluate the technical merits of the proposals. Only the criteria listed below will be used to evaluate proposals. The criteria are weighted according to their relative importance. The weights are confidential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Profile; • Proposed Program Description; • Staffing Plan; • Program Outcome Requirements/Data and Technology Requirements; • Quality Assurance Requirements/Data and Technology Requirements; • Financial Profile; • Budget and Budget Narrative; and
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendices
	<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	

<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Through competitive procurement, DOH has awarded five (5) ESG funded shelters: three (3) shelters that support families and two (2) shelters for both families and individuals. These shelters were previously established due to the documented need to support homeless individuals and families. As needs are identified in local communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. In addition to ESG funded shelters, DOH also funds an additional 32 shelters utilizing state and federal funds, which bring the total funded shelters to 37. DOH intends to utilize ESG monies for Rapid Re-housing for this fiscal year. DOH has awarded a non-profit the right to act as the ESG financial assistance fiduciary agency. At a minimum 40% of the annual ESG allocation will go to this fiduciary to administer financial assistance requested by housing relocation and stabilization agencies. DOH has leveraged existing resources to provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed. Through competitive procurement, seven (7) agencies have been awarded assistance to aid our homeless population with housing relocation and up to 12 months of stabilization services and in-home case management. These seven agencies receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network (CAN). The funding received from ESG and the state enables the organizations to provide shelter bed, case management services, and rapid rehousing services to homeless persons.</p> <p>DOH regularly consults with the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc. for the provision of technical assistance, programmatic training needs, program development service model recommendations and program evaluation.</p>
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<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	
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<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>Connecticut anticipates receiving \$2,366,278 in federal ESG funds for the Action Plan program year beginning July 1, 2020. ESG funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. ESG funds will be pooled with approximately \$5,704,459 in annual funding from Connecticut's general operating budget and approximately \$6,500,000 from federal Social Services Block Grants.</p> <p>Should the amount of the allocation by the federal government be greater or lesser than the anticipated allocation, these funds will be distributed on a prorated basis as described in this section. During the FY, DOH may recapture funds from previous fiscal years due to any of the following: a) nonperformance; underutilization; or program income.</p> <p>Funds may be reallocated based on demand and/or emergency situations. In the event that additional funds are allocated that affect DOH's initial allocation and/or are recaptured from other states and reallocated to DOH during the FY, these funds will be distributed in accordance with the Action Plan guidelines in effect as of the date of reallocation.</p> <p>The pool of federal and state dollars, allocated to local community and faith-based organizations and municipalities, is for the provision of temporary shelter for homeless individuals and families. The funds provide operational costs, essential services such as counseling, case management, health, education, employment and training as well as HMIS costs and rapid re-housing. It is projected that under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG), federal ESG funds will be targeted as follows: Operations (Emergency Shelter) 50%; HMIS 4%; Rapid Re-housing 41% and administration 5%.</p> <p>Eligible Activities shall include one or more of the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter beds/units – number of beds; • Diversion to help clients resolve potential shelter need through assistance other than emergency shelter; • Rapid Rehousing services, including housing location and placement services, stabilization case management and financial assistance; • Housing inspections; and
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management in the shelter and/or in housing, with emphasis on housing stabilization and providing linkage to mainstream services
<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>During a grant solicitation process, the award of any contract is dependent upon the availability of funding to the Department. The funding source (Federal ESG and/or State ESS) will be determined by the Department, based in part, on the location of the proposed activity. ESG funds will only be used to fund programs in the Balance of State Eligible Metropolitan Service Area (EMSA) for the ESG program.</p> <p>A proposer must have the following minimum qualifications:</p> <p>a. Proposer must demonstrate experience and focus on serving the homeless and/or those at risk of becoming homeless. Demonstration of abilities will occur in the proposal and work plan, which should include but not be limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Successfully provided emergency shelter or housing services for persons that are homeless or at risk of homelessness for a minimum of two (2) years, or equivalent (e.g. supportive housing for other special needs populations, such as persons with mental health, substance abuse, homelessness, or other disabilities); ii. Currently provides case management services in conjunction with emergency shelter and/or permanent housing; iii. Demonstrated participation in local and statewide coordinated access and rapid rehousing initiatives. This should be demonstrated by attaching local Coordinate Access Network (CAN) and/or Rapid Rehousing meeting minutes/summaries reflecting attendance; and iv. Have the capacity to collect client level data using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) used in CT (CASEWORTHY), or ability to implement such data collection no later than three months after contract start date. <p>b. Demonstrated managerial and administrative support to implement an ESS and/or ESG program, including the ability to meet the data and technology requirements.</p> <p>c. Evidence of financial stability.</p>

<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>DOH has negotiated the client-based outcomes and measures with directors of emergency shelters listed below. Each shelter will select and negotiate individual numerical outcomes and measures with DOH staff and will submit monthly statistical demographics reports, as well as ESG annual performance reports. DOH has also added contractual language as it relates to Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) requirements and utilization. The projected numerical goals represent statewide outcomes that will be evaluated every six months.</p> <p>Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and/or treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include but are not limited to domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and financial counseling, childcare, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and medical treatment.</p> <p>Measure 1: At least 40% of clients access permanent housing.</p> <p>Measure 2: No more than 15% of clients are discharged to homelessness.</p> <p>Measure 3: At least 100% of Clients access additional social and /or outpatient treatment services as needed in the housing plan.</p> <p>Measure 4: For clients whose housing plans include agreed upon goals of accessing information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services as defined in the program component selected above, in order to make informed decisions about their health, education, finances, housing and other identified needs, 100% were provided with such information, as individually appropriate, in order to enable them to make informed decisions on meeting those needs; 100% of clients have come into the program through local coordinated access</p> <p>Measure 5: The monthly shelter utilization rate, as reported in the Monthly Shelter Utilizer Report, shall be at or above 80%.</p> <p>Measure 6: If the monthly shelter utilization rate falls under 80% for more than 3 months consistently during this contract period, the contractor will communicate with DOH to explain the reasons for the</p>
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		low utilization rate.
3	State Program Name:	Emergency Solutions Grant/ State Bond Funds
	Funding Sources:	ESG State Bond Funds

<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>The ESG (and State Bond Fund dollars) program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide states and localities with resources and incentives to devise and implement long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the emergency shelter and housing needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>ESG and State Bond Fund dollars are utilized in conjunction with the Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care (CT BOS CoC) and the Connecticut Balance of State Steering Committee (CT BOS CoC Steering Committee).</p> <p>The CT BOS CoC is a united coalition of community and state systems that assist homeless and near homeless residents in the BOS region to obtain housing, economic stability, and an enhanced quality of life through a coordinated community-based process of identifying and addressing needs utilizing ESG and State Bond Fund dollars. Avoiding duplication of efforts, leveraging resources and coordinated planning are other purposes of the CT BOS. More specifically the CT BOS CoC is responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the knowledge of the service and housing providers to address the housing and service needs of homeless and formerly homeless persons in CT; • Identify housing needs of homeless and low-income persons in Connecticut on an ongoing basis; • Identify the gaps and needs of homeless households in Connecticut and participate in the process of prioritizing local, state and federal funding to meet these needs; • Support planning and development of housing and services to meet prioritized needs within Connecticut; • Participate in the development and operation of a coordinated access system (CAN) that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services and helps direct those persons to the appropriate providers;
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate outcomes of projects funded under Emergency Solutions Grant and CoC programs and report to HUD;• Ensure that there is a single Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the CT BOS CoC area; and• Ensure that there is at least a biennial point-in-time count of homeless persons in the CT BOS CoC region. <p>CT BOS CoC Steering Committee is the planning body that coordinates policies, strategies and activities toward ending homelessness in the CT BOS region. The Steering Committee gathers and analyzes information in order to determine the local needs of people experiencing homelessness, implements strategic responses, educates the community on homeless issues, provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services and measures CoC performance.</p>
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>It is the intent of DOH to conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of proposals received during any RFP process. When evaluating proposals, negotiating with successful proposers, and awarding contracts, DOH conforms to the Department’s written procedures for POS procurements and the State’s Code of Ethics.</p> <p>DOH will designate a Screening Committee to evaluate proposals submitted in response to an RFP. The contents of all submitted proposals, including any confidential information, will be shared with the Screening Committee. Only proposals found to be responsive (complying with all instructions and requirements) will be reviewed, rated, and scored.</p> <p>All proposals must comply with the minimum submission requirements specified in the RFP. To be eligible for evaluation, proposals must: (a) be received on or before the due date and time; (b) meet the Proposal Format requirements; (c) follow the required Proposal Outline; and (d) be complete. Proposals that fail to follow instructions or satisfy these minimum submission requirements may not be reviewed further at the discretion of the Department. DOH will reject any proposal that deviates significantly from the requirements of the RFP.</p> <p>Proposals meeting the minimum submission requirements will be evaluated according to the established criteria. The criteria are the objective standards that the Screening Committee will use to evaluate the technical merits of the proposals. Only the criteria listed below will be used to evaluate proposals. The criteria are weighted according to their relative importance. The weights are confidential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Profile; • Proposed Program Description; • Staffing Plan; • Program Outcome Requirements/Data and Technology Requirements; • Quality Assurance Requirements/Data and Technology Requirements; • Financial Profile; • Budget and Budget Narrative; and
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendices
If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)	

<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Through competitive procurement, DOH has awarded five (5) ESG funded shelters: three (3) shelters that support families and two (2) shelters for both families and individuals. These shelters were previously established due to the documented need to support homeless individuals and families. As needs are identified in local communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. In addition to ESG funded shelters, DOH also funds an additional 32 shelters utilizing state and federal funds, which bring the total funded shelters to 37. DOH intends to utilize ESG monies for Rapid Re-housing for this fiscal year. DOH has awarded a non-profit the right to act as the ESG financial assistance fiduciary agency. At a minimum 40% of the annual ESG allocation will go to this fiduciary to administer financial assistance requested by housing relocation and stabilization agencies. DOH has leveraged existing resources to provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed. Through competitive procurement, seven (7) agencies have been awarded assistance to aid our homeless population with housing relocation and up to 12 months of stabilization services and in-home case management. These seven agencies receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network (CAN). The funding received from ESG and the state enables the organizations to provide shelter bed, case management services, and rapid rehousing services to homeless persons.</p> <p>DOH regularly consults with the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc. for the provision of technical assistance, programmatic training needs, program development service model recommendations and program evaluation.</p>
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<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>Connecticut anticipates receiving \$2,366,278 in federal ESG funds for the Action Plan program year beginning July 1, 2020. ESG funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. ESG funds will be pooled with approximately \$5,704,459 in annual funding from Connecticut's general operating budget and approximately \$6,500,000 from federal Social Services Block Grants.</p> <p>Should the amount of the allocation by the federal government be greater or lesser than the anticipated allocation, these funds will be distributed on a prorated basis as described in this section. During the FY, DOH may recapture funds from previous fiscal years due to any of the following: a) nonperformance; underutilization; or program income.</p> <p>Funds may be reallocated based on demand and/or emergency situations. In the event that additional funds are allocated that affect DOH's initial allocation and/or are recaptured from other states and reallocated to DOH during the FY, these funds will be distributed in accordance with the Action Plan guidelines in effect as of the date of reallocation.</p> <p>The pool of federal and state dollars, allocated to local community and faith-based organizations and municipalities, is for the provision of temporary shelter for homeless individuals and families. The funds provide operational costs, essential services such as counseling, case management, health, education, employment and training as well as HMIS costs and rapid re-housing. It is projected that under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG), federal ESG funds will be targeted as follows: Operations (Emergency Shelter) 50%; HMIS 4%; Rapid Re-housing 41% and administration 5%.</p> <p>Eligible Activities shall include one or more of the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter beds/units – number of beds; • Diversion to help clients resolve potential shelter need through assistance other than emergency shelter; • Rapid Rehousing services, including housing location and placement services, stabilization case management and financial assistance; • Housing inspections; and
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management in the shelter and/or in housing, with emphasis on housing stabilization and providing linkage to mainstream services
<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>During a grant solicitation process, the award of any contract is dependent upon the availability of funding to the Department. The funding source (Federal ESG and/or State ESS) will be determined by the Department, based in part, on the location of the proposed activity. ESG funds will only be used to fund programs in the Balance of State Eligible Metropolitan Service Area (EMSA) for the ESG program.</p> <p>A proposer must have the following minimum qualifications:</p> <p>a. Proposer must demonstrate experience and focus on serving the homeless and/or those at risk of becoming homeless. Demonstration of abilities will occur in the proposal and work plan, which should include but not be limited to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Successfully provided emergency shelter or housing services for persons that are homeless or at risk of homelessness for a minimum of two (2) years, or equivalent (e.g. supportive housing for other special needs populations, such as persons with mental health, substance abuse, homelessness, or other disabilities); ii. Currently provides case management services in conjunction with emergency shelter and/or permanent housing; iii. Demonstrated participation in local and statewide coordinated access and rapid rehousing initiatives. This should be demonstrated by attaching local Coordinate Access Network (CAN) and/or Rapid Rehousing meeting minutes/summaries reflecting attendance; and iv. Have the capacity to collect client level data using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) used in CT (CASEWORTHY), or ability to implement such data collection no later than three months after contract start date. <p>b. Demonstrated managerial and administrative support to implement an ESS and/or ESG program, including the ability to meet the data and technology requirements.</p> <p>c. Evidence of financial stability.</p>

<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>DOH has negotiated the client-based outcomes and measures with directors of emergency shelters listed below. Each shelter will select and negotiate individual numerical outcomes and measures with DOH staff and will submit monthly statistical demographics reports, as well as ESG annual performance reports. DOH has also added contractual language as it relates to Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) requirements and utilization. The projected numerical goals represent statewide outcomes that will be evaluated every six months.</p> <p>Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and/or treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include but are not limited to domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and financial counseling, childcare, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and medical treatment.</p> <p>Measure 1: At least 40% of clients access permanent housing.</p> <p>Measure 2: No more than 15% of clients are discharged to homelessness.</p> <p>Measure 3: At least 100% of Clients access additional social and /or outpatient treatment services as needed in the housing plan.</p> <p>Measure 4: For clients whose housing plans include agreed upon goals of accessing information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services as defined in the program component selected above, in order to make informed decisions about their health, education, finances, housing and other identified needs, 100% were provided with such information, as individually appropriate, in order to enable them to make informed decisions on meeting those needs; 100% of clients have come into the program through local coordinated access</p> <p>Measure 5: The monthly shelter utilization rate, as reported in the Monthly Shelter Utilizer Report, shall be at or above 80%.</p> <p>Measure 6: If the monthly shelter utilization rate falls under 80% for more than 3 months consistently during this contract period, the contractor will communicate with DOH to explain the reasons for the</p>
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		low utilization rate.
4	State Program Name:	HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program
	Funding Sources:	HOME
	Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	<p>DOH will invest in the production of affordable housing through new construction or rehabilitation only when it determines that the units produced will remain affordable for the minimum required time period under the HOME Program. DOH, at its discretion, may extend the affordability period beyond the minimum required by the HOME Program. If HOME funds are used for homebuyers, the state will abide by the guidelines for resale and recapture as required in Section 92.254 of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consolidated Final Rule, HUD CPD Notice 12-003 and HUD CPD Notice 12-007.</p> <p>The state is also seeking to expand access to affordable housing through the utilization of partnerships with stakeholders and other funding organizations that leverage non-state resources for development or preservation of affordable housing. DOH will accept applications for all HOME Program eligible activities.</p>

<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new <i>Developer Engagement Process</i>.</p> <p>This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.</p> <p>Developers/applicants should complete the <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i> that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i>.</p> <p>Upon receipt of a <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i>, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.</p> <p>Applications will be considered against financial and qualitative issues, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial feasibility; • Reasonableness to proceed to construction; • Financial leveraging and firm financial commitments; • Social and economic impact on the neighborhood, community, region and state as defined in the strategies and priorities outlined in the ConPlan, including but not limited to transportation, education and job creation/retention. • Level of consistency with DOH's responsible growth criteria including compliance with the current Conservation and Development Policies Plan for Connecticut; • Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Compliance;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of current open contracts; • Current project's expenditure rates; and • Prior audit or monitoring performance. 														
<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The FY 2020-21 HUD allocation to DOH for the HOME Program is anticipated to be \$9,447,328. HOME funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. DOH will use 10% of its annual HOME allocation for program administration. A minimum of 15% of the annual allocation will be set-aside for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) as required by federal law. The amount of program income is estimated based on an average of the amount received by DOH over the last four program years. Should the amount of the allocation by the federal government be greater or lesser than the anticipated allocation denoted, these funds will be distributed on a prorated basis as defined above.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">FY 2020-21 Allocation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$9,447,328</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Admin (10%)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 944,732</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHDO Set-aside (15%)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,417,099</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subtotal</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,361,831</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program Allocation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$7,085,497</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TBRA</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Eligible Activities</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$4,085,497 (plus any program income)</td> </tr> </table>	FY 2020-21 Allocation	\$9,447,328	State Admin (10%)	\$ 944,732	CHDO Set-aside (15%)	\$1,417,099	Subtotal	\$2,361,831	Program Allocation	\$7,085,497	TBRA	\$3,000,000	Other Eligible Activities	\$4,085,497 (plus any program income)
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Program Allocation	\$7,085,497														
TBRA	\$3,000,000														
Other Eligible Activities	\$4,085,497 (plus any program income)														

<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible applicants: As defined by HUD program regulations; • Applicant capacity: Previous experience with the HOME program and /or other public financing, quality of work product, efficiency and effectiveness in project management; • Number of open contracts with DOH: Applicants with three or more open contracts (not pending closeout within six months of application), regardless of funding source, will be rejected; • Eligible activity: Only those activities eligible under the appropriate federal acts will be funded; • Statement of compliance with all program requirements: Applicants must be in compliance with all existing DOH assistance agreements and cannot be in default under any CHFA or HUD-administered program (Waiver provision available in extraordinary circumstances); • Consistency with ConPlan: Applicants must identify how the project is consistent with the goals and strategies of the ConPlan; and <p>Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Compliance: Applicants must provide a certification/demonstration of compliance with all fair housing and equal employment opportunities obligations/guidelines.</p>
<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>The State of Connecticut will continue its efforts to strengthen the abilities of state and local governments to expand and preserve the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing with the use of FY 2020-21 HOME funds. All HOME Program assisted rental and home ownership units will meet all program guidelines for income eligibility and accessibility.</p>
<p>State Program Name:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program
<p>Funding Sources:</p>	<p>HOPWA</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>Connecticut anticipates receiving \$265,668 in federal Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds for the Action Plan program year beginning July 1, 2020. HOPWA funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. HOPWA funds will be pooled with approximately \$4,000,000 in annual funding from Connecticut's general operating budget and approximately \$1,000,000 from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).</p> <p>Should the amount of the allocation by the federal government be greater or lesser than the anticipated allocation denoted, these funds will be distributed on a prorated basis as described in this section.</p> <p>Funds may be reallocated during the FY based on demand and/or emergency situations. In the event that additional funds are allocated that affect Connecticut's initial allocation and/or are recaptured from other states and reallocated to Connecticut during the FY, these funds will be distributed in accordance with the Action Plan guidelines in effect as of the date of reallocation.</p> <p>The majority of HOPWA dollars allocated to Connecticut are funneled through the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA) of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and their surrounding areas. DOH receives a small amount of "Balance of State Dollars". DOH anticipates conducting a competitive procurement process for HOPWA services to ensure statewide coverage for the Balance of State catchment area.</p> <p>The type of housing to be funded is tenant-based scattered site apartments or congregate housing, with applicable administration costs within the identified cap. The housing programs are located in two Balance of State EMSAs and provide housing with supportive services to approximately 20 individuals at any one time. The supportive services include case management, cooking and cleaning assistance, transportation, education, and volunteer opportunities.</p>
	<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>Each housing program serves an eligible person based on a verification of HIV/AIDS diagnosis that is a client with a positive diagnosis; income verification for a person who is a low- and moderate-income individual and person's family and /or eligible to receive housing information services regardless of income. It is also based on a review of living situation that is related to those who are homeless and near homeless individuals.</p>

<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>Effective July 1, 2020, in order to fully coordinate HOPWA activities with assistance provided under the Continuum of Care Program, the Department of Housing's HOPWA program will be integrated with the State's Coordinated Entry system known as the Coordinated Access Networks (CANs). The use of the CANs' coordinated entry system will help to assure that HOPWA assistance is provided to those living with HIV/AIDS with the highest vulnerability and risks to housing stability. All referrals for permanent housing (TBRA) funded through HOPWA will occur through the CAN system. HOPWA grantees will be required to report permanent supportive housing (TBRA) vacancies to their local CAN and to accept only applicants referred by their local CAN off the By-Name List (BNL). This will ensure that applicants who have been homeless the longest and have the most intensive service needs receive priority access to HOPWA resources. If there are no literally homeless people living with HIV/AIDS in its geographic area, the local CAN will prioritize people at risk of homelessness with the most intensive service needs for referral to HOPWA funded TBRA.</p> <p>DOH anticipates conducting a competitive procurement process for HOPWA services to ensure statewide coverage for the Balance of State catchment area.</p>
<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The non-profit organizations that provide the described services have established excellent reputations within their communities. Each has developed networks that are informed of the available housing and supportive services provided. Staff works closely with discharge planners from hospitals, homeless shelters and correction facilities, as well as, with case managers and care coordinators for the regional AIDS consortia. As mentioned previously, AIDS Connecticut (ACT) and its members, through its quality assurance program, continue to work closely with DOH to establish appropriate and measureable performance measures for ACT's activities. In addition, ACT mails a semi-annual newsletter to approximately 1,200 social service and housing contacts. The DOH consults with ACT for technical assistance in the development of service models and program evaluation. ACT is a membership organization for AIDS housing providers in the state.</p>

Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.	<p>The Standards of Care review assures the quality of programs by setting down guidelines for services, health and safety, and general management, A dual-committee of DOH staff representative along with ACT staff use this tool to identify programs' strengths and weaknesses, highlight their best practices, and develop a framework, time line and process for technical assistance to correct deficiencies.</p> <p>The Standards of Care is a comprehensive tool first produced in 1992 and carefully reviewed and updated several times since then. The philosophy behind this tool's development and use is the belief that all people have a right to safe, affordable, accessible, and permanent housing that enhances their quality of life. The Standards of Care was developed by the Standards Committee of ACT to describe the best practices of operating supportive residential programs for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Standards of Care describes four levels of supportive housing from Level I, a completely independent housing program, to Level IV for those who need skilled nursing care. The Standards of Care are reviewed annually by the Continuous Quality Improvement Committee (CQI) to ensure that the tool remains relevant to member agencies and DOH.</p>
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<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>DOH has contractually required Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) utilization by all HOPWA grantees. The Department has also aligned its contract outcome measures with HUD's HOPWA outcome measures.</p> <p>DOH has negotiated the following outcomes and measures with the AIDS residence service providers. Each organization that receives HOPWA funds will establish numerical goals for the outcomes and measures selected, submit semi-annual reports and their annual CAPER Report to the Department. The numerical goals identified below represent the goal for all individual AIDS residence programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 1: 80% clients will maintain housing stability; avoid homelessness and access care each year. • Measure 2: 100% of clients will have income below 80% of area median income upon intake. • Measure 3: 100% of clients will have a housing plan for maintaining or establishing stable on-going housing within 60 days of intake. • Measure 4: 100% of clients will have contact with case manager/benefits counselor consistent with the schedule specified in client's individual service plan. • Measure 5: 100% clients had contact with a primary health care provider consistent with the schedule specified in client's individual service plan. • Measure 6: 75% of clients have accessed and can maintain medical insurance/assistance. • Measure 7: 50% of clients have successfully accessed or maintained qualification for sources of income. • Measure 8: 10% of total numbers of households have obtained an income-producing job.
<p>State Program Name:</p>	<p>National Housing Trust Fund</p>
<p>Funding Sources:</p>	<p>HTF</p>

6	<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>The National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) provides formula grants to state to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low-income (ELI - with incomes not greater 30 percent of area median income) and very low-income (VLI - with incomes not greater than 50% of area median income) households, including homeless families. DOH will use NHTF funds in combination with State Bond Funds, federal HOME, federal 811 PRA and other funds to develop/rehabilitate ELI housing. It will be used to leverage the development of units targeted for extremely low-income families, with a priority for the development of permanent supportive housing units.</p> <p>DOH will invest in the production of affordable housing through new construction or substantial rehabilitation only when it determines that the units produced will remain affordable for the minimum required time period under the NHTF. DOH, at its discretion, may extend the affordability period beyond the minimum required by the NHTF</p>
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new <i>Developer Engagement Process</i>.</p> <p>This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.</p> <p>Developers/applicants should complete the <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i> that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i>.</p> <p>Upon receipt of a <i>DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile</i>, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants for NHTF must meet the minimum program eligibility and threshold requirements; • Depending on the nature of the proposed activity, site inspections may be conducted by DOH staff. An evaluation of the site's feasibility will be completed and considered as part of the review process. <p>Project selection will be made on a competitive basis in accordance with the Ranking and Rating Criteria. The Selection Criteria include: affordability, marketability and fair housing; applicant capacity; project feasibility and readiness to proceed; and responsible growth and livability initiatives.</p>
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<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The FY 2020-21 HUD allocation to DOH for the NHTF is anticipated to be \$3,750,859. Funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. Administrative costs cannot exceed 10 percent of the annual grant. The amount of program income is expected to be \$0 as the awards will be structured as non-interest-bearing loans or advances, deferred payment loans, or grants.</p> <table data-bbox="653 467 1207 716"> <tr> <td>FY 2020-21 Allocation</td> <td>\$3,750,859</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Administration (10%)</td> <td>\$ 375,085</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Program Allocation</td> <td>\$3,375,774</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimated Program Income</td> <td>\$ 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Availability for Eligible Activities</td> <td>\$3,375,774</td> </tr> </table>	FY 2020-21 Allocation	\$3,750,859	State Administration (10%)	\$ 375,085	Program Allocation	\$3,375,774	Estimated Program Income	\$ 0	Availability for Eligible Activities	\$3,375,774
FY 2020-21 Allocation	\$3,750,859										
State Administration (10%)	\$ 375,085										
Program Allocation	\$3,375,774										
Estimated Program Income	\$ 0										
Availability for Eligible Activities	\$3,375,774										

<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>Applications will only be accepted from eligible recipients which include: units of general local government (including other PJ's: Participating Jurisdictions), for-profit and nonprofit entities (including CHDO's and local housing authorities), and joint ventures among various types of entities.</p> <p>Every contract for construction or substantial rehabilitation shall comply with state and federal labor standards. Furthermore, every contract for the construction or rehabilitation of housing that includes 12 or more NHTF - assisted units must comply with the Davis Bacon Act, 40 USC 276a-276a-5.</p> <p>Eligible recipients must meet the following thresholds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have completed at least one affordable housing project using state (FLEX, State Housing Trust Funds) or Federal (HOME, LIHTC) funds on time and within budget; • Must have completed at least one affordable project of a similar size and scope to the proposed NHTF activity; • Must have sufficient financial capacity or access to appropriate capital to obligate NHTF funds; • Must operate at least one affordable housing project in accordance with state or federal obligations, or have contracted for management services with such experience; • Must provide a certification that any housing units assisted will comply with NHTF requirements; • Must provide a certification of compliance with all existing DOH assistance agreements and cannot be in default under any CHFA or HUD-administered program at the time of application; and • Must provide a certification/demonstration of compliance with all fair housing and equal employment opportunities obligations/guidelines.
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What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	The State of Connecticut will continue its efforts to strengthen the abilities of state and local governments to expand and preserve the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing with FY 2020-21 NHTF funding. All NHTF Program assisted rental units will meet all program guidelines for income eligibility and accessibility.
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Discussion:

The state will target its state and federal funds to certain geographic areas consistent with the state's Opportunity Mapping and priorities set in the recommended State Plan of Conservation and Development, except as prohibited by federal or state law. For example, the state's allocation of SC/CDBG and ESG funds may only be used in Federally designated non-entitlement areas. However, since there is a major emphasis on directing resources to areas in need of revitalization, resources will be focused, to the greatest extent possible, in targeted areas.

The existing Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program/Certificate, Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation, Resident Service Coordinator grant, Elderly Rental Assistance Payments, State Rental Assistance Payments, and other "housing support" programs are exempt from the state's geographic targeting.

AP-40 Section 108 Loan Guarantee – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state help non-entitlement units of general local government to apply for Section 108 loan funds?

Yes, if requested.

Available Grant Amounts

Guaranteed by HUD and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Treasury, Section 108 notes are issued to investors through private underwriters. Section 108 funds are offered to eligible communities in the form of loans that must be repaid in full. Under the provision of the SC/CDBG program, for any projects approved under this provision, the state would pledge its future SC/CDBG funds as the ultimate repayment source in case of repayment default by the loan recipients.

The state's participation in the Section 108 program does not commit any funding to any local government. HUD would make the ultimate decisions regarding any local government applications for Section 108 loans. All Section 108 projects must meet all applicable CDBG requirements and result in significant employment and/or benefit for low- and moderate-income persons. Projects that already have an alternate sources of financing under another program would generally not be considered for Section 108 loans unless the available funds are not sufficient to meet the project's needs. Section 108 program regulations are found at 24 CFR Subpart M-Loan Guarantees, Sections 570.700 to 570.711. All Section 108 projects would be required to provide additional security and demonstrate that the Section 108 borrowing can be paid back. Additionally, in order to be considered for funding by DOH, all Section 108 projects of regional significance would need to receive the approval of either the regional planning organization or the economic development district in which the project would be proposed.

Acceptance process of applications

Proposals for Section 108 loans would be accepted by DOH throughout the year and would be evaluated on project merits by a review team. Communities would be requested to complete a pre-application, which would enable DOH to determine that the proposal meets federal eligibility and feasibility criteria. Proposals would be accepted for large-scale housing rehabilitation, housing development, site preparation, infrastructure and economic development. The amount of funds committed to a particular project would be based on financial need and public benefit relative to risk.

Pre-Application: All eligible communities would need to submit a pre-application to DOH. DOH's current Small Cities Letter of Intent can be used and modified to include the following information:

- Detailed project description including map showing project location.
- Project participants and partners including names of lead applicant(s), leasing agencies, equity

providers, sources of permanent financing and owner of assets after project completion.

- Project budget and requested loan amount.
- Project activities proposed to be funded by the Section 108 loan.
- Need and market assessment of the project.
- Financial need (proof that other sources of finance were sought for before applying for Section 108 as per CFR Sec. 570.704 (b) (4)).
- Local and regional economic development benefits, including identification as a project prioritized by Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and District Organizations of Economic Development Districts (EDD) created under Federal Departments of Commerce, Economic Development Administration guidelines.
- Consistency with the SC/CDBG program's national objectives.
- Consistency with other public benefit requirements of Section 108 (job creation and benefits to low- and moderate-income people).
- Proof of local government's, or private entity's in case loan will be transferred, capability for repayment.
- Proposed repayment plan identifying all sources of repayment.
- Citizen's approval of project and loan obligations.
- In case of joint applications from multi-jurisdictional consortia, agreement and terms for collaboration and the community designated to serve as lead applicant.
- Municipality's SC/CDBG program history with DOH.
- Property owner's approval.
- Consistency with the state's responsible growth policies and federal USDOT and HUD sustainable communities' livability principles.
- (as applicable) regional planning organization or economic development district approval.
- Any other information that may help with the project and loan approval.

Communities or projects would be evaluated by a review team on project merit.

All final decisions would be left to the discretion of the DOH Commissioner. If DOH approves the pre-application, the non-entitlement community or communities would be informed of the decision and would be instructed to submit a final application.

Final Application: If selected by DOH in the pre-application stage, the applicant would be provided with the final application documents and application instructions.

AP-45 Community Revitalization Strategies – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state allow units of general local government to carry out community revitalization strategies?

Yes, if requested.

State's Process and Criteria for approving local government revitalization strategies

In 1996, HUD established criteria, which allowed states to approve a locally determined strategy for revitalizing an area that is among the community's most distressed. In order to provide some incentive for communities to undertake such revitalization, the SC/CDBG Program regulations provide certain benefits for the use of SC/CDBG funds in such an area. DOH will apply the same criteria to communities eligible for the SC/CDBG Program.

A community that is interested in undertaking a Community Revitalization Strategy (CRS) must submit a request to DOH prior to applying for SC/CDBG funds. A community's revitalization strategy must be designed to provide for the economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents of a particular area that is among the community's most distressed. It must also provide for other long-term improvements within a reasonable period of time. Therefore, the CRS must clearly describe how it meets the following criteria:

- **Boundaries:** A community must identify the neighborhood's boundaries for which the CRS applies. All areas within the boundaries must be contiguous;
- **Demographic Criteria:** The designated area must be a primarily residential area that contains at least 51% Low- and Moderate-Income (LMI) residents. However, a community may not utilize the area benefit presumption authorized by 24 CFR 570.483(e)(5)(i) or the aggregation of housing units authorized by 24 CFR 570.483(e)(5)(ii) unless it meets the additional demographic criteria outlined in 24 CFR 570.483(b)(1)(v). Communities that intend to utilize the area benefit presumption or the aggregation of housing units must provide DOH with the census data needed to support the LMI percentage and poverty rate in the designated area.
- **Consultation:** The community must describe how the CRS was developed in consultation with the area's stakeholders, including residents, owners/operators of businesses and financial institutions, nonprofits, and community groups that are in or serve the neighborhood.
- **Assessment:** the CRS must include an assessment of the economic conditions of the area and an examination of the opportunities for economic development improvement and the problems likely to be encountered;
- **Economic Empowerment:** there must be a realistic development strategy and implementation plan to promote the area's economic progress focusing on activities to create meaningful jobs for the unemployed low- and moderate-income residents of the area as well as activities to promote the substantial revitalization of the area; and
- **Performance Measures:** The CRS must identify the results to be achieved, expressing them in

terms that are readily measurable, in the form of benchmarks.

A community with an approved Neighborhood Revitalization Zone (NRZ) pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 118, Sec 7-600 may use the strategic plan developed for the NRZ as the CRS as long as any additional information required by DOH is also provided.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.320(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the state (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The following federal resources will be directed toward specific geographic areas as described below:

- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) - Emergency Solutions Grant funds are awarded through a formula established by the federal government. The state's allocation of ESG funds may be used anywhere in Connecticut without restriction. Four jurisdictions (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury) receive their own allocations of ESG funds directly from the federal government, thus are not eligible for the state allocations. Because of the nature of homelessness, the ESG program is exempt from Priority Funding Area requirements.
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) - The HOME Program was established under the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The state's allocation of HOME funds may be used anywhere within the State of Connecticut.
- Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (FLIHTC) - Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits may be used anywhere within the State of Connecticut. However, in accordance with federal law, states are required to develop allocation criteria that disperse the tax credits across the state through an IRS-approved competitive process. CHFA is Connecticut's tax credit administering agency and has an approved competitive process that allows points to be given to rental housing projects. CHFA's allocation plan must be consistent with the recommended State Plan of Conservation and Development.
- Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG) - Small Cities Community Development Block Grant funds are awarded through a formula established by the federal government. The state's allocation of SC/CDBG funds may not be used in the following jurisdictions: Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Milford Town, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Stamford, Stratford, Waterbury, West Hartford, and West Haven. These jurisdictions receive their own allocations of CDBG funds directly from the federal government and are not eligible for use of the state allocation designated for small cities.
- The majority of HOPWA dollars allocated to Connecticut are apportioned through the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA) of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, and their surrounding areas. DOH receives a small amount of "Balance of State Dollars" and uses a competitive procurement process for HOPWA services to ensure statewide coverage for the balance of state catchment area: Tolland County, New London County, Middlesex County and Litchfield County.
- National Housing Trust Fund - funding will be available in all 169 communities. Priority will be given to activities in higher opportunity areas as demonstrated through Opportunity Mapping at the DOH website in accordance with the most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Choice. Priority will be given to applications for projects in the higher "opportunity areas."

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 56 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The state will target its state and federal funds to certain geographic areas consistent with the priorities set in the recommended State Plan of Conservation and Development, except as prohibited by federal or state law. For example, the state's allocation of SC/CDBG and ESG funds may only be used in non-entitlement areas. However, since there is a major emphasis on directing resources to areas in need of revitalization, resources will be focused, to the greatest extent possible, in targeted areas.

- The existing Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher/Certificate, Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation, Resident Service Coordinator grant, Elderly Rental Assistance Payments, State Rental Assistance Payments, and other "housing support" programs are exempt from the state's geographic targeting.

Discussion

ZASFunding under the SC/CDBG and HOME programs will be available to all eligible communities in accordance with program requirements. Communities with demonstrated greater needs may be given higher priority. With respect to ESG, DOH sought/will seek competitive proposals statewide, and awards were/will be made consistent with a fair and equitable distribution that takes into consideration the availability of resources available to ESG-municipalities to ensure that there is not a duplication of services, while addressing needs of the Balance of State. Details on awards and contracts will be made available as part of the CAPER. With regard to HOPWA, effective July 1, 2020, in order to fully coordinate HOPWA activities with assistance provided under the Continuum of Care Program, the Department of Housing's HOPWA program will be integrated with the State's Coordinated Entry system known as the Coordinated Access Networks (CANs). For NHTF, funding will be available in all 169 communities. Preference will be given to activities in higher opportunity areas as demonstrated through Opportunity Mapping at the DOH website in accordance with the most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 24 CFR 91.320(g)

Introduction:

DOH's goal for affordable housing is to make sure that everyone has access to housing opportunities and options in the State of Connecticut, including housing and service needs of the homeless and those threatened with homelessness.

Affordable Housing Strategies

Fair Housing and Housing Choice

Fair housing initiatives promote equal housing opportunity for all of Connecticut's citizens and increase housing choice opportunities through the application of responsible development principles and strategies.

Supply of Quality Affordable Housing

The state will work to preserve and increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing available to low- and moderate-income households and improve the ability of low- and moderate-income residents to access homeownership opportunities and, within available resources, assist distressed households in maintaining homeownership. While increasing the supply of low- and moderate income homes available for ownership, the quality of the living environment can be improved by incorporating responsible development strategies such as mixed-use and transit-oriented developments.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	1,580
Non-Homeless	1,809
Special-Needs	3,928
Total	7,317

Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	7,317
The Production of New Units	100
Rehab of Existing Units	1,000
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	8,417

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion:

2020-2021 Affordable Housing Objectives

Fair Housing and Housing Choice

In the first year of the 2020-2024 ConPlan, the state will focus its resources to achieve the following:

- Within available appropriations, the DOH will continue to support the Connecticut Fair Housing Center with their efforts to assist the State of Connecticut to fulfill the recommendations in the state's latest Analysis of impediments to fair Housing Choice for state level action.
- DOH will continue to conduct regular monitoring of its funding recipients in the areas of civil rights and fair housing enforcement.
- Update and redraft the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations consistent with guidance from the Fair Housing Enforcement Office of HUD.

Quality Affordable Housing

In the first year of the 2020-2024 ConPlan, the state will focus its resources to achieve the following:

With regard to new affordable rental housing:

- DOH will work to create 1,000 new quality affordable rental housing units.

With regard to new homeownership opportunities:

- DOH will work to create 100 new affordable homeownership opportunities.

With regard to preserving existing affordable rental units.

- DOH will work to preserve 1000 existing affordable rental housing units.

With regard to maintaining homeownership.

- DOH will work to maintain homeownership for 60 households.

The above referenced figures were based on historic performance, current unit production costs and anticipated financial resources at the time the 2020-2024 ConPlan was developed.

AP-60 Public Housing - 24 CFR 91.320(j)

Introduction:

DOH intends to provide decent housing and enhance suitable living environments for residents of public housing.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

DOH will address the housing needs of residents of public housing through preservation of existing housing units, the creation of replacement units and additional rent subsidies.

Public Housing Strategies

Preservation

The state will identify opportunities for the potential loss of public housing units due to expiring contracts or owner choice to preserve existing public housing, and work with those owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the preservation of these units.

Replacement

The state will identify opportunities for the potential replacement of public housing units due to obsolescence or other environmental concerns, and work with the owners and prospective developers/investors to leverage a variety of resources targeted at the replacement of these units.

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

DOH and CHFA will continue counseling process' for first time borrowers to reduce default rates and will also work to reduce single-family delinquencies and foreclosures through proactive intervention.

DMHAS, DSS, DOH, and CHFA will promote homeownership opportunities for persons with disabilities who have been unable to access private financing.

DOH and CHFA will continue to implement the emergency Mortgage Assistance and CT FAMILIES (Connecticut Fair Alternative Mortgage Lending Initiative & Education Services) program as well as counseling initiatives and mediation efforts to assist economically distressed households maintain homeownership.

Discussion:

The State of Connecticut has one hundred housing authorities whose primary mission is to produce and

manage affordable housing. They work in conjunction with the State of Connecticut and other local organizations to ensure that affordable housing is available for those who need it. Housing Authorities are public entities eligible for many state and federally sponsored funding programs. Within their area of operation, housing authorities are authorized to:

- Prepare, carry out, acquire, lease and operate housing projects.
- Provide for construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration or repair of any housing project.
- Demise any dwellings, houses, accommodations, lands, buildings, structures or facilities.
- Investigate living, dwelling and housing conditions and the means and methods of improving such conditions.
- Determine where slum areas exist or where there is a shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for families of low- and moderate-income.
- Other duties and obligations related to the provision of housing for low-and moderate-income families.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.320(h)

Introduction

As indicated in the Needs Assessment, Market Analysis and Institutional Structure sections of this document, it is clear that Connecticut has done much to address the needs of homeless and at-risk individuals and families as well as non-homeless persons with special needs.

In FY 2020-2021, DOH intends to enhance suitable living environments, create descent housing, and address the shelter, housing and service needs of the homeless, and those threatened with homelessness with an emphasis on ending chronic homelessness, including veteran's homelessness and youth and family homelessness, as well as preventing future homelessness.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

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

For more than twenty years, various agencies, both public and quasi-public, along with private organizations have joined in a collaborative effort to identify and develop long-term solutions to end chronic and long-term homelessness. The current partners in this effort are DOH, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), Court Support Services Division - Judicial (CSSD), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), CHFA, and the Corporation of Supportive Housing (CSH). Connecticut is the only state in the nation consistently investing in the development of supportive housing on a statewide basis.

In addition, every year on a single night in January, the State of Connecticut joins with communities across the country to conduct an annual census of people who are experiencing homelessness known as the Point-in-Time (PIT) count. The PIT count, required by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and organized by the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) serves two purposes: 1) it is the only measure of homelessness that is collected yearly by states and communities across the country and provides one of the only means we have to compare rates of homelessness from year to year and from community to community; and 2) while the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) tracks homelessness on any given day and throughout the course of the year, HMIS data tends to only capture people experiencing homelessness who are known to the homeless service system. The Point-in-Time count captures data on people who are homeless but who, for a variety of reasons, have not been connected to shelters, outreach, workers, or other programs.

The state will emphasize programs targeted at supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and homelessness

prevention as the primary means to prevent and end homelessness in Connecticut. The state will work to expand permanent supportive housing in Connecticut to break the cycle of long-term, chronic homelessness and it will utilize the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) to produce better placements and outcomes for the most vulnerable individuals in need of assistance. Each of these programs is designed to assist the target population with staying stably housed and thus not breaching the emergency shelters/transitional living system.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

DOH will continue to maintain and fund "Homeless Shelters" across the state. The state has successfully ended chronic veteran's homelessness and will continue to support this effort as well as redirect efforts to address ending homelessness among youth/families. The state's commitment to ending chronic homelessness is achieved through the placement of all known homelessness in permanent supportive housing in service-enhanced housing with subsidies.

Through competitive procurement, DOH has awarded 5 shelters: three (3) shelters that support families and two (2) shelters that support families and individuals. These shelters were previously established due to the documented need to support homeless individuals and families. As needs are identified in local communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. DOH currently has 5 ESG funded shelters, and an additional 32 shelters utilizing state and federal funds, which bring the total funded shelters to 37.

DOH intends to utilize ESG monies for Rapid Re-housing over the next five-year period. DOH has awarded a non-profit the right to act as the ESG financial assistance fiduciary agency. At a minimum 40% of the annual ESG allocation will go to this fiduciary to administer financial assistance requested by housing relocation and stabilization agencies. DOH has leverage existing resources to provide housing relocation and stabilization services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed.

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

DOH has leveraged existing resources to provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed. Through competitive procurement, seven (7) agencies have been awarded assistance to aid our homelessness population with housing relocation and up to 12 months of stabilization services and in-home case management. These seven agencies receive referrals for

services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network (CAN).

Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and /or treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include, but are not limited to, domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and financial counseling, childcare, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and medical treatment.

DOH also provides funding for the Youth Transitional Living Program to two contractors for the provision of multi-family or single room residency living arrangements. A variety of support services are provided to these individuals during their stay in the program. Stays can range from a period of six months to two years. The goal is to have these youth gain self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

DOH regularly consults with the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc. for the provision of technical assistance, programmatic training needs, program development service model recommendations and program evaluation.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: 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); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Connecticut has a long history of providing permanent supportive housing to the most vulnerable homeless and at-risk of becoming homeless individuals and families in our state. In April of 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by several state agencies including the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), DOH, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH). This MOU was in support of the statewide Next Steps Supportive Housing Initiative and the purpose was to increase service-supported, affordable housing for people with mental illness or substance abuse problems who face homelessness. DOH has devoted both Section 8 and state Rental Assistance to project-based programs developed as part of this initiative. DOH actively participates, a member of DOH staff is one of the chairs, in the Balance of State Continuum of Care Steering Committee and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Steering Committee Meetings. DOH is also a member of the Reaching Home Steering Committee. Reaching Home is the leadership structure for planning and oversight of a framework to end homelessness in Connecticut modeled after the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, *Opening Doors*.

Connecticut currently is implementing a Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grant, funded through CSH, in

which we created a data match between our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and our Medicaid data, to locate and provide permanent supportive housing to the high cost users of Medicaid who are also homeless.

Connecticut also created a Connecticut Collaborative on Re-entry (CCR), formerly know as the Frequent User Service Engagement (FUSE) program in which we matched data from the HMIS and our criminal justice system to permanently house individuals that cycle between jails and homeless shelters. Both programs are successful in reducing high cost institutional care. Services are designed to address the individual needs of the residents, and include the help of a case manager, connections to community treatment and employment services, and rehabilitation services that help the client achieve and retain permanent housing.

The State of Connecticut is planning to build on these successes to bring these programs to full scale. Although our state has been generous in appropriating over 100 million dollars for capital work, support services and rental assistance for permanent supportive housing, more resources are needed to meet the goal of ending chronic homelessness and youth and family homelessness. Connecticut has been successful in creating over 50 single site supportive housing properties that have resulted in over 1200 units of permanent supportive housing. In the past five years, Connecticut has been able to develop an additional 632 units of permanent supportive housing by prioritizing efforts through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC), the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP), and the Competitive Housing Assistance for Multifamily Properties (CHAMP).

Discussion

DOH will utilize all eligible resources administered by the DOH to reduce the reoccurrence of homelessness by assisting families who are leaving homeless shelters and transitional living programs to achieve housing stability by providing support services; Continue RRP to promote quick access to housing for those who are eligible; Utilize the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) to produce better placements and outcomes for the most vulnerable individuals in need of assistance; Implement the CT811 PRA program to locate project-based rental subsidies in areas where community-based services are available; Implement the homeless and prevention response fund which provides forgivable loans and grants to landlords to renovate multifamily homes in exchange for participation in the scattered site supportive housing program or participation in the rapid rehousing program; Implement the state-funded Eviction Foreclosure Prevention Program that assists families and individuals to remain in permanent housing.

Connecticut anticipates receiving \$2,366,278 in federal ESG funds for the Action Plan program beginning July 1, 2020. ESG funds are subject to availability from the federal government. ESG funds will be pooled with approximately \$6 M in annual funding from Connecticut's general operating budget and approximately \$6.5 M from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services TANF and Social Services

Block Grants.

The pool of federal and state dollars, allocated to local community and faith-based organizations and municipalities, is for the provision of temporary shelter for homeless individuals and families. The funds provide operational costs, essential services such as counseling, case management, health, education, employment and training as well as HMIS cost and rapid re-housing. It is projected that under the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG), federal ESG funds will be targeted as follows: Operations (Emergency Shelter) 50%; HMIS 4%; Rapid Re-Housing 41% and Administration 5%.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals – 91.320(k)(4)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	10
Tenant-based rental assistance	16
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	26

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.320(i)

Introduction:

The Analysis of impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) provides a very clear and attainable road map for addressing the various barriers to affordable housing in Connecticut. The barriers and action steps to ameliorate those barriers can be found in the most recent AI.

The state will reduce or eliminate the impact of barriers at the state, local and regional level in order to promote fair housing choice in Connecticut.

Actions it planned 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

The state will implement a variety of action steps to address a majority of the barriers identified in the AI . These include:

- Create and rehabilitate affordable housing in a variety of locations.
- Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing.
- Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments.
- Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility.
- Promote fair housing enforcement and education.

Discussion:

The following expands upon the above listed strategies for addressing the barriers to affordable housing:

- Create and rehabilitate affordable housing in a variety of locations: DOH will continue to assign a high point value for developments that achieve fair housing goals in historically under-served communities; DOH will increase funding flexibility to seize immediate development opportunities to increase affordable housing units in high opportunity communities; and DOH will evaluate the effectiveness of funding rounds in facilitating the creation of new family affordable housing units to ensure the availability of affordable family housing in diverse areas.
- Collaborate with other agencies to affirmatively further fair housing: DOH will participate in new and existing opportunities to align policies and funding with other agencies.
- Convene stakeholders to review potential legislative solutions to existing impediments: DOH will convene partner agencies, organization and stakeholders in the redrafting/carrying out of the Connecticut Fair Housing Regulations and Waiting List Regulations.
- Maximize the effectiveness of programs that promote mobility: DOH will work with mobility

counselors under contract to improve processes.

- Promote fair housing enforcement and education: DOH will work with mobility counselors under contract to improve processes.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.320(j)

Introduction:

Housing is a key component of attaining and sustaining local viability and, community health and ensuring a thriving community. Ensuring affordable housing options for both owners and renters is an important contributing factor to future community health. Additionally, many of Connecticut's most vulnerable citizens are in need of quality affordable housing with the availability of services. In order to address these needs, it is important to add new housing as well as preserve affordable housing presently serving households in need in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Housing development is linked to Connecticut's other public policy areas which include education, transportation, energy cost and availability, public health and safety, environmental quality, and economic development. These areas are not independent of each other. They are interconnected and interdependent. Just as transportation is not just a network of roads and bridges, housing is not just shelter. It is an integral part of the state's socio-economic fabric. Public policy and investment decisions made in one area directly and indirectly impact the other areas. As such, the state must comprehensively consider these relationships and take a multifaceted and balanced approach to addressing Connecticut's housing and community development needs.

Responsible Development and Sustainable Communities principles consider and connect all of the aforementioned public policy areas. These principles are in conformance with the state's Conservation and Development Policies Plan for Connecticut (C&D Plan), and the current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Because Responsible Growth and Sustainable Communities principles make the most efficient uses of energy, land, travel time, and other societal resources over the long-term they are incorporated into the state's Consolidated Plan. The state will use its federal formula grant funding and state resources to address Connecticut's housing and community development needs through the application of Responsible Growth and Sustainable Communities principles and by giving funding priority to projects that address multiple needs and leverage existing infrastructure and resources.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Each objective has a proposed funding source (or sources), a targeted population and geographic target, and a priority rating. Each objective is supported by a brief discussion of the need/basis for assigning the priority and identifying obstacles to meeting underserved needs summarized from the Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections of this plan.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The following strategies and goals will help to preserve and expand the supply of quality affordable

rental housing and to expand and maintain homeownership:

- Interdepartmental Cooperation
- Support Other Housing Providers
- Financial Resources - DOH, CHFA, and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) will continue to work at the state and federal level to increase the amount of resources available to build or renovate quality affordable housing.
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits - CHFA, through any necessary revision of the Low Income Tax Credit Qualified Allocation Plan, will ensure that the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program addresses the needs and priorities of this Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.
- Rental Housing - DOH and CHFA will individually and jointly finance quality affordable new rental housing and preserve existing state-assisted and/or CHFA finance housing stock by using private, federal, local, and state resources.
- Housing Rehabilitation - DOH will use its Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG) program, as well as other programs, to rehabilitate eligible owner-occupied and small rental housing.
- Homeownership Counseling - CHFA will continue its counseling process for first time borrowers to reduce default rates and will also work to reduce single family delinquencies and foreclosures through proactive intervention indicators.
- Homeownership for Person with Disabilities - DMHAS, DSS, DOH, and CHFA will promote homeownership opportunities for persons with disabilities who have been unable to access private financing.
- Mortgage Assistance - CHFA will continue to implement the Emergency Mortgage Assistance and CT FAMILIES (Connecticut Fair Alternative Mortgage Lending Initiative & Education Services) program as well as counseling initiatives and mediation efforts to assist economically distressed households maintain homeownership.
- Encourage and promote mixed use and transit-oriented development. To these ends, the DOH will: Prioritize funding requests for affordable housing projects that include mixed-uses and /or are located close to public transportation facilities and are on established bus routes.
- Encourage and support municipal efforts to create higher density residential zoning districts through the Incentive Housing Zone Program and other programs.
- Green Building - Encourage green building by the use of sustainable construction in new buildings that meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards or similar standards and through the use of tax credits, and in coordination with the Green Bank.
- Healthy Homes - DOH, CHFA, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Department of Public Health (DPH), DSS, local governments and property owners will work to help abate lead paint through the Connecticut Children's Healthy Home Program or other similar programs and work with DPH on the implementation of its 'Healthy Homes Initiative' which has been designed to promote and mainstream healthy housing principles to ensure that Connecticut's housing supply is dry, clean, pest-free, ventilated, safe, without contaminants,

maintained and accessible.

- Initiate use and testing of the Connecticut Opportunity Map: DOH has funded the development of this web-based mapping tool to illustrate the location of communities that have some or all of the characteristics that have been linked to education, economic and social success.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

In coordination with the Healthy Homes Initiative, which is spearheaded by the Department of Public Health (DPH), DOH continues to administer the federal Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program, which in Connecticut is referred to as Connecticut Children's Healthy Homes program in conjunction with the Connecticut Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP).

The goal is to enhance suitable living environments and create decent, healthy, and safe housing for low-and moderate-income persons through evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards and the implementation of Healthy Homes principles, assessment practices, and evidence-based interventions.

DOH will enhance suitable living environments and ensure the availability of a healthy, safe, and decent housing supply, that is free of lead-based paint, will incorporate the healthy housing principles (dry, clean, pest-free, ventilated, safe, without contaminants, maintained and accessible), and measures radon and reduces elevated levels. To achieve this DOH will do the following:

- Actively participate in the Statewide Healthy Homes Initiative meetings, as scheduled.
- Collaborate with the DPH Healthy Homes Initiative on the development and implementation of a uniform healthy homes assessment and intervention approach.
- Support the abatement or remediation of lead-based paint and lead-based hazards, damaged asbestos containing materials, elevated indoor radon levels, and other identified or known environmental hazards in housing units in collaboration with other state agencies and in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Lead-based paint testing, and remediation or abatement activities will be conducted in accordance with Regulations of CT State Agencies Section 19a-111 et.al., the final lead safe housing rule - [Title X of the Lead-based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (24CFR Pt 35)] the EPA Lead Paint: Renovation, Repair and Painting Program (RRP) effective April 22, 2010, and through healthy homes assessments and intervention strategies established in concert with the Department of Public Health.
- Fund up to three housing rehabilitation projects per year with the goal of making 20 units per year healthy homes (as defined in concert with the statewide Healthy Homes Initiative).
- Build the technical capacity of local housing agencies by sponsoring five (5) National Center for Healthy Homes (NCHH) training courses (1 course held annually, or as needed).
- Support the training and certification of DOH and/or local housing staff who are interested in seeking national certification as "healthy homes specialists." In particular, support two (2)

"Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners" training courses per year.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The five programs covered by the state's Consolidated Plan - SC/CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and NHTF - directly support the overall State Anti-Poverty Strategy by addressing the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of persons at or below the poverty level.

In addition to the five programs covered by the Consolidated Plan, the State of Connecticut, through several agencies and organizations employs numerous policies and programs to reduce the number of poverty level families within the state. These programs and the organizations that administer them are described within the Institutional Structure of this plan.

Additionally, the State of Connecticut has several statutory and federally mandated interconnected/interrelated plans that further articulate and constitute the State's Anti-Poverty Strategy. These plans include but are not limited to those enumerated below. The plans that follow are available online via the links provided:

- Connecticut's Economic Development Strategy: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DECD/Research-Publications/ED_StrategyPlans/2018_strategic_plan.pdf?la=en
- Conservation & Development Policies Plan: the Plan for Connecticut Revised Draft 2018-2023: <https://authoring.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/IGP/ORG/cdplan/20190214--Formatted-Document--20182023-Revised-State-CD-Plan.pdf?la=en>
- Department of Housing Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Plan: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOH/FY-20-21-Section-8-Administrative-Plan-Final.pdf?la=en>
- Department of Housing Rental Assistance Payment Program Plan: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOH/2019-RAP-Admin-Plan.pdf?la=en>

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Department of Housing (DOH) is identified as the "first point of contact" for the institutional structure presented in this plan. This role is supported at three levels through: (1) designation by the legislature to serve as the State's lead agency; (2) the role as "grantee" of various HUD program funds; and (3) the mission to serve all the citizens of Connecticut. DOH will: (1) conduct and foster open participation, including supportive assistance, with the goal of facilitating meaningful involvement; (2) work to increase participation at all levels, especially among extremely low- and very low-income groups, as well as those traditionally under-represented; and (3) involve organizations that represent need populations across Connecticut.

The state recognizes the importance of partnering with other agencies to help serve its housing and

community development needs. Nonprofit agencies play an important role in the provision of affordable housing, supportive housing and social services, and economic development activities. Local organizations with direct public contact have a clear view and understanding of the state's housing and human service needs. Such organizations are an essential part of the state's institutional structure and typically serve in one or more of the following capacities: (1) are eligible to receive public and private funds or resources targeted at serving need populations; (2) are legally restricted or structured by organizational charter to serve lower income or specific need populations; (3) are identified by regulation, program or otherwise allowed to undertake certain governmental programs serving need populations; or (4) have daily contact with, represent or advocate on behalf of, certain populations in need.

Private sector participants, in the preservation or development of the state's housing and community development delivery system, include financial institutions, builders/developers, foundations and realtors. Local financial institutions provide construction financing, low interest rehabilitation loans, mortgage financing and loan servicing, while builders/developers are active in participating in affordable housing projects. Many private businesses and organizations are involved or support the efforts of public agencies to provide human services and opportunities throughout Connecticut. Based on the needs and objectives developed in the *ConPlan*, the state is prepared to support applications for assistance by other entities that serve to accomplish the goals set forth in the plan.

Connecticut will pursue and support efforts to develop urban/suburban and regional partnerships, in addition to collaboration with private and non-profit development corporations. The collective efforts of all parties will ensure that available resources are allocated to priority activities.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

Connecticut is comprised of many types of communities. The complementary nature between proposed services and programs and other, current government programs are determined, in part, by the mission of each service provider in the system. Factors such as a municipality's current housing infrastructure, the size and expertise of its professional staff, access to transportation, and the relative affordability of its housing stock, all help determine realistic strategies for a town to pursue. The coordination and delivery capabilities described in the *ConPlan* Institutional Structure will compliment the State's present efforts to foster coordination of services.

As lead agency designated in the *ConPlan* to coordinate and manage the process, DOH is responsible for providing oversight and coordination to the related service providers and the public on HUD-related matters. Consultation with outside individuals and agencies was programmed as a vital part of the *ConPlan* development. Contribution included both public and private, individual and agency, profit and non-profit, local, regional and state entities.

The State provides direct guidance to its funding recipients on various program requirements. Technical

assistance and monitoring are the primary means of fostering the state's awareness of Small Cities/CDBG program participants meeting the requirements of the federal CDBG program. These efforts are designed to: (a) achieve CDBG program objectives; (b) increase its capacity to understand and administer all aspects of the Small Cities program in an efficient and effective manner; (c) meets its statutory requirements and certifications; and (d) resolve any problems or issues identified as a result of a review.

Successful implementation of the state *Fair Housing Plan* will require coordination between several state agencies. Connecticut can begin addressing limitations on fair housing choice by achieving the following six objectives: (1) providing better training of state employees in the area of fair housing; (2) expanding fair housing outreach and education activities; (3) increasing monitoring and enforcement of fair housing laws and policies; (4) improving the infrastructure necessary for viable diverse communities; (5) increasing the supply of affordable housing; and, (6) increasing the access of racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and families with children to the existing supply of housing.

The Interagency Council on Supportive Housing was co-chaired by the Secretary of OPM and the Director of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness. Legislative changes and additions to the Council have lead to the current Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing and Homelessness. The Committee was established to develop and implement strategies and solutions to address the problems associated with homelessness, including the development of supportive housing options and reducing inappropriate use of emergency health care, shelter, chemical dependency, corrections, foster care, and similar services. It also addresses improving the health, employability, self-sufficiency, and other social outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Membership includes the Commissioners (or their designees) of the Departments of Children and Families (DCF), Correction (DOC), DOH, Mental Health and Addictive Services (DMHAS), DPH, Social Services (DSS), and Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of OPM, the Corporation for Supportive Housing and the Executive Director of CHFA. Through various supportive housing, the Committee is responsible for the creation or development of more than 4,000 permanent supportive housing units.

Discussion:

Connecticut has a large network of capable non-profit housing and social service providers, and the state is interested in effecting coordination among these providers and the local government. Toward this end, the state will encourage coordination among these providers. Of particular note is the on-going communication between the state and such organizations in the areas of fair housing, program policy and funding requests. Through these types of working partnerships, the lead agency can ensure that available resources are used to their fullest potential.

As part of the development process for the *Consolidated Plan*, the lead agency has held public hearing(s) and has invited housing and social service providers to discuss the most pressing needs of the community. These hearings have helped bring groups together in an effort to coordinate their

resources and efforts.

The state has strengthened its efforts to produce and preserve affordable housing within the state through the involvement of state departments and agencies, as well as other agencies at the local, regional, state and federal level. The state will continue to foster relationships with other governmental agencies, as well as neighboring jurisdictions in the furtherance of the goals and objectives for preserving the supply of affordable housing and promoting community development activities as set forth in this *Consolidated Plan*.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.320(k)(1,2,3)

Introduction:

This annual Action Plan is the first action plan under the State of Connecticut's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (*ConPlan*), the five-year plan addressing Connecticut's housing and community development needs. The state submits the *ConPlan* to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to be eligible to receive funding under the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) Programs. The program year for the annual Action Action Plan is based on the state fiscal year, July 1 - June 30. The 2020-2021 Action Plan is for the state fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. In addition, the *ConPlan* identifies the state's housing priorities for the next five years for all of its anticipated state and federal resources.

This Action Plan is the first implementation plan for the goals, objectives and strategies outlined in the state's 2020-2021 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. This Action Plan describes how the state will use allocated funds by the state to address its affordable housing needs and by the federal government in connection with the five federal Community Planning and Development (CPD) formula grant programs.

In this Action Plan, we have outlined the state's proposed accomplishments for program year 2020-2021 based on the performance measurement system presented in the draft 2020-2024 *ConPlan*, which is consistent with HUD's Notice of Outcome Performance Measurement System for Community Planning and Development Formula Grant Programs published in the Federal Register on March 7, 2006. Please refer to "Section V. Program Activities, Sub-section F. Performance Measurement Section" of this Action Plan for more detail regarding the objectives and outcomes. It is expected that the CAPER containing performance data for the 2020-2021 annual Action Plan program year with regard to the five federal CPD formula grant programs will be submitted to HUD in September 2020.

This Action Plan provides a detailed plan for expending FY 2020-21 funds for the following federal

programs:

Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG) \$13,851,472

HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) \$9,447,328

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) \$265,668

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) \$2,366,278

National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) \$3,750,859

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is

as follows:

The State of Connecticut will continue its effort to strengthen the abilities of state and local governments to expand and preserve the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing with the use of FY 2020-21 HOME funds. All HOME Program assisted rental and home ownership units will meet all program guidelines for income eligibility and accessibility.

DOH will invest in the production of affordable housing through new construction or rehabilitation only when it determines that the units produced will remain affordable for the minimum required time period under the HOME Program. DOH, at its discretion, may extend the affordability period beyond the minimum required by the HOME Program. If HOME funds are used for homebuyers, the state will abide by the guidelines for resale and recapture as required in Section 92.254 of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consolidated Final Rule, HUD CPD Notice 12-003 and HUD CPD Notice 12-007.

Pursuant to Sec. 92.218-92.222 of the HOME Final Rule, the Participating Jurisdiction (PJ) incurs a 25% matching obligation for the HOME funds it expends, unless a waiver is provided by HUD due to Fiscal Distress and/or Presidential Disaster Declaration. We anticipate there will be a match requirement for this year's HOME funds.

DOH receives HOME program income from grantees, in the form of loan repayments. The amount of program income listed in the Resources Allocation Plan is an estimate of what would be available during the program year, based on the average received by DOH over the last three program years. Program income funds are made available for HOME program eligible activities as described herein.

The state is also seeking to expand access to affordable housing through the utilization of partnerships with stakeholders and other funding organizations that leverage non-state resources for development or preservation of affordable housing. Geographically, HOME funds will be available to all 169 communities. DOH will accept applications for all HOME Program eligible activities including Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). DOH is open to but not limited to the following sources of investment: equity investments, interest-bearing loans or advances, non-interest-bearing loans or advances, interest subsidies, deferred payment loans, grants and loan guarantees.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

DOH normally will not permit resale restrictions unless it is required by 24 CFR Part 92.254 or if the sponsor has a long-standing history in owning and/or managing affordable housing.

Homeowner Rehabilitation: For homeowner rehabilitation projects, DOH will look to recapture the

entire subsidy during the period of affordability.

Homebuyer Assistance: For homebuyer projects, DOH may utilize HOME funds to assist homebuyers provided either resale or recapture requirements are met and in compliance with 24 CFR Part 92.254.

The following provisions shall apply to homeownership projects: Affordability period requirements, direct subsidy requirements, development subsidy requirements, and affordability enforcement requirements.

Resale Provisions

- The following provisions shall apply to resale restricted projects as described below: Fair return on investment shall be equal to the average change in the Consumer Price Index over the original homebuyer's period of ownership to the time of resale times the homebuyer's original investment plus the residual value of the documented cost of unsubsidized improvements; Residual value shall be the value of the capital improvement after allowable depreciation in accordance with current Internal Revenue Service standards for depreciation of fixed assets; Capital improvement shall mean any substantial material alteration to the appearance of the unit.
- A resale restriction requires the resale of the unit to HOME Program qualified homebuyers throughout its affordability.
- The family must ensure that the housing is made available for subsequent purchase only to a buyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family.
- Resale price must provide the original HOME-assisted owner a fair return on investment.
- The resale requirement must ensure that the housing under a resale provision will remain affordable.

A **subsidy recapture** requires that any sale after the initial sale of a HOME Program assisted ownership unit or a homeowner rehabilitation unit during the affordability period trigger a repayment of a portion of the HOME Program subsidy that the buyer received when they originally purchased or rehabilitated the unit. Subsidy recapture is limited to direct homebuyer assistance (not developer subsidy) and subsidy recapture shall be structured so that it is reduced using the following formula:

$$\text{Yearly Reduction} = 1/\#$$

(Where "#" equals the number of years of affordability required)

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

DOH normally will not permit resale restrictions unless it is required by 24 CFR Part 92.254 or if the

sponsor has a long-standing history in owning and/or managing affordable housing.

Homeowner Rehabilitation: For homeowner rehabilitation projects, DOH will look to recapture the entire subsidy during the period of affordability.

Homebuyer Assistance: For homebuyer projects, DOH may utilize HOME funds to assist homebuyers provided either resale or recapture requirements are met and in compliance with 24 CFR Part 92.254.

The following provisions shall apply to homeownership projects: Affordability period requirements, direct subsidy requirements, development subsidy requirements, and affordability enforcement requirements.

Resale Provisions

- The following provisions shall apply to resale restricted projects as described below: Fair return on investment shall be equal to the average change in the Consumer Price Index over the original homebuyer's period of ownership to the time of resale times the homebuyer's original investment plus the residual value of the documented cost of unsubsidized improvements; Residual value shall be the value of the capital improvement after allowable depreciation in accordance with current Internal Revenue Service standards for depreciation of fixed assets; Capital improvement shall mean any substantial material alteration to the appearance of the unit.
- A resale restriction requires the resale of the unit to HOME Program qualified homebuyers throughout its affordability.
- The family must ensure that the housing is made available for subsequent purchase only to a buyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family.
- Resale price must provide the original HOME-assisted owner a fair return on investment.
- The resale requirement must ensure that the housing under a resale provision will remain affordable.

A **subsidy recapture** requires that any sale after the initial sale of a HOME Program assisted ownership unit or a homeowner rehabilitation unit during the affordability period trigger a repayment of a portion of the HOME Program subsidy that the buyer received when they originally purchased or rehabilitated the unit. Subsidy recapture is limited to direct homebuyer assistance (not developer subsidy) and subsidy recapture shall be structured so that it is reduced using the following formula:

Yearly Reduction = 1/#

(Where "#" equals the number of years of affordability required)

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

Refinancing of Existing Permanent Debt (applies only to nonprofit developers):

DOH may permit the use of HOME funds toward the cost of fully or partially refinancing an existing permanent mortgage loan on rental property provided, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the following conditions are met:

- The rehabilitation of the housing must be the primary eligible activity. Therefore, the cost of the rehabilitation of the housing must equal or exceed \$25,000 per HOME-assisted unit;
- The new investment is being made to create additional affordable units;
- The housing has not been previously financed with HOME funds;
- A review of the management practices of the applicant must demonstrate that the proposed rehabilitation is not the result of dis-investment in the property by any entity involved in the application for HOME funds;
- A review of the proposed operating budget for the project must demonstrate that both the cost of the refinancing and the needed rehabilitation of the project can be met and still result in the affordability of the units to HOME-eligible tenants for a period of 15 years or the term of the refinancing, whichever is longer;
- When compared to the refinancing terms being proposed, the loan being refinanced must have: An interest rate higher than the proposed refinancing; or, a lump-sum repayment requirement (a balloon payment);
- Priority may be given to projects located in a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2), a federally-designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community, a state-designated Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, or Neighborhood Stabilization Program; and
- The activity does not involve the refinancing of a multifamily loan made or insured by any state or federal program, including the SC/CDBG Program.

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.320(k)(3)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

Connecticut anticipates receiving \$2,366,278 in federal ESG funds for the Action Plan program year July 1, 2020. ESG funds are subject to availability from the federal government. If changes to this distribution become necessary, procedures outlined below will be observed in making those changes. ESG funds will be pooled with approximately 5,800,000 in annual funding from Connecticut's general operating budget and approximately \$6,500,000 from federal Social Services

Block Grants.

Should the amount of the allocation by the federal government be greater or lesser than the anticipated allocation denoted, these funds will be distributed on a prorated basis as described in this section. During the FY, DOH may recapture funds from previous fiscal years due to any of the following: a) nonperformance; underutilization; or program income.

Funds may be reallocated based on demand and/or emergency situations. In the event that additional funds are allocated that affect DOH's initial allocation and/or are recaptured from other states and reallocated to DOH during the FY, these funds will be distributed in accordance with the Action Plan guidelines in effect as of the date of reallocation.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

DOH has aligned its emergency shelter services with Emergency Solution Grants expectations. ESG funds may be used for the following components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing, HMIS and administrative costs. DOH issued a Request for Proposals from shelter providers in order to allocate a majority of the anticipated ESG funding. The remaining balance of the ESG was identified for two purposes: HMIS local system administration for the Balance of State Continuum of Care agencies to assist with AHAR reports and ESG-financial assistance for the literally homeless households located in Balance of State communities. It should be noted that the HMIS allocation and ESG-financial assistance allocation includes allowable administrative costs.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

DOH administers these funds by providing assistance to seven (7) non-profit organizations. In addition, DOH provides state and other funding to those providers who are experienced, well established in their communities and provides quality services. The funding received from ESG enables the organizations to provide shelter beds, case management services and rapid re-housing services to homeless persons. DOH is currently developing a more formal process for the future allocation of all sources of funds to homeless shelters.

The pool of federal and state dollars, allocated to local community faith-based organizations and municipalities, is for the provision of temporary shelter for homeless individuals and families. The funds provide operational costs, essential services such as counseling, case management, health education, employment and training as well as HMIS costs and rapid re-housing. It is projected that under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG), federal ESG funds will be targeted as follows: Operations (Emergency Shelter) 50%; HMIS 4%; Rapid Re-housing 42% and Administration 5%.

Through competitive procurement, DOH has awarded five (5) ESG funded shelters: three (3) shelters

that support families and two (2) shelters for both families and individuals. These shelters were previously established due to the documented need to support homeless individuals and families. As needs are identified in local communities, DOH examines its current financial capability to determine if there is financial and program support for new shelters. In addition to ESG funded shelters, DOH also funds an additional 32 shelters utilizing state and federal funds, which bring the total funded shelters to 37. DOH intends to utilize ESG monies for Rapid Re-housing for this fiscal year. DOH has awarded a non-profit the right to act as the ESG financial assistance fiduciary agency. At a minimum 40% of the annual ESG allocation will go to this fiduciary to administer financial assistance requested by housing relocation and stabilization agencies. DOH has leveraged existing resources to provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services to support the Rapid Re-housing program to ensure that homeless households will have a better chance of remaining stably housed. Through competitive procurement, seven (7) agencies have been awarded assistance to aid our homeless population with housing relocation and up to 12 months of stabilization services and in-home case management. These seven agencies receive referrals for services and financial assistance through their local Coordinated Access Network (CAN).

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

Consultation was sought with the CT Balance of State (BOS) Continuum of Care (CoC) Steering Committee on the proposal for the Emergency Solutions Grant's Program. This process was conducted to seek input and address any concerns that might identify gaps or deficiencies in the proposed service(s). Members were notified of the public hearing(s) to be held for the development of the Action Plan, and encouraged to provide written comment. A letter of support is anticipated.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

DOH has negotiated the client-based outcomes and measures with directors of emergency shelters listed below. Each shelter will select and negotiate individual numerical outcomes and measures with DOH staff and will submit monthly statistical demographics reports, as well as ESG annual performance reports. DOH has also added contractual language as it relates to Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) requirements and utilization. The projected numerical goals represent statewide outcomes that will be evaluated every six months.

Clients will attain alternative housing and/or access to social and/or access to treatment services. Alternative housing includes, but is not limited to, transitional housing, residential treatment programs, supportive and permanent housing. Social services include but are not limited to domestic violence abuse counseling, family counseling, educational and employment and

financial counseling, childcare, security deposit and rental assistance programs. Treatment services include, but are not limited to, residential and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and medical treatment.

Measure 1: At least 40% of clients access permanent housing.

Measure 2: No more than 15% of clients are discharged to homelessness.

Measure 3: At least 100% of clients access additional social and/or outpatient treatment services as needed in the housing plan.

Measure 4: For clients whose housing plans include agreed upon goals of accessing information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services as defined in the program component selected above, in order to make informed decisions about their health, education, finances, housing and other identified needs, 100% were provided with such information, as individually appropriate, in order to enable them to make informed decisions on meeting those needs. 100% of clients have come into the program through local coordinated access.

Measure 5: The monthly shelter utilization rate, as reported in the Monthly Shelter Utilization Report, shall be at or above 80%.

Measure 6: If the monthly shelter utilization rate falls under 80% for more than 3 months consistently during this contract period, the contractor will communicate with DOH to explain the reasons for the low utilization rate.

In a broader perspective, the state will use its federal formula grant funding and state resources to address Connecticut's housing and community development needs through the application of Responsible Growth and Sustainable Communities principles and by giving funding priority to projects that address multiple needs and leverage existing infrastructure and resources.

At the end of each program year, the state must also prepare a CAPER to provide information to HUD and citizens about that year's accomplishments. The CAPER is the annual report that summarizes activities undertaken and details the progress the state has made in carrying out the Consolidate Plan and the annual Action Plan. Performance Measures are also reported based on actual outcomes for proposed accomplishments that appeared in the corresponding program year Action Plan. This information allows for evaluation of the state's performance to determine whether the activities undertaken during the program year addressed the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. The CAPER is due to HUD within 90 days after the end of the state's program year.

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(5)

1. How will the grantee distribute its HTF funds? Select all that apply:

Applications submitted by eligible recipients

2. If distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees, describe the method for distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees and how those funds will be made available to state agencies and/or units of general local government. If not distributing funds through grants to subgrantees, enter "N/A".

Not Applicable.

3. If distributing HTF funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients,

a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Applications will only be accepted from eligible recipients which include: units of general local government (including other PJ's: Participating Jurisdictions), for-profit and not-for-profit entities (including CHDO's and local housing authorities), and joint ventures among various types of entities.

Every contract for construction or substantial rehabilitation shall comply with state and federal labor standards. Furthermore, every contract for the construction or rehabilitation of housing that includes 12 or more NHTF-assisted units must comply with the Davis Bacon Act, 40 USC 276a-5.

Eligible recipients must meet the following thresholds:

- Must have completed at least one affordable housing project using state (Flex, State Housing Trust Fund) or Federal (HOME, LIHTC) funds on time and within budget.
- Must have completed at least one affordability project of a similar size and scope to the proposed NHTF activity.
- Must have sufficient financial capacity or access to appropriate capital to obligate NHTF funds.
- Must operate at least one affordable housing project in accordance with state or federal obligations, or have contracted for management services with such experience.
- Must provide a certification that any housing units assisted will comply with NHTF requirements.

- Must provide a certification of compliance with all existing DOH assistance agreements and cannot be in default under any CHFA or HUD-administered program at the time of application; and
- Must provide a certification/demonstration of compliance with all fair housing and equal employment opportunities obligations/guidelines.

b. Describe the grantee’s application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

The Department of Housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is inviting any Developer/Owner that is looking to apply for funding and/or other resources from DOH and/or CHFA for the new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and/or preservation of affordable housing in the next calendar year to participate in a new *Developer Engagement Process*.

This process is intended to identify and to create a pipeline of potential activity for future funding opportunities including but not limited to new construction, substantial rehabilitation and/or preservation of affordable and supportive housing.

Developers/applicants should complete the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile* that describes the project, development or concept as it currently stands. There is no requirement to engage a consultant, prepare any formal documentation, obtain any approvals or expend any funds in order to complete and submit the *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*.

Upon receipt of a *DOH/CHFA Development Engagement Profile*, developers/applicants will be contacted by DOH to schedule a face-to-face meeting with DOH and CHFA staff to discuss the proposed activity outlined. When funding is available, including HOME, NHTF, and state bond funds, projects in the pipeline will be invited to make an application.

- Applicants for NHTF must meet the minimum program eligibility and threshold requirements;
- Depending on the nature of the proposed activity, site inspections may be conducted by DOH staff. An evaluation of the site's feasibility will be completed and considered as part of the review process.
- Project selection will be made on a competitive basis in accordance with the Ranking and Rating Criteria. The Selection Criteria include: affordability, marketability and fair housing; applicant capacity; project feasibility and readiness to proceed; and responsible growth and livability initiatives.

c. Describe the selection criteria that the grantee will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Project selection will be made on a competitive basis in accordance with the Ranking and Rating Criteria. The Selection Criteria include: affordability, marketability and fair housing; applicant capacity; project feasibility and readiness to proceed; and responsible growth and livability initiatives.

d. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on geographic diversity (as defined by the grantee in the consolidated plan). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Funding under the HOME and NHTF programs will be available in all 169 communities. However, preference will be given to activities in higher opportunity areas as demonstrated through Opportunity Mapping at the DOH website in accordance with the most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Priority will be given to applications for projects in the higher "opportunity areas" with points being distributed as follows: Very High = 14 points, High = 10 points, Moderate = 4 points.

Additionally, if a project is located in a municipality where there is less than 10% affordable housing as identified in the Affordable Housing Appeals List, points will be awarded for the creation or preservation of units with 2 or more bedrooms. 2 points will be awarded for every 4 units of non-age restricted housing created or preserved, up to a maximum of 16 points.

e. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Capacity of eligible applicants will be evaluated in accordance with the applicant's ability to obligate NHTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner.

f. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the rental project has Federal, State, or local project-based rental assistance so that rents are affordable to extremely low-income families. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Eligible housing shall consist of affordable housing that has maximum rent (including utilities) that is established at 30 percent of the annual income of a family whose income equals 30 percent of AMI or 30% of the poverty line, whichever is greater. HUD will publish the NHTF rent limits on an annual

basis. NHTF maximum rents will not exceed the HUD published NHTF rents, on an annual basis.

- Income from all family members must be included when determining income eligibility. DOH will utilize the definition of annual income in 24 CFR 5.609 (Section 8 definitions).
- If the NHTF-assisted unit receives Federal or State project-based rental subsidy, the maximum rent is the rent allowable under the Federal or State project-based rental subsidy program.
- Utility Allowances - DOH will allow the use of any of the following relative to utility allowance schedules: Published utility allowance schedules for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, as calculated and published by administering entity; Published utility allowance schedules for the state Rental Assistance Payments Program, as calculated and published by DOH; or Results of a documented utility study consistent with industry standards on the same or similar units.
- DOH shall annually review and approve rents for NHTF units.
- In a project containing NHTF-assisted and other units, the grantee may designate fixed or floating NHTF units. This designation must be made at the time of project commitment in the written agreement between the DOH and the recipient, and the NHTF units must be identified not later than the time of project completion. Fixed units must remain the same throughout the affordability period. Floating units must be changed to maintain conformity with NHTF requirements during the affordability period so that the total number of housing units meeting the requirements remains the same.

An NHTF-assisted unit that has either project-based State or project-based Federal rental assistance attached to it may not also receive NHTF operating cost assistance.

If project-based State or project-based Federal rental assistance is included as noted below, the applicable program requirements related to site and neighborhood standards will apply to NHTF-assisted units.

g. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Units that have an affordability period of less than thirty years will be deemed ineligible to receive NHTF funds.

h. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the grantee (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development

features, or housing that serves special needs populations). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

Priority consideration will be given to projects or activities that are consistent with priorities detailed in the most recent ConPlan. These priorities are determined as follows:

Projects that include the incorporation of sustainable development standards into all project designs, including green building standards, alternate energy sources, water conservation, land design conservation, and energy conservation, will be prioritized.

Projects that are a mixed-income development, where a portion of the units are not income restricted and the projected rents of the non-restricted units are targeted to income levels substantially higher than the restricted units will be prioritized.

Projects that preserve or increase affordable housing for ELI will be prioritized, from highest to lowest as follows:

- Highest Priority: More than 15% and up to 20%.
- More than 10% and up to and including 15%.
- 5% or more up to and including 10%.
- Lowest priority: 30% or more. Project may not be recommended for funding.

Projects that preserve or increase affordable housing for low income households will be prioritized, from highest to lowest as follows:

- Highest Priority: More than 25% and up to and including 30%.
- More than 15% and up to and including 25%.
- Lowest Priority: 5% or more up to and including 15%.

i. Describe the grantee’s required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

Priority consideration will be given to those projects/activities that leverage non-federal funding sources. DOH will look at the percentage of DOH's investment versus the total development cost. Other state funds, including but not limited to Urban Act, Brownfield, HTCC, State Historic Tax Credits, and CRDA, are not considered leverage for the purposes of this scoring category

In addition, DOH will look at whether the project is located in a census tract where other state or

municipal housing, economic, community development, or other funding is planned or underway.

NHTF funds will be provided as non-interest bearing loans or advances, deferred payment loans, or grants. Program income is not anticipated as a result of these subsidy types.

4. Does the grantee's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

5. Does the grantee's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

6. Performance Goals and Benchmarks. The grantee has met the requirement to provide for performance goals and benchmarks against which the grantee will measure its progress, consistent with the grantee's goals established under 24 CFR 91.315(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

Yes

7. Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount for Housing Assisted with HTF Funds. Enter or attach the grantee's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

DOH will use the HUD generated HOME Maximum Subsidy Limits for the NHTF program, in order to ensure consistency in design and project development.

8. Rehabilitation Standards. The grantee must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The grantee's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. The grantee must attach its rehabilitation standards below.

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; and Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable).

Prior to occupancy, all newly constructed or substantially rehabilitated units must be in full compliance with all of the following policies, regulations, statutes and requirements:

1. 2020 Multifamily Design, Construction and Sustainability Standards - The standards are not intended to reduce or circumvent the requirements of law and current applicable codes. Although they apply primarily to new construction, they also apply to rehabilitation of existing structures as applicable to the proposed scope of work. These standards may be modified on where the particular characteristics of the site or other local conditions make compliance impractical or undesirable. If an applicant is unable to comply with any of the items listed, the applicant must contact DOH to discuss; at such time, additional requirements may be necessary.
2. 2020 Construction Guidelines: Technical Services/Asset Management (TSAM) and Capital Improvement Guide (CIG). Individual building materials, components, fabrications, and equipment for all proposed repair, replacement and capital improvement projects shall comply with all Building Codes, State and Federal regulations and the applicable sections(s) of the current "Multifamily Design, Construction and Sustainability Standards." To determine the Technical Services process for reviewing specific Asset Management capital improvement, repair and replacement projects, consult the "Construction Guidelines: Technical Services/Asset Management (TSAM) Capital Improvement Project Review."
3. 2020 Construction Guidelines: Project Planning & Technical Services Review DOH requires that all building materials, components, fabrications, and equipment for all proposed repair, replacement and capital improvement work be completed in accordance with all

applicable Building Codes, State and Federal regulations and current "Multifamily Design, Construction and Sustainability Standards - CHFA" (the Standards). The "Construction Guidelines: Technical Services/Asset Management (TSAM) Capital Improvement Project Review" outline the Technical Services process for reviewing specific Asset Management capital improvement, as well as repair and replacement projects associated with the useful life of major systems.

4. 2020 Construction Guidelines: Environmental & Hazardous Materials: These environmental/hazardous material guidelines shall be followed for providing construction financing of multifamily developments pertaining to both new construction and the rehabilitation of existing buildings & properties. These guidelines provide specific guidance relevant to, but are not limited to the following: lead-based paint, asbestos, radon, mold, flood classification and/or flood zone.
5. 2018 Connecticut State Building Code, effective October 1, 2018 - At a minimum, all activities using NHTF are required to comply with the above or most current code.
6. 2020 construction Guidelines: Energy Conservation

9. Resale or Recapture Guidelines. Below, the grantee must enter (or attach) a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

Not Applicable

10. HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits. If the grantee intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

N/A.

11. Grantee Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences. Describe how the grantee will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action

plan. If the grantee will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population, enter "N/A."

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the grantee must not limit or give preferences to students. The grantee may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

NHTF provides formula grants to states to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low-income and very low-income households, including homeless families. DOH currently intends to coordinate the use of NHTF with the application process for both HOME and state bond funding, as well as federal Section 811 PRA and other funds to develop/rehabilitate ELI housing. It will be used to leverage the development of units targeted for extremely low-income families with a priority for the development of permanent supportive housing units.

Projects that preserve or increase affordable housing for ELI will be prioritized.

12. Refinancing of Existing Debt. Enter or attach the grantee's refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the grantee will refinance existing debt. The grantee's refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the grantee will not refinance existing debt, enter "N/A."

N/A.

Discussion:

The purpose of the Consolidated Plan and Actions Plans is multifaceted, and attempts to balance the federal requirement for accessing certain federal block grants with the need to distribute state resources in accordance with statutory obligations. The State of Connecticut applies for and administers five federal formula grant programs for affordable housing and community development activities:

- Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (SC/CDBG) - The SC/CDBG Program assists smaller cities/towns across the state to address their affordable housing, community development and economic development needs, refer to 24 CFR part 570, subparts D and I;
- HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) - The HOME Program funds the acquisition, construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing around the state, refer to 24 CFR part 92;

- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) - the ESG Program provides funds to emergency shelters, transitional housing for the homeless, and essential social services both to assist the homeless and to prevent homelessness, refer to 24 CFR 576;
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) - The HOPWA Program aids not for profit organizations in meeting the housing and social service needs of persons with AIDS and HIV related illnesses and their families, refer to 24 CFR 574; and
- National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) - NHTF provides formula grants to states to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low-income and very low-income households, including homeless families, refer to section 1131 of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289). Section 1131 amended the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.) to add a new section 1337 "Affordable Housing Allocation" and a new section 1338, "Housing Trust Fund."