



Neighborhood and Business Development

CARES Act 2020

COVID-19 CDBG-CV & ESG-CV Outline

City of Syracuse

CARES Act Flexibilities for CDBG Funds Used to Support Coronavirus Response and Plan Amendment Waiver

Purpose of CARES Funds - The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Public Law 116-136) makes available \$5 billion in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus (CDBG-CV grants).

- IDIS projects addressing CARES Fund Usage- Funds will be set up in IDIS. The City of Syracuse will use IDIS to complete a narrative explaining how the funds are being used to provide relief and economic security during Coronavirus. Integrated Disbursement Information System (IDIS) - Is a nationwide database, the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) provides HUD with current information regarding the program activities underway across the Nation, including funding data. HUD uses this information to report to Congress and to monitor grantees.
- Provides that grantees may use CDBG-CV grant funds to cover or reimburse costs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 incurred by a State or locality, regardless of the date on which such costs were incurred, when those costs comply with CDBG requirements. For other grants, pre-agreement and pre-award cost authority is available under 24 CFR 570.489(b) (states) and 570.200(h) (entitlements).
 - o HUD has expressed with CDBG-CV that agencies make sure services are not duplicated. CDBG-CV grantees are required to prevent the duplication of benefits. Therefore, CDBG-CV grant funds may not be used to pay costs if another source of financial assistance is available to pay that cost.

Process to Access Funds - To expedite grantees' use of CDBG-CV funds, HUD is waiving the requirements at 42 U.S.C. 12705(a)(2) to the extent it requires updates to the housing and homeless needs assessment, housing market analysis, and strategic plan and 24 CFR 91.220 and 91.320 to the extent the action plan is limited to a specific program year to permit grantees to prepare substantial amendments to their most recent annual action plan, including their 2019 annual action plan. Grantees must identify the proposed use of all funds and how the funds will be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to, Coronavirus.

- Citizen Participation- The five-day public comment period for amendments and new plan submissions uncaps the percentage of CDBG funding for public services to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, as well as other flexibilities.
- The entire allocation of federal CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding awarded to the City each year is based on the severity of both poverty and substandard housing conditions. It is necessary that public participation genuinely involve low-income residents experiencing these conditions.

Process to Access Funds (continued) -

- This will be set up as a substantial amendment to the 2020 Action Plan.
- The CARES Act permits HUD to waive or specify alternative requirements for any provisions of any statute.
- Newly signed certifications for each program
 - Grantees create **one** version of substantial amendment, no matter how many CV grants or tranches are awarded. Amendment title should be “CARES Act Amendment” and note the Community Name if a consortium member
 - Grantees will continue to edit same amendment until all CARES Act funds have been addressed and awarded
 - Grantees may submit substantial amendments for all, some, or one grant at a time.
 - Award individual grant agreements as each submission meets the base requirements for that grant.

Internal Highlights and Goals Regarding CDBG and ESG Budgets

- \$2M in Direct Financial Assistance to keep people in their homes
- Over \$1M dedicated to address the COVID-19 created budget gap
- Addresses the maintenance of the quality of housing and neighborhoods (and therefore the social determinants of health for our residents) at a time of significant threat to disinvestment
- Supports our businesses with micro-lending

CDBG:

- NOTE: Funds can only be disbursed where there was no other financial support available
- Addressing housing stability through assistance to the public, and supporting housing related city services
- Provides support for households up to 80%AMI

ESG:

- Prevent and reduce homelessness for those in our community dealing with the deepest levels of poverty, up to 60% Average Median Income (AMI)



DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

CITY OF SYRACUSE, MAYOR BEN WALSH

ESG/CDBG CV Homeless & Eviction Prevention Criteria

Commissioner

Michael Collins

Deputy Commissioner

Jennifer Tifft

CDBG-CV Prevention Criteria

- Income: 80% AMI or below
- City Residence
- Rent or Utility Assistance Needed- up to three months
- Security Deposit
- Follow up support services, if needed
- Referral to Financial Empowerment Center (if needed)

ESG-CV Prevention Criteria

- Income: 50% AMI or below
- City Residence
- Rent or Utility Assistance Needed- up to three months
- Security Deposit
- Follow up support services offered
- Imminently at risk of homelessness
- Referral to Financial Empowerment Center

ESG-CV Rapid Re-Housing Criteria

- No income limit
- City Residence
- Security Deposit
- Up to three months rental assistance
- Follow up support services required
- On the streets or in the shelter & on Coordinated Entry
- On ESG RRH list for Coordinated Entry and able to sustain apartment after assistance ends

Documentation Needed for ESG-CV/CDBG-CV Homeless/Eviction Prevention:

- Proof of income
- Proof of financial status (i.e. job loss or reduced hours/furlough)
- Proof of housing crisis

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DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

CITY OF SYRACUSE, MAYOR BEN WALSH

CDBG-CV Community Development Criteria

Commissioner
Michael Collins

Deputy Commissioner
Jennifer Tiff

During this current public health crisis, it is critical we do everything possible to ensure the health and safety of those most vulnerable by limiting the spread of COVID-19. The Department of Neighborhood and Business Development for the City of Syracuse is proposing to use the CDBG-CV funds to assist low to moderate income households and or individuals using the matrix codes listed above with the **National Objective: Urgent Need**

The City of Syracuse is looking to use its CDBG-CV funds under the following activities:

- **04:** Clearance and Demolition-City of Syracuse, Land Bank
- **05K:** Tenant Landlord Counseling:-Volunteer Lawyers Project
- **05U:** Housing Counseling-Catholic Charities
- **14A:** Single Family Rehabilitation-Home Headquarters, Inc.
- **14B:** Multi-Unit Residential Rehabilitation
- **14H:** Rehabilitation Administration
- **18C:** Economic Development| Micro-Enterprise Assistance-SEDCO

NBD Admin- Code Enforcement| GIS Position, Financial Empowerment Center

Project Descriptions

Emergency Demolitions | City of Syracuse and the Greater Syracuse Land Bank

The Greater Syracuse Land Bank and the city of Syracuse will demolish dilapidated structures upon urgent need. The demolition or new construction in those areas will be due to the impacts of COVID-19.

Home Headquarters (HHQ) | Home Ownership Center

HHQ's Homeownership Center provides a wide array of individual education and counseling programs to a minimum of 40 households to promote and retain sustainable homeownership during COVID-19 public health risks. This includes certified homeownership education, individual credit and budget advisement, and foreclosure prevention assistance. The HHQ homebuyer education program will prepares prospective first-time homebuyers in urgent need the rights and responsibilities of homeownership.

Home Headquarters, Inc. (HHQ) | Urgent Care + SHARP

Urgent Care and SHARP programs for eligible owner occupants provide low- to moderate-income households with grants to complete minor home repairs and loans for emergency repairs while removing barriers to housing for the disabled through the construction of exterior ramps and weatherization for city homeowners. Urgent need will be provided to city residents due to COVID-19 public health risk. Funding will promote housing stability during the pandemic by completing health and safety related repairs. HHQ provides assistance to customers throughout the application and construction process.

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SEDCO COVID-19 Financial Loan Assistance:

SEDO will seek to build off the success of its COVID-19 Emergency Loan Fund by using CDBG funds to assist small businesses located in the City of Syracuse with low interest, working capital financing designed to address impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic and sustaining operations in order to continue and/or reopen. Requests for funding may be considered for various uses, including but not limited to: personnel/payroll, adaptive business practices, operational expenses, and payment toward outstanding debt.

Syracuse Financial Empowerment Center

CDBG-CV funds will be used for the Syracuse Financial Empowerment Center which provides professional, one-to-one financial counseling and coaching for free to help city of Syracuse residents make the most of their personal finances and reach their personal financial goals. Our counselors work with clients to establish and improve credit scores, access safe and affordable banking products, create and maximize their household budgets, increase savings, and decrease debt. The Financial Empowerment Center will assist a minimum of 69 individuals.

Volunteers Lawyers Project

Advocacy and Prevention Eviction and Defense Program will provide legal representation in the Syracuse Landlord Tenant Court to housing vulnerable tenants with urgent need during COVID-19. Its goal is to assist housing vulnerable individuals/families avoid or delay evictions, housing counseling, reduce or prevent money judgments against tenants so that they can relocate if needed.

ESG - CV Budget Program Budget

Agency	Program	ESG Category	ESG CV Allocated	% of Allocation
Catholic Charities	CV Homeless Prevention Program	Homeless Prevention	\$ 100,000.00	6.7982%
The Salvation Army	CV Homeless Prevention Program	Homeless Prevention	\$ 100,000.00	6.7982%
DSS	Direct Financial Assistance	Homeless Prevention	\$ 713,879.00	48.5310%
Catholic Charities	Case Management Services	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 80,000.00	5.4386%
Rescue Mission	Case Management Services	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 80,000.00	5.4386%
Rescue Mission	Direct Financial Assistance	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 100,000.00	6.7982%
Catholic Charities	Direct Financial Assistance	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 100,000.00	6.7982%
Rescue Mission	HIS Team	Street Outreach	\$ 25,000.00	1.6996%
IMFK	Under the Bridge	Street Outreach	\$ 25,000.00	1.6996%
DSS	DSS Administration	Administration	\$ 71,388.00	4.8531%
NBD	NBD Administration	Administration	\$ 75,709.00	5.1469%
			\$ 1,470,976	100.0%

Homeless Prevention	\$913,879.00
Rapid Rehousing	\$360,000.00
Street Outreach	\$50,000.00
Admin	\$147,097.60
Total allocation	\$1,470,976

ESG - CV 2 Budget Program Budget

Agency	Program	ESG Category	ESG CV Allocated	% of Allocation
Catholic Charities	CV Homeless Prevention Program	Homeless Prevention	\$ 100,000.00	5.7147%
The Salvation Army	CV HALE	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 88,500.00	5.0575%
The Salvation Army	CV HALE Direct Financial Assistance	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 120,000.00	6.8577%
The Salvation Army	CV Homeless Prevention Program	Homeless Prevention	\$ 50,000.00	2.8574%
DSS	Direct Financial Assistance	Homeless Prevention	\$ 741,381.00	42.3678%
Catholic Charities	Case Management Services	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 90,000.00	5.1432%
Rescue Mission	Case Management Services	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 90,000.00	5.1432%
Catholic Charities	Direct Financial Assistance	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 110,000.00	6.2862%
Rescue Mission	Direct Financial Assistance	Rapid Rehousing	\$ 110,000.00	6.2862%
Rescue Mission	HIS Team	Street Outreach	\$ 75,000.00	4.2860%
DSS	DSS Administration	Administration	\$ 87,000.00	4.9718%
NBD	NBD Administration	Administration	\$ 87,987.00	5.0282%
			\$ 1,749,868	100.0%

CDBG-CV Program Budget

Funded Activities for CDBG-CV Year 46:	May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021	Year 46 Proposed Budget
CV Distressed Properties <i>Emergency Demolitions and Land Bank</i>		\$513,225
CV Housing Services <i>Catholic Charities Eviction Prevention Program (Casework, Admin)</i>		\$109,000
CV Financial Counseling <i>FEC Program</i>		\$20,000
CV Home Improvement <i>HHQ Urgent Care Program</i>		\$217,786
CV Home Improvement <i>HHQ SHARP Program</i>		\$160,000
CV Landlord Property Repair Fund <i>HHQ</i>		\$150,000
CV Housing Legal Services <i>Volunteer Lawyers Project</i>		\$50,000
Small Business Micro Loan Program <i>SEDCO</i>		\$150,000
Direct Financial Assistance <i>Department of Social Services Economic Security</i>		\$1,250,000
<i>Program Subtotal</i>		\$2,620,011
Admin (20% Max: \$595,509)		
<i>Admin : Staffing</i>		\$357,537
<i>Admin Subtotal</i>		\$357,537
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$2,977,548
HUD Total PY 46 CV CDBG Allocation		\$2,977,548