

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

Bucks County has continued to focus on the goals and objectives as outlined in the five year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan for 2015. During Program year 2015, the County process of reevaluation of all programs and initiatives has been strengthened in order to ensure that the initiatives and the focus areas outlined in the five Year Consolidated Plan for services through 2019 can be met. The County also continued to address the many challenges and changes in the staffing and organization of the Department Housing and Community Development, the implementing agency for the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. Under a revised vision and leadership plan for the Department, the County has begun to recognize enhanced efficiencies and outcomes based performance measurements.. The County has completed projects which increased the supply and quality of affordable housing, improved and enhanced public services, and filled in the gaps for many persons in need. Over three million dollars' worth of expenditures were directly related to meeting the goals established for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG program areas.

The changes made are having a positive impact on the process and can be expected to continue. Although there are still selected projects which have fallen behind schedule, the County is now working closely with our partner agencies and municipalities to ensure continued progress on all projects. The process to solicit applications, perform appropriate reviews, enter into contracts, and fully implement projects has been modified to enhance efficiency. The process is decreasing the total time from application through implementation and thus should significantly increase timely expenditure of funds. The County also has strengthened efforts to ensure that all expenditures are for eligible projects, fit national objectives, and clearly meet identified community needs. In the coming year it is expected that there will be additional modifications to the way in which the County solicits input for projects as well as applications for funding, further expediting the development of needed projects and services for the community.

As noted previously, there have been challenges faced by many of the partnering agencies in the development and operations of affordable housing units. Staffing and financial issues impacted the ability of several agencies to move ahead with projects in a timely manner. The County has taken major steps to facilitate new partnerships and ventures in coordination with these agencies to address problems and ensure adequate capacity to develop and implement projects. The past year has shown significant improvement in the capacity of our partnering agencies to manage existing projects and look toward future growth.

Please refer to Appendices A, B, and C for the detailed listing of expenditures as follows:

Appendix A - HOME program

Appendix B - ESG Program

Appendix C - CDBG Program

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

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

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Build Inclusive and Sustainable Communities	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	33875	0	0.00%	6755	0	0.00%

Build Inclusive and Sustainable Communities	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	3650	0	0.00%	790	0	0.00%
Build Inclusive and Sustainable Communities	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	250	0	0.00%	50	0	0.00%
Build Inclusive and Sustainable Communities	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	30	0	0.00%	6	0	0.00%
Improve Existing Housing Stock	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	410	0	0.00%	82	0	0.00%
Improve Existing Housing Stock	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	130	0	0.00%	26	0	0.00%

Improve the Housing Crisis Response System	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / ESG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	1175	0	0.00%	235	0	0.00%
Improve the Housing Crisis Response System	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	112	0	0.00%	44	0	0.00%
Improve the Housing Crisis Response System	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	2084	0	0.00%	521	0	0.00%
Increase Affordable Housing Opportunities	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	77	0	0.00%	61	0	0.00%
Increase Affordable Housing Opportunities	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	28	0	0.00%	12	0	0.00%

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

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan,

giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

Funding of Rental Housing

The County, in partnership with various non-profit agencies, continued to make it a priority to locate, maintain, and fund housing for low and moderate income families ensuring that consideration is given to abused women and their children, disabled persons (physically or mentally disabled), and minority populations. While the focus has been on the development of new units, there has been a continuing effort to ensure that existing rental units operated by our agency standards are decent, safe, sanitary, and free of lead paint hazards. As had been the past practice, in PY 2015, the County allocated funding to address major rehabilitation and reconstruction needs for these properties.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program

Bucks County continued to support its Tenant Based Assistance Program. The Bucks County program is run in partnership with the Bucks County Department of Children and Youth. The program pays security deposit, rent, and utilities for a period of up to two years. While in the program, participants are required to actively take part in a custom designed program providing education, training, and job life skills needed to move the family toward self-sufficiency. During Program Year 2015, the County took an extensive look at the operations of this program and reviewed all policies and procedures to ensure continued compliance with program regulations.

Low-Income Homeowner Rehabilitation Program

For over twenty years Bucks County has operated a program to assist low-income homeowners to bring their properties up to local code. The program provides up to \$15,000 per qualified homeowner to conduct a variety of eligible housing improvements. The amount increases to \$25,000 if accessibility improvements are needed, and to \$50,000 for lead paint hazard mitigation if required.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME	ESG
White	1,499	29	0
Black or African American	74	20	0
Asian	11	0	0
American Indian or American Native	1	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0	0
Total	1,586	49	0
Hispanic	67	10	0
Not Hispanic	1,519	39	0

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

Narrative

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CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG		6,793,412	6,199
HOME		2,811,488	67,287
ESG		628,044	

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Bucks County - Non Site Specific	97		General Population of Bucks County
Bucks County - Non Site Specific	98		General Population of Bucks County
Bucks County Enterprise Zone	2		
Bucks County Enterprise Zone	3		

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Leveraging

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

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

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

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

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

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

Table 7 – Program Income

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

Table 8 – Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

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

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

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

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

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CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	18	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	18	0

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	26	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	73	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	82	0
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	181	0

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

The basic goals of the funded programs continue to be met. In general, the outcomes as reported for units and households served are positive considering the expenditures during the Program Year. An increased emphasis on performance measurement will enable the County to assess progress toward goal completion and make necessary adjustments in project purpose and focus to achieve the goals identified. The County continues to coordinate with project partners to ensure that projected goals are substantiated and reasonable, and that funds will be expended in a timely manner. Progress is beginning which should allow for a clear path between intended goals and actual outcomes.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The prepopulated goal statements as shown above reflect the thoughtful focus incorporated into the 2015-19 Consolidated five year plan. Additionally, during the Program Year an increased emphasis has been made on data collection and reporting to ensure that there is clarity among the numbers and that the same classifications are used to count units and households. Previous plans and reports may have lacked specificity and thus created goals and outcomes which may have been incongruous.

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

Number of Persons Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	0	0
Moderate-income	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 13 – Number of Persons Served

Narrative Information

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

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

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

The County has continued to outreach to unsheltered homeless persons mainly through the Pennel Mental Health Center PATH program and The Valley Youth House Synergy Project (youth outreach) with assistance from faith-based groups, social service agencies, and the County Departments of Mental Health/Developmental Programs, Corrections, Behavioral Health Systems, and the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission. Goals for outreach to homeless persons this year included increasing the number of contacts to homeless persons, increasing the number of SOAR applications submitted by/ on behalf of homeless persons, and decreasing the number of homeless and runaway youth. The County and the CoC have addressed these goals together by funding a youth street outreach program and establishing performance measures to increase connections of youth to supportive or housing services, providing SOAR training to outreach workers, and increasing collaboration between the PATH program and shelters that serve chronically homeless individuals. In addition, efforts to reach Veterans experiencing housing crisis have been enhanced and the County is convening various veteran service groups to further develop this initiative.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The County and the CoC have established goals to address the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons throughout Bucks County. These goals include reducing the length of stay at an emergency shelter for families and individuals, increasing the number of persons who exit transitional housing programs to permanent housing destinations, and increasing the number of persons employed at exit from transitional and permanent housing programs. Bucks County utilizes its entitlement Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), along with competitive funding through the Pennsylvania ESG program, to support emergency shelter operations as well as rapid re-housing programs. Additionally, CoC program funding is allocated to support the Housing Link and four Transitional Housing programs.

The County has addressed the length of time in shelter by prioritizing grant funding for Rapid Re-Housing projects that serve emergency shelter clients and the literally homeless. The CoC monitors progress towards increasing the number of persons exiting to permanent housing destinations through quarterly reviews of HMIS data, and agencies with these projects have formed internal task forces to implement solutions specific to their target populations. The CoC has found that increased collaboration between agencies during the discharge process and the submission of joint applications for housing

funding have helped to create more positive outcomes for residents leaving these housing programs. The CoC has also addressed the length of time in shelter and transitional housing by prioritizing the most vulnerable families in shelter and transitional housing for Section 8 Local Preference Vouchers. Lastly, the CoC addressed increased employment at program exit by holding sessions on improving workforce development for emergency shelter and transitional housing clients, and as a result is working on implementing solutions such as improving partnerships with community colleges, increasing on-the-job training opportunities, and increasing collaboration with the local Workforce Investment Board.

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

Bucks County coordinated with multiple systems to reduce the number of residents that experience homelessness.

The Bucks County Housing Link, the County's centralized intake/assessment system, has included a broad marketing and outreach campaign to landlords, district judges, other institutions, and renters so that residents are aware of and can take advantage of diversion and prevention options before becoming homeless.

Secondly, Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) funding from Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare continued to be targeted towards preventing evictions and helping homeless persons move into permanent housing. HAP program parameters have been modified in order to provide assistance to more residents as the demand increases.

Third, discharge planning from institutions is a cross-systems issue that has been explored through new housing projects and collaboration on service-based training. For example, Corrections is increasing collaboration with the CoC in order to provide more housing opportunities for persons who would be homeless upon discharge and has participated in CoC-wide SOAR training. Local hospitals have a history of collaborating with non-profit housing providers in order to offer long-term permanent housing for residents with disabilities. The Department of Children and Youth Social Services is engaged in providing housing opportunities for at-risk families with children as a diversion from foster care as well.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families

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

The County and the CoC have established goals to increase the number of persons who move from emergency shelter and transitional housing to permanent housing and independent living. A program targeting transition-age youth continues to provide rental assistance and intensive case management and employment counseling to increase the likelihood that participants will maintain permanent housing upon exiting the program.

The CoC has prioritized permanent housing programs when allocating its annual funding. CoC-funded permanent supportive housing programs provided housing and support services to chronically homeless individuals with mental health/substance abuse issues. Special populations, including chronically homeless, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence victims, veterans, and youth also have been targeted for permanent housing programs.

Bucks County has prioritized rapid re-housing programs that provide short and medium term rental assistance and case management to increase the number of households obtaining and maintaining permanent housing. In this year's CoC Grant Application process, the CoC is reallocating funding to a new youth-focused rapid re-housing program that will reduce the length of homelessness among the youth population. In addition, the CoC's coordinated entry process, the Bucks County Housing Link, as begun to use the Youth VI-SPDAT to better target and provide services to homeless youth. Use of the VI-SPDAT for all populations has allowed for more targeted case management services in the areas where clients are the most vulnerable in order to reduce the rate of returns to homelessness. The CoC is working to fund a housing locator position that will focus on landlord engagement and moving clients quickly into affordable permanent housing.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Bucks County Housing Authority (BCHA) manages 648 Public Housing units and administers 3,415 tenant and project-based vouchers. The BCHA is challenged with high demands for housing, funding concerns for public housing and extensive waiting lists. The Housing Authority currently has 790 families on the public housing waiting list and 1651 families on the Section 8 waiting list. The Section 8 waiting list, which had been closed for approximately 5 years, was re-opened in the spring of 2015 and has begun accepting new applications.

The County has worked closely with the BCHA to obtain 10 VASH vouchers to provide housing assistance to Veterans. Additionally, the County works with BCHA to operate a Local preference program for those in dire need of housing only, in order to reach self-sufficiency. The BCHA has also initiated a Family Self Sufficiency program to assist qualified residents in maintaining and improving their housing status. This program is operated through a collaborative partnership with the Bucks County Opportunity Council.

The County and BCHA will continue to partner with public and private organizations to improve services and address the needs of Public Housing residents including the Area Agency on Aging, Family Service Association, and the Bucks County Opportunity Council.

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

The County works with BCHA to identify projects that serve residents of public housing, including supporting and encouraging public/private partnerships to increase housing availability utilizing project-based vouchers. The BCHA is a valued participant in the CoC. This interaction creates an increased understanding of the needs of the larger community in the context of public housing and the problems faced by a lack of available units.

The BCHA Board of Directors includes a Public Housing resident and the PH developments have organized Resident Councils in order for resident input to be integrated into BCHA administration and policies. The BCHA also operates a Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program in coordination with the Bucks County Opportunity Council. The FSS Coordinator works closely with participants to identify their goals and action steps necessary to achieve self-sufficiency. Residents are encouraged to participate and many complete their goals, including achieving homeownership over the course of the 5-year program.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The PHA is not designated as troubled

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

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

The Department of Housing and Community development in conjunction with the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC) continued working with municipalities across Bucks County to reduce barriers to affordable housing and provide guidance and expertise on commerce, land-use planning, smart growth initiatives, transportation planning, and zoning. The BCPC prepares the Bucks County Comprehensive Plan which serves as a guide for local officials, residents, developers, business owners, and interested agencies. This plan seeks to set forth a common vision of the future of Bucks County and to coordinate, educate, and guide development and preservation in appropriate areas of the county.

The DHCD worked to encourage the development of affordable housing to the greatest extent possible and regularly disseminates fair housing information to municipalities and local landlords. The DHCD is continuing its collaboration with the BCPC to implement the recommendations of the county's Assessment to Impediments to Fair Housing report (AI).

In addition to the efforts described above, the DHCD coordinated with various housing and service providers and with the CoC to ensure residents who need affordable housing are able to access it. This included supporting the scattered site and focused housing units for low income and formerly homeless families.

The homeownership and homeowner rehab programs enabled low/moderate income families to become homeowners and enabled current homeowners to remain in their home when code issues jeopardize the ability to do so. The Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program continued to provide rental assistance to homeless families while participating in a two year self-sufficiency program, allowing them to maintain housing and earn a sustainable wage after completing the program.

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

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs included the allocation of funding to support the following activities: emergency shelter operations, housing legal services, Homeless Information Management System (HMIS) implementation, senior center operations, rehab of group home facilities and rapid re-housing programs.

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

Lead-Based Paint Testing/Mitigation/Abatement

The Bucks County Health Department continued to support a County initiative designed to test children at-risk for elevated blood levels. In addition, the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority also continued to make services available to homeowners (e.g., inspection, technical assistance, abatement) of lead paint. As part of the Low-Income Homeowner Rehab Program, the Authority regularly assists homeowners with the identification, and remediation and abatement of lead paint hazards.

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

The DHCD coordinated with the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC), the County's Community Action Agency to implement strategies to reduce the number of poverty-level families. The DHCD also continued to participate with the CoC and Housing Link to ensure programs and policies to achieve this goal are coordinated through the wide network of housing and service providers throughout Bucks County.

Funding allocated as part of the 2015 Action Plan to address these goals includes tenant-based rental assistance, job training, emergency shelter and housing crisis services, public services and facilities improvements for special needs populations, and the development of additional affordable housing units

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

Starting in 2013, Bucks County began the examination of many aspects of the way in which it's Community and Business Development Department operated to oversee funding streams and the provision of infrastructure improvements. This assessment included an evaluation of the processes and tools used to determine need, develop plans, and allocate funding. The County also enlisted the aid of outside consultants to reexamine the structure of County functions for the Department of Community and Business Development with a goal of ensuring quality and complete compliance with all funding requirements. Selected procedural policies and studies were also reviewed and updated. One of the first actions was to restructure the staffing of the Department and to change the name to the Department of Housing and Community Development to refocus on areas aside from business development.

The restructuring process continued throughout Program Year 2015 and will beyond with , more policy and procedural changes expected. The County intends to reassess and complete an update of the Multi Year Non Site Specific Environmental Review, including historic preservation considerations. The Citizen

Participation Plan is being reassessed to ensure that it encourages the highest level of community involvement in the most efficient and effective manner.

All these activities serve to strengthen the County's community development initiatives, to provide strategic planning for priority actions and to develop a structure and enhance the County's capacity to implement needed and effective programs.

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

The DHCD continued to work closely with public and assisted housing providers, health and mental health organizations, and social service agencies to enhance coordination of services throughout the jurisdiction. The Director of the DHCD served on the Housing Advisory Board, a 22-member task force appointed by the County Commissioners in 2014 to recommend "system changes" to the county's role in housing and housing services that are supportive of the overall quality of the community in Bucks County.

DHCD is also the lead agency for the Housing Continuum of Care of Bucks County (CoC), the organization responsible for the planning and implementation of housing and homeless programs in Bucks County. The CoC membership includes representation by housing providers, mental health and drug and alcohol treatment providers, emergency shelters and outreach organizations, faith-based organizations, youth services, and other interested organizations. The DHCD continued to collaborate with the CoC Executive Committee to implement and evaluate Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funded programs.

The DHCD continued to support the efforts of the Bucks County Housing Link, the central point of information, assessment, and referral services for all Bucks County residents experiencing a housing crisis. The DCHD continues to assess the scope of an enhanced housing link, measuring the functions and costs to operate the Housing Link for the entire system of services for those facing a housing crisis. The need for a housing locator function is also being reviewed and assessed.

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

In March 2014, the County finalized the review and acceptance of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. The County has followed the guidance provided through the recommendations contained in this document. All plans developed and projects considered were reviewed in the context of furthering fair housing and ensuring equitable distribution of resources for the County. The County

enlisted the services of our program partners, including the Bucks County Planning Commission and the Housing Equality Center, in these activities. The county has enhanced outreach efforts and application materials to encourage and maximize participation by members of protected classes and those beneficiaries in areas of racial and ethnic concentration. Affirmative fair housing marketing has been required for all housing programs.

There has been an enhanced emphasis on achieving balance relative to the siting of projects in areas considered to have a concentration of low income housing/services versus non-concentrated areas. At the same time the overview has also recognized the available resources for the program participants within the area. As a result, projects have been considered which are of benefit to the project client base and beneficiaries, while being distributed throughout the County to the maximum reasonable extent.

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CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

HOME: DHCD performed monitoring assessments throughout the life of all projects to ensure that each project meets local building standards, is managed to HUD's funding regulations, and helps attain the objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan. DHCD tracked the implementation progress of each project, including ongoing review of project expenditures, monitoring of all sites, and regular meetings with project representatives. Funding recipients were required to provide a detailed description of activities and progress with each invoice for reimbursement. DHCD also closely monitored any projects that had no significant activity on at least a quarterly basis. DHCD strives to regularly evaluate the performance and progress of each project and immediately address any issues or barriers to successful project completion. Additionally, DHCD conducted annual site visits, property inspections, and monitoring of tenant files of all affordable housing developments assisted with entitlement funds to ensure compliance with program goals and federal regulations.

CDBG: Generally, CDBG monitoring takes place in three phases: initial review of the project, monitoring during implementation phases, and post-completion follow-up. Initially, the County ensures that target beneficiaries are eligible and may request documentation as to the income of the beneficiaries. Once approved, monitoring ensures that the funding recipient implements the program in compliance with regulations (e.g., procurement, Davis-Bacon, Fair Housing). Monitoring includes on-site meetings (e.g., pre-development, bid award, project completion), and desk monitoring of documentation provided with each payment request. For construction, the County also conducts a completion monitoring visit to ensure that the project was implemented as described in the application. Annual monitoring ensures the project benefits the target population for a minimum period of five years. Public Services programs have different metrics of success from other CDBG funded activities. In order to familiarize with each project, program staff has been conducting monitoring of each subrecipient to ascertain the current state of each project, either ongoing or completed, and to supplement the file with visit notes and photographs. These provide a more complete vision of the benefits provided through the CDBG grants.

ESG: DHCD continues to work with the CoC to develop performance standards for implementation of the ESG program. DHCD monitors all recipients of ESG funding to ensure compliance with the performance standards and HUD regulations and to evaluate performance. The County regularly creates and shares performance reports for all system participants. These are reviewed to ensure that the programs are achieving outcomes that meet and exceed HUD's standards. The CoC regularly reviews outcomes and performance measures to assess unmet needs and guide program development.

Specific information regarding the monitoring activities for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs is contained in Attachments A, B, and C.

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

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

Bucks County followed its established Citizen Participation Plan by encouraging a broad range of citizen participation in the development of program reports and plans. Citizens were given reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports for a period of no less than 15 days before any reports were submitted to HUD. This was accomplished via local news outlet and web postings.

The County of Bucks has a thorough and extensive community involvement process that is employed for all projects and activities. The County consistently seeks to include the input of local residents in all phases and aspects of its Community Development initiatives, from the initial planning, to program and activity implementation, all the way to the reporting and assessment of accomplishments. The effectiveness of this process is key in delivering the proper services and programs to the County's residents, while ensuring that the overall direction of the Housing & Community Development Department's work is consistent with residents' expectations and concerns.

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CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?	No
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[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

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CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)

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

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

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

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

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

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

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

Recipient Name	BUCKS COUNTY
Organizational DUNS Number	073735979
EIN/TIN Number	236003044
Identify the Field Office	PHILADELPHIA
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance	Bristol/Bensalem/Bucks County CoC

ESG Contact Name

Prefix	Mr
First Name	Roger
Middle Name	C
Last Name	Collins
Suffix	0
Title	Director

ESG Contact Address

Street Address 1	1260 Almshouse Road
Street Address 2	0
City	Doylestown
State	PA
ZIP Code	18901-
Phone Number	2153453844
Extension	0
Fax Number	0
Email Address	rccollins@buckscounty.org

ESG Secondary Contact

Prefix
First Name
Last Name
Suffix
Title
Phone Number
Extension
Email Address

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date 04/01/2015
Program Year End Date 06/30/2016

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

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: BUCKS COUNTY

City: Doylestown

State: PA

Zip Code: 18901, 3559

DUNS Number: 073735979

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N

Subrecipient Organization Type: Unit of Government

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 0

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: BUCKS COUNTY HOUSING GROUP

City: BUCKS COUNTY HOUSING GROUP

State: PA

Zip Code: 99999,

DUNS Number:

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N

Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 0

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: FAMILY SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF BUCKS COUNTY

City: Langhorne

State: PA

Zip Code: 19047, 1314

DUNS Number: 183093533

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N

Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 0

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: A WOMAN'S PLACE

City: Doylestown

State: PA

Zip Code: 18901, 0299

DUNS Number: 085248792

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: Y

Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 0

Subrecipient or Contractor Name: BUCKS COUNTY OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL

City: Doylestown

State: PA

Zip Code: 18901, 3750

DUNS Number: 060080751

Is subrecipient a victim services provider: N

Subrecipient Organization Type: Other Non-Profit Organization

ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount: 0

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CR-65 - Persons Assisted

4. Persons Served

4a. Complete for Homelessness Prevention Activities

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

Table 14 – Household Information for Homeless Prevention Activities

4b. Complete for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

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

Table 15 – Household Information for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

4c. Complete for Shelter

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

Table 16 – Shelter Information

4d. Street Outreach

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

Table 17 – Household Information for Street Outreach

4e. Totals for all Persons Served with ESG

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

Table 18 – Household Information for Persons Served with ESG

5. Gender—Complete for All Activities

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

Table 19 – Gender Information

6. Age—Complete for All Activities

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

Table 20 – Age Information

7. Special Populations Served—Complete for All Activities

Number of Persons in Households

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

Table 21 – Special Population Served

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

10. Shelter Utilization

Number of New Units - Rehabbed	0
Number of New Units - Conversion	0
Total Number of bed-nights available	92,126
Total Number of bed-nights provided	73,608
Capacity Utilization	79.90%

Table 22 – Shelter Capacity

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

Bucks County, through the CoC, has developed processes to review and assess all ESG programs based upon performance measurements. Performance oversight includes assessment of the following factors: Clients moving to permanent housing upon program exit; Clients increasing earned and other income upon program exit; Assessment of special populations served (veterans, Persons with MH/DP issues, etc); Timely expenditure of ESG program funds. All agencies report client-based information through HMIS in a timely and complete manner. With the aid of the HMIS Administrator, client outcome indicators are examined at least quarterly and are measured against HUD and CoC performance standards. Output measures are reviewed with both the Outcomes Committee and the CoC Executive Committees to assess system performance as a whole and identify any potential problem areas.

In PY 2015 the ESG programs produced the following outcomes based on the above performance measurements:

- 33% of clients exited to PH
- 30% of clients increased earned and other income
- Programs served 13 Veterans 144 Persons with MH/DP 40 adults DV
- Timely expenditure

CR-75 – Expenditures

11. Expenditures

11a. ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2013	2014	2015
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Prevention under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	38,534	0	0
Subtotal Homelessness Prevention	38,534	0	0

Table 23 – ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

11b. ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2013	2014	2015
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	58,851	16,679
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Assistance under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	0	0	0
Subtotal Rapid Re-Housing	0	58,851	16,679

Table 24 – ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

11c. ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2013	2014	2015
Essential Services	0	0	0
Operations	151,342	103,377	100,459
Renovation	0	0	0
Major Rehab	0	0	0
Conversion	0	0	0
Subtotal	151,342	103,377	100,459

Table 25 – ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

11d. Other Grant Expenditures

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2013	2014	2015
HMIS	0	0	0
Administration	26,156	9,144	11,775
Street Outreach	0	2,237	0

Table 26 - Other Grant Expenditures

11e. Total ESG Grant Funds

Total ESG Funds Expended	2013	2014	2015
516,317	216,032	171,372	128,913

Table 27 - Total ESG Funds Expended

11f. Match Source

	2013	2014	2015
Other Non-ESG HUD Funds	0	0	0
Other Federal Funds	0	0	0
State Government	0	0	353,905
Local Government	0	109,538	125,158
Private Funds	0	62,674	0
Other	0	5,000	0
Fees	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0
Total Match Amount	0	177,212	479,063

Table 28 - Other Funds Expended on Eligible ESG Activities

11g. Total

Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities	2013	2014	2015
1,172,592	216,032	348,584	607,976

Table 29 - Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities

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