



Third Program Year Action Plan

The CPMP Third Annual Action Plan includes the SF 424 and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

Narrative Responses

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

Program Year 3 Action Plan Executive Summary:

This Annual Action Plan provides a basis and strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City of Lawrence by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs. This Action Plan covers the period beginning August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011. Programs and activities described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents of the City of Lawrence, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income and moderate-income residents, and the city as a whole.

This plan is the product of public outreach, public hearings, and consultation with over 30+ agencies, groups, and organizations involved in the development of affordable housing, creation of job opportunities for low and moderate-income residents, and/or provision of services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons. A complete draft of this update has been made available for public review and comment for a 30-day period beginning March 31, 2010. The availability of both the draft plan and the final plan is advertised in the local newspaper and the complete documents are available for review on the City's website www.lawrenceks.org and in print form in the Development Services office of Planning and Development Services.

Available Funds

	CDGB	HOME	TOTAL
2010 Entitlement	\$873,534.00	\$692,784.00	\$1,566,318.00
Estimated 2010 Program Income	\$100,000.00	0	\$100,000.00
Reallocation of Funds	\$250,000.00	0	\$250,000.00
Total Funds Available	\$1,223,534.00	\$692,784.00	\$1,916,318.00

Summary of Priorities, Goals, Budgets, and Anticipated Accomplishments

The table below outlines the priority need categories that HUD has found to be eligible to be supported with Consolidated Plan program funds. The chart estimates the amount and percentage of total Consolidated Plan funds that will be spent on each priority need category during the 2010 Program Year covered by this plan. Below each goal, high and medium priority objectives are also listed. The proposed funding amounts are constrained in many cases by program eligibility requirements and expenditure caps.

2010 Investment Summary (FINAL - 04/08/2010)

CDBG Public Services		Contingency	42,712
Brook Creek Neighborhood Association		CDD Administration of CDBG	174,706
Operating and Coordinator Expenses	6,450		
East Lawrence Neighborhood Association		GRAND TOTAL CDBG	1,180,822
Operating and Coordinator Expenses	10,240		
North Lawrence Improvement Association			
Operating and Coordinator Expenses	7,514		
Oread Neighborhood Association		HOME	
Operating and Coordinator Expenses	9,479	Lawrence Habitat for Humanity	25,000
Pinckney Neighborhood Association		Tenant Based Rental Assistance	270,000
Operating Expenses	2,987	LDCHA TBRA Administration	30,000
<i>Subtotal Target Neigh. Public Service \$36,670</i>		CHDO Set-Aside	104,385
		CHDO Operating Expenses	34,639
The Ballard Community Center		First-Time Homebuyer Program	189,482
Emergency Services Council	16,000	CDD Administration of HOME	39,278
Douglas County AIDS Project		GRAND TOTAL HOME	692,784
Emergency Assistance Program	4,000		
Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.		FUNDING SOURCES:	
Tenant-Landlord Counseling & Education	25,000		
Lawrence Community Shelter, Inc		2010 CDBG Grant	873,534
214 W. 10th Street		Projected Program Income	100,000
Emergency Shelter Operations	36,489	Grant Reallocation	250,000
The Salvation Army		Total CDBG Grant Allocation	1,223,534
946 New Hampshire			
Feeding Program	12,871	2010 HOME Grant	692,784
<i>Subtotal Agency Public Service \$94,360</i>		Projected Program Income	0
Public Services Total	131,030	Total HOME Grant Allocation	692,784
CDBG Capital Improvements		Total CDBG Grant Allocation	1,223,534
Community Development Division (CDD)		Total HOME Grant Allocation	692,784
Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation	400,000	GRAND TOTAL, CDBG & HOME	1,916,318
LCLHT First Time Homebuyer Rehab	100,000		
Weatherization	80,000		
Furnace Loans & Emergency Loans	35,000		
<i>subtotal CDD \$615,000</i>			
City of Lawrence Public Works Division			
Lighted Pathway Project	59,410		
Sidewalk Project	98,500		
<i>Subtotal Sidewalks PW \$157,910</i>			
North Lawrence Improvement Assn.			
CMP Installation Project	1,000		
<i>Subtotal Neighborhood Cap. Improvements \$1,000</i>			
Ballard Community Center			
Early Education Building Repair Project	5,600		
The Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence			
Building Weatherization Project	57,576		
Independence, Inc			
Accessible Housing Program (AHP)	33,000		
Social Service League of Lawrence			
905 Rhode Island Permanent Wood Awning	5,000		
<i>Subtotal Agency Capital Improvements \$101,176</i>			
Total Capital Improvements	875,086		

Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS - \$53,360 (3 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the number of homeless persons moving into permanent housing.	HIGH
2. Provide housing assistance and supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS.	HIGH

Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs - \$33,000 (2 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Increase housing opportunities and services for persons with special needs.	MEDIUM
2. Improve accessibility of affordable rental housing.	HIGH

Goal: Rental Housing - \$270,000 (15 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
2. Provide assistance/counseling to avoid eviction and utility disconnection.	HIGH

Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing - \$936,520 (51 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable owner housing.	HIGH
2. Improve the quality of owner housing.	HIGH

Goal: Public Facilities - \$68,176 (4 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Improve the quality of neighborhood facilities serving LMI persons.	MEDIUM

Goal: Infrastructure - \$158,910 (9 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons.	MEDIUM

Goal: Public Services - \$77,670 (4 %)

Objectives	Priority
1. Improve services for LMI persons.	HIGH
2. Support neighborhood improvement and stability, and encourage a sense of community in LMI areas.	HIGH

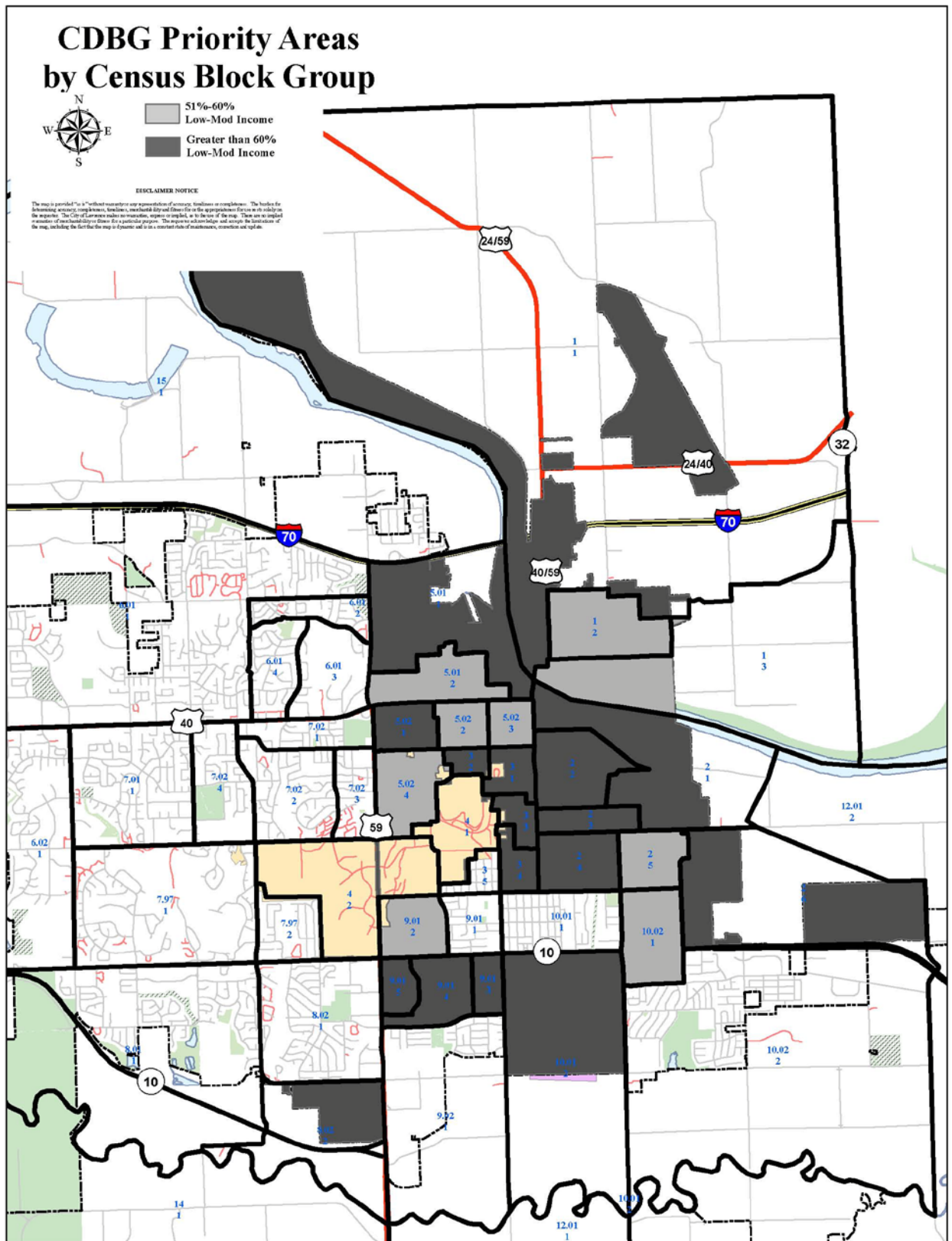
Note: Program Administration for LDCHA, Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. (CHDO), and Community Development Division for CDBG and HOME is estimated to cost \$278,623 (14%). Contingency Fund is \$42,712. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

General Questions

- 1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.***

Geographic Areas to be Assisted and Priorities for Area-wide Assistance

As of the 2008 American Community Survey, Lawrence was home to an estimated 114,748 people, 22,885 of whom were members of minority groups. According to the same survey, Lawrence was home to 17,733 households who earn less than 80% of the area median income and are therefore classified as low-or moderate-income by HUD. This represents 40% of the city-wide population for whom household income could be determined. The following map illustrates the block groups with the heaviest concentrations of low-income and moderate-income residents in Lawrence. Consolidated Plan funds will generally be targeted toward these low and moderate income neighborhoods or toward activities that benefit all residents of the city who are low or moderate income.



- 2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.**

Basis for Allocation of Funds

Geographic Allocation – Because the primary national objectives of the Consolidated Plan programs are to benefit low and moderate-income residents, Lawrence’s block grant program funds will be targeted to low and moderate-income activities and neighborhoods. The map above illustrates these areas.

Priority Needs – Guided by the eligibility requirements of the various Consolidated Plan programs, the City of Lawrence recognizes the following priority need categories for the 2010 program year. Relative priorities and funding ratios were established through the needs information obtained through the plan development process. A core component of the public outreach in preparing this plan was to prioritize among a list of real needs given the limited amount of funding available through the Consolidated Plan programs.

Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the number of homeless persons moving into permanent housing.	HIGH
2. Provide housing assistance and supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS.	HIGH
Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase housing opportunities and services for persons with special needs.	MEDIUM
Goal: Rental Housing	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
2. Improve accessibility of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
3. Provide assistance/counseling to avoid eviction and utility disconnection.	HIGH

Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable owner housing.	HIGH
2. Improve the quality of owner housing.	HIGH
Goal: Public Facilities	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve the quality of neighborhood facilities serving LMI persons.	MEDIUM
Goal: Infrastructure	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons.	MEDIUM
Goal: Public Services	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve services for LMI persons.	HIGH
2. Support neighborhood improvement and stability, and encourage a sense of community in LMI areas.	HIGH

3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

Obstacles

The primary obstacle to meeting all of the identified needs, including those identified as high priorities is the general lack of funding resources available to the public and private agencies who serve low and moderate income residents. Lawrence, due to being an entitlement community, is not eligible for state CDBG funding. Since no state dollars are available for community development activities, the city's general fund has been stretched to overcome stagnant property and sales tax revenues. Local cuts have resulted in a hiring freeze and reductions of all department budgets. This leaves little room for expansion of community development funding at the local level. Furthermore, the City of Lawrence's entitlement grants have been reduced over the last several years further limiting the funds available to address the needs in the community.

City of Lawrence Consolidated Plan Resources PY04 – PY10					
City Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ADDI	Total	% Change
2004	\$963,000.00	\$719,997.00	\$50,174.00	\$1,733,171.00	
2005	\$911,227.00	\$684,842.00		\$1,596,069.00	-8%
2006	\$816,981.00	\$645,694.00		\$1,462,675.00	-9%
2007	\$828,822.00	\$643,923.00		\$1,472,745.00	+1%
2008	\$798,320.00	\$626,133.00		\$1,424,453.00	-3%
2009	\$807,823.00	\$695,905.00		\$1,503,728.00	+9%
2010	\$873,534.00	\$692,784.00		\$1,566,318.00	+4%

- Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

The City of Lawrence in 2009-2010 received Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding in the amount of \$562,134 that is being utilized to develop rental housing on vacant (previously demolished) land. The rental housing will provide rentals to two families under 50% AMI, two families under 60% AMI and one family under 80% AMI, and is being developed by the City of Lawrence CHDO, Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. The City of Lawrence also received \$216,798 in CDBG-R funding that is being utilized for infrastructure, public service building improvements, and building acquisition. Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funding was awarded to the City of Lawrence in the amount of \$648,000 and is being utilized in a program administered by the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority. Tenants to Homeowners, Inc, has also applied for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with the State of Kansas and are awaiting the award decision. Lawrence was not awarded any funding through the competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, but Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority's Hope Building and The Salvation Army's Project Able both received renewal funding for approximately \$138,000.

Managing the Process

1. *Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.*

Lead Agency

The Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Services Department, City of Lawrence, KS oversaw the development of the plan. Two citizen advisory boards performed key roles:

The Community Commission on Homelessness (CCH)

Purpose:

- To implement the community's plan for homeless services
- To make policy recommendations regarding addressing homelessness
- To make regular reports to the community on the progress of the plan

Members: The 11 committee members are drawn from the following community resources – housing and other service providers, law enforcement, business leaders, current or previously homeless individuals, faith leaders, neighborhoods and researchers. Members are appointed by the mayor and may serve up to two, three-year terms.

Members	Constituency	Term Expires
Katherine Dinsdale	Faith Community	06/31/10
Loring Henderson	Service Provider	06/31/10
Shirley Martin-Smith	Business Leader	06/31/10
Wes Dahlberg	Service Provider	12/31/12
Hubbard Collinsworth	Homeless Community	12/31/10
Mike Monroe	Law Enforcement	12/31/10
Shannon Murphy	Sheriff's Office	12/31/10
Jeanette Collier	Service Provider	12/31/11
Robert Mosely	Community Volunteer	12/31/11
Charlotte Knoche	Public Housing Authority	12/31/10
Vacant		

The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)

Purpose:

- To develop and propose community development strategy and policy
- To recommend allocation of CDBG and HOME funds
- Review housing, environmental and rental housing code appeals.

Members: The 11 committee members are drawn from low and moderate income areas and neighborhoods at-large.

Members	Constituency	Term expires
Marci Francisco	Low-mod area	09/30/10
Quinn Miller	Low-mod area	09/30/11
Julie Mitchell	Low-mod area	09/30/11
Susan Adams	Low-mod area	09/30/12
Brenda Nunez	Low-mod area	09/30/12
Patti Welty	Low-mod area	09/30/12
Chris Marshall	At-large area	09/30/10
Aimee Polson	At-large area	09/30/10
Vern Norwood	At-large area	09/30/12
Vacant		
Vacant		

- 2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.***

Plan Development

The fore-mentioned committees make recommendations to Community Development Staff and the City Commission regarding housing and neighborhood development needs, strategies and policies. All meetings are open to the public and the public may provide input and feedback as needed.

In addition to the public participation efforts outlined above, the City of Lawrence CDD and the CDAC conducts two advertised public hearings and provides an advertised public comment period to obtain feedback and solicit input into this Consolidated Plan. The first hearing was held on September 24, 2009 at City Hall. The hearing included an introduction to the Consolidated Plan's purpose and process as well as the presentation of the 2008 CAPER. The primary purpose of the hearing was to solicit comment on the performance of past activities, community needs and strategies for addressing those needs in the 2010 Action Plan.

A second public hearing was held April 8, 2010 at City Hall. The hearing concluded the CDAC's allocation deliberations and continued the 30-day comment period for the Third-Year Action Plan. A draft of the Annual Action Plan was prepared in March 2010 and made available for public review and comment after March 31, 2010. A summary of comments received and the City's responses is included elsewhere in this document.

Notice of the availability of the draft plan and the opportunity to comment on them was advertised in the Lawrence Journal World, posted on the website (www.lawrenceks.org), and e-mailed to a distribution list containing members of advisory boards, elected officials, government officials, agency personnel, and interested members of the public.

- 3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.***

Consultation Process

In developing this Action Plan, the Community Development Division, acting as the lead plan development agency, has consulted with representatives from more than 30+ agencies, groups, and organizations involved in the development of affordable housing, creation of job opportunities for low-income and moderate-income residents, and/or provision of services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons. In addition to the hearings, CDD staff has met with representatives, staff, and members of the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority, the local Continuum of Care agencies, and the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods, during PY 2009. Going forward into PY 2010 CDD staff will continue to meet with these community stakeholders.

Citizen Participation

- 1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.***

Citizen participation is the heart of the consolidated planning process, involving citizens in decisions that directly affect their lives. The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan is to encourage and insure full and proper citizen participation at all stages of the Consolidated Plan process. The Citizen Participation Plan formally designates structures, procedures, roles and policies to be followed by program participants. Citizen participation is encouraged in the development of the Consolidated Plan and any substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan, and the Performance Report. To achieve the purposes of the Citizen Participation Plan, six objectives are established.

2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.

**City of Lawrence, KS
Community Development Advisory Committee
April 8, 2010 Minutes (City Commission Room)**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Adams, Marci Francisco, Quinn Miller, Julie Mitchell, Vern Norwood, Brenda Nunez, Aimee Polson, Patti Welty

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Marshall

STAFF PRESENT: Danelle Dresslar, Margene Swarts

PUBLIC PRESENT: Robert Baker, HCCI; Deron Belt, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association; Ted Boyle, North Lawrence Improvement Association; Steve Braswell, Pinckney Neighborhood Association

3. (6:00 p.m.) Recess meeting to conduct Public Hearing.

Chair Norwood opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 pm.

Swarts said that tonight was one of two annual Public Hearings held by the CDAC regarding the Consolidated Planning process. Tonight the CDAC will take public comment on the adoption of the and the Third 2010 Action Plan, which is the third year update of the 2008-2012 Consolidated Plan. The information has been posted on the City of Lawrence website for public review, and a notice for the Public Hearing was published in the Lawrence Journal World on March 31, 2010. The Action Plan is a document that talks in general about community needs that have been identified as a collaborated effort of local agencies and boards. The document addresses how the City of Lawrence is addressing those needs with CDBG and HOME funds. The CDAC has successfully allocated the funding that staff estimated would be available for the 2010 program year. In the time since the March 25 meeting, staff has received notification from HUD that the award total has increased for CDBG in the amount of \$65,760, but had decreased in HOME by \$3,121. The CDAC will be able to revisit allocation of the funds after the Public Hearing is completed.

Swarts explained that there are several funding caps that need to be considered with these grants. In CDBG, the funding is subject to a 15% cap on public services, and a 20% cap on grant administration. The balance that is available for capital improvements does not have a capped amount. For HOME funding, the grant award is subject to a minimum set aside amount for the CHDO, which is 15%. CHDO operating is capped at 5% and HOME administration is capped at 10%.

Chair Norwood thanked Swarts and called for public comment.

Steve Braswell, President of the Pinckney Neighborhood Association (PNA), noted that they did not receive an allocation of funding from their application for this grant year. He asked the CDAC to reconsider funding PNA's application. He said that the request was for around \$1,800, and he believes that the money is well spent. Braswell said that the newsletter that they provide to the neighborhood is a valuable public service for the residents. He said that he sees PNA as important as it provides neighbors with a place to go with concerns. There are many times that a neighbor has a concern, but is not comfortable going through the channels to address it at the City level, and PNA provides them a place to take these concerns and a person to walk them through the process with the City. He said he also believed that PNA served an important role as an advocate for the neighborhood to voice their concerns to the City. Braswell said that over the past year he has attended several City Commission meetings, as well as other advisory board meetings, to speak on behalf of the neighborhood. The PNA also works to unite the neighborhood with entities like LMH, which is located in the neighborhood, and the City. The funding that PNA is requesting is for the printing and distribution of the neighborhood newsletter. Recently, PNA has seen a strong core group of neighbors that have been attending meetings and have become active in the neighborhood association. The newsletter reaches 1400 homes in Pinckney neighborhood. The newsletter goes out quarterly, and PNA would ask the CDAC to reconsider the funding allocation so that they can continue to provide this important service. The newsletter tells the neighborhood who the PNA is, what the PNA does, what the issues facing the neighborhood are, and what issues may be coming up soon for the neighborhood. Braswell said that he considered the grant request to be for money that is well spent and with the funds in the past PNA has provided a very important community service.

Norwood asked Braswell who was responsible for submitting the quarterly reports to staff.

Braswell said that he was the person who was responsible for this and he acknowledged that he had not been getting done in a timely manner as of late. He said that PNA has been providing a good public service and they have not done a good enough job to show that. There is now new membership and new officers. There was a period of time when meeting attendance dropped off and now there are more people involved and interested and PNA will be able to stay on top of the reporting task from now on.

Norwood told Braswell that the Committee did look at the fact that the City was requiring quarterly reports and PNA did not submit those reports. She asked Braswell if he could submit these reports in a timely fashion going forward.

Braswell said that he could, and he now understands the importance of the reports. He said that he is ready and willing to make a much stronger effort to submit the reports on time.

Welty asked how many members the PNA currently has.

Braswell said that for the last eight months or so they have been having 12-13 people show up at each meeting. The by-laws for PNA say that if you are a resident of the neighborhood then you are a member of PNA. In addition to those who show up at the meetings, there are also some who regularly email him with issues and suggestions. The big issue in the neighborhood right now is Woody Park and the fact that Lawrence Memorial Hospital would like to turn the field into a parking lot for their facility. They held a meeting in which Dave Corliss, City Manager and Gene Meyer, LMH, attended, along with a contingency of City of Lawrence Parks and Recreation representatives. Braswell said that at that meeting there were 35 neighbors that attended. If there is an issue, more neighbors come to the meetings. The last few months have shown a more consistent attendance.

Welty said that the grant application for PNA was approximately \$2,900 although Braswell had said it was around \$1,800.

Braswell admitted that it had been a while since the application was submitted and that he thought that the newsletters were around \$1,800 or so to process. He said that the grant application asked for funding to print and mail the newsletter, along with a little amount for the annual neighborhood picnic.

Welty asked how many newsletters are mailed.

Braswell said that there are four a year, one each quarter. They received the mailing list from the City's water department. They mail out a little over 1400 newsletters. He said in talking to other neighborhoods that is quite a bit.

Polson said that PNA asks for less than any other neighborhood and does not have any employees paid out of this grant. She said that she is willing to look at adjusting the funding allocations to allow for PNA to continue with their newsletter.

Adams asked Braswell about the difference in \$1,000 from the submitted application and what he is saying this evening. She asked him if he reviewed the application prior to the meeting.

Braswell said that he did not have a chance to review the application prior to the meeting, and that what was submitted on the application was the correct amount that they were asking for.

Swarts noted that PNA was allocated \$2734 last year, and that the request this year was for \$2987.

Norwood said that the CDAC was trying to be consistent with all neighborhoods. Each neighborhood is requesting funding. If the CDAC requires reports and some neighborhoods are complying and some are not then there is a problem in treating them all equally.

Braswell thanked the Committee and said that the reports will be submitted in a timely manner going forward.

Ted Boyle, President of the North Lawrence Improvement Association (NLIA), said that he was here to request the CDAC look at the possibility for an increase in the funding allocation this year. Boyle said that he attended the meeting last year about their submittal of performance reports, and the CDAC said that NLIA should ask for more money in the next year's application. NLIA did this and the funding allocation is less than it was last year. He thanked the Committee for the \$1,000 allocation for the CMP Installation project. He said that their newsletter is published twice a year and they mail out 1200 at a time. NLIA requested funding for their neighborhood clean-up this year and were not funded for it. The clean-up is done once in the spring and once in the fall. It is a viable project that happens in North Lawrence and many neighbors participate. The clean-up helps to keep North Lawrence presentable. The clean-up is a very popular event and they are able to take away everything but lawn chemicals and paint. The clean-up is especially needed in the spring after the winter months, as well as with the detour that has been running through North Lawrence this year. There is a lot of trash and debris this year that needs attended to. The funding request would pay for the tree service to chip up the limbs and brush and then the mulch is available to North Lawrence residents. The tree service makes sure that there is enough mulch for the neighborhood, and if there is not then they donate two or three more loads free of charge.

Boyle stated they also get their newsletter mailing list from the City Water Department, and that they increased their request for their newsletter so they can print it in color and enlarge the document. There are many pictures that they would like to include in the newsletters, and by printing them in color they would be able to better promote the neighborhood. Boyle said that they could do without the neighborhood clean-up in the fall, but he would like the CDAC to reconsider funding the spring clean-up in the amount of \$900. Boyle said that NLIA has always tried to do more with less. He thanked the CDAC for what they had allocated to NLIA thus far, and asked them to reconsider some of the funding cuts they had made to the neighborhood.

Welty told Boyle the CDAC came up with the funding allocation amounts by cutting LAN dues in all neighborhoods. She said that the CDAC also cut the fee for the meeting space from the NLIA request. Welty said that the CDAC noted that there should be a place somewhere in the neighborhood that they could meet for free.

Boyle said that the fee for the meeting space was \$30 each over eight months. He said that they used to meet at Woodlawn School, but it got to be very difficult in terms of scheduling with the school. There is a possibility that they will have a meeting space soon that would be free, and NLIA is exploring that option. Boyle said that the neighborhood meets from October to May, and the Board meets in the summer months. NLIA usually has an attendance figure of about 25 people at the meetings, and they have about 70-75 members. They do get an attendance of 120 at the picnic each year. Boyle said that they are very honest about the paying members of the neighborhood when submitting their application.

Welty noted that the current meeting location has easy access for elderly and disabled residents.

Boyle added that there are kitchen facilities at the meeting location as well and the residents are very comfortable there. He said that the NLIA coordinator does a great job as well as she is their public relations person and letter writer. Boyle said he attends City Commission meetings, he is on the City Sales Tax Audit Committee, and several other committees as well. Boyle said he makes sure to stay informed so he can relay the messages to the neighborhood. The neighborhood relies on the NLIA to keep them informed and to express their concerns as well. Boyle said that he also met daily with the coordinator, and he helps out many elderly residents as well.

Norwood thanked Boyle for speaking.

Robert Baker, Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc (HCCI), said that he understood the position that the CDAC was in, as he was once a member of the Committee. He said he can definitely appreciate the decision process and what they have to go through to determine funding allocations. Baker said that he wanted to thank the CDAC for their allocation this year and also wanted to speak to the Committee about the service that HCCI provides to the community. Baker said that the strategy of HCCI was to actively pursue community outreach, and they work with a lot of partners in the community. They work with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority in the HPRP program and teach a class that the participants must enroll in as a condition of any funding that they receive for homelessness prevention or housing stabilization. The class he taught last night for that program had nine families in attendance, and he even provided counseling to someone who had dropped in to talk to him over a break in the session. They have also worked with ECKAN, The Salvation Army, and are currently working with the Douglas County Sheriff's department in their reentry program. Baker said that HCCI is the only agency in Northeast Kansas that provides tenant-landlord counseling. All of the documents and publications that HCCI uses are available online for free including the tenant and renter handbooks. Baker said that one out of every five calls that HCCI receives is a crisis call. There

are also a lot of crisis walk-ins that are referred from ECKAN. HCCI is an information agency as well as an education agency.

Francisco thanked Baker for attending and speaking to the CDAC. She also asked Baker to view the previous minutes and verify that the information that was given was consistent with their operations.

Baker said that he had been following the minutes and that the information has been correct. He said that in terms of the question as to the bankruptcy referral process, if a tenant files bankruptcy, under the Bankruptcy Act, the trustees are required to ensure the client participates in pre-filing and post-filing counseling. If a tenant files bankruptcy, they cannot be immediately evicted. Affordable housing is in a very bad crisis now. There are a lot of units available, but not necessarily affordable units. Baker said that HCCI does provide an e-newsletter as well and if anyone is interested in signing up to email him and he will add the contact information to the list serve.

Deron Belt, President of the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association (ELNA), said that he wanted to thank the CDAC for their service to the community and he was there to support Braswell and Boyle in their requests to the Committee. He said that ELNA was very thankful for their allocation this year and they were pleased with the funding. Belt said that there are a lot of issues facing neighborhoods in Lawrence, including boarding houses and landlord issues, and the CDBG funding helps the neighborhoods to communicate these issues with their residents. Belt noted that Braswell works very hard for his neighborhood and that it would be harmful to PNA if they were not able to keep the communication line open with the quarterly newsletter. He said the same could be said about Boyle and NLIA. He said that the CDBG funding makes their job as neighborhood leaders much easier.

Norwood said that she appreciated Belt's comments, and that the CDAC faced a dilemma this year in that the funding requests were much higher than the amount that they had to allocate. She asked Belt if ELNA would be willing to take a cut in their funding to increase funding for NLIA or PNA.

Belt said that ultimately, that was not a decision he could make by himself on behalf of the neighborhood, but they could look at doing the same amount with less funding. Belt said that ELNA would offer what they could.

There being no other public comment, Norwood closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.

1. Provide for and encourage citizen participation with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low- and moderate-income, particularly those who are residents of slum and blighted areas and of areas in which CDBG and HOME funds are proposed to be used, and provide for participation of residents in low- and

moderate-income neighborhoods as defined by the City of Lawrence. Additionally, provide for and encourage participation of all citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities. Provide for and encourage, in conjunction with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority, citizen participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments, along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located. Provide information to the housing authority about consolidated plan activities related to its developments within the community so that it may make this information available at the annual public hearing required under the Comprehensive Grant program.

2. Provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the Consolidated Plan, Substantial Amendments, and the Performance Report, as required by regulations and relating to the actual use of funds under this title. Provide information regarding the displacement of persons and specifying the types and levels of assistance that will be available, even though no displacement is expected to occur.
3. Provide for technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low- and moderate-income that request such assistance in developing proposals, with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the City.
4. Provide for public hearings to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the consolidated planning process, including the Citizen Participation Plan, the development of needs, the review of proposed activities, and the review of program performance. Such hearings shall be held after adequate notice, at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodation for persons with disabilities. Notice of public hearings will be published as display ads prior to the date of the public hearing.
5. Provide for a timely written answer to written complaints and grievances, within fifteen (15) working days where practicable.
6. Identify how the needs of non-English speaking residents will be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate.

4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

There were no public comments that were not accepted.

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Institutional Structure

The Planning and Development Services Department, Community Development Division (CDD) is the lead agency of the City in the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. CDD provides fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG and HOME funding sources. The Lawrence City Commission acts as the final authority for the appropriation of funds for Annual Action Plan activities under the Consolidated Plan grant programs, following recommendations of the CDAC.

Within each of the priority funding areas, activities will be completed and managed by a diverse team of public, private, not-for-profit, and institutional partners. The lists below identify some of the principal partners for each funding area.

Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center

Douglas County AIDS Project (DCAP)

Lawrence Community Shelter

Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority

Women's Transitional Care Services

The Salvation Army

Family Promise of Lawrence

Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center

Community Living Opportunities

Cottonwood, Inc.

Independence, Inc.

Goal: Rental Housing

Emergency Services Council

Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.

Independence, Inc.	Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority
Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing	
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity	Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.
Independence, Inc.	Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. (Housing Land Trust)
Goal: Public Facilities	
Ballard Community Center	Penn House
Social Service League	Van Go Mobile Arts
Goal: Infrastructure	
Public Works Department	Various Neighborhood Associations and Agencies
Goal: Public Services	
Neighborhood Associations	Various Non-Profit Organizations

Lawrence prides itself on a decades-long track record of successful partnerships among public and private sector entities. The Consolidated Plan delivery system is an example of this. Communication and cooperation between the City of Lawrence's Community Development Division and the partner agencies and organizations that administer activities is strong.

CDD staff has worked closely with the organizations involved in Consolidated Plan programs to improve regulatory compliance, monitoring, cooperation and partnerships among agencies, and technical capacity of organizations involved in project delivery.

The greatest weakness in the delivery system remains the lack of available funding to support community development, affordable housing and public service activities. It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain existing levels of activity and nearly impossible to expand services or undertake new activities.

Monitoring

- 1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.***

The City of Lawrence's Community Development Division will conduct at least one on-site monitoring visit for each sub-recipient during the program year. A monitoring schedule will be prepared and the sub-recipient visits will be prioritized by determining if any organization is new to the program; if there has been staff turnover in key agency positions; and if there have been previous compliance issues. Following the monitoring visit, a written letter describing the results of the visit will be drafted and a copy retained in the agency's file.

Community Development staff closely monitors all federal programs. Administrative procedures will meet all federal rules, regulations and guidelines for program monitoring, compliance, and reporting. Staff conducts field inspections and also desk-monitors sub-recipients to ensure the compliance of locally administered projects. Staff also monitors the Consolidated Plan through the Annual Performance Report.

Lead-based Paint

- 1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.***

The city will ensure that all federally funded improvement programs for the existing housing stock use lead hazard reduction activities including evaluating lead hazard risk and using only lead free paint. Staff distributes *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home* pamphlets, published by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Community Development Division has two staff certified as Lead Hazard Risk Assessors and Inspectors. They have also received training in Lead Safe Work Practices. One staff serves on the state board that deals with lead issues.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

- 1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.***

The following table outlines the specific accomplishment goals that the City of Lawrence hopes to achieve during the 2010 Program Year.

Activity	Accomplishment Unit	Goal
Rental Housing Subsidies (HOME)	04-Households	50
Construction of Housing (HOME)	10-Housing Units	4
Direct Homeownership Assistance (HOME)	04-Households	4
Rehab, Single Unit Residential (CDBG)	10-Housing Units	12
Energy Efficiency Improvements (CDBG)	10-Housing Units	40

2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

To accomplish these goals, the City of Lawrence will work closely with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority on their Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) and E-Housing Connector to cover the activity of Rental Housing Subsidies through the HOME program. Tenants to Homeowners, Inc., the City of Lawrence CHDO, will be the agency primarily working towards the goal of Construction of Housing as well as Direct Home Ownership Assistance objectives. Habitat for Humanity will also be an agency contributing to the Direct Homeownership Assistance through HOME.

CDD staff will administer the Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency programs through the City of Lawrence using local licensed contractors.

Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.

The Lawrence Community Land and Housing Trust (Housing Trust) program is the City's first time homebuyer program. Outreach to tenants of public housing, families assisted by public housing agencies, and residents of manufactured housing will be done primarily through Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. (TTH, Inc.), and Independence, Inc.

First-Time Homebuyer workshops are advertised in the local newspaper, through the local television channel, on local radio stations through public service announcements, in neighborhood association

newsletters, in agency newsletters including those from Independence, Inc. and Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA), and on Tenants to Homeowners' and the City's websites.

To ensure targeted populations are reached, brochures are distributed and a workshop is scheduled onsite at Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA), Independence, Inc., and Haskell Indian Nations University.

- 2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.***

Not applicable to the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

- 1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.***

A review of the City of Lawrence housing policy indicates there are no institutional barriers to obtain affordable housing. The city has adopted the 2006 International Codes (Building, Residential, Fire, Energy, Mechanical, Plumbing and Fuel Gas) and the 2005 National Electrical Code. The 2006 International Property Maintenance Code that has been adopted as the minimum housing code is similar to the requirements of HUD's Housing Quality Standards. The minimum housing code is enforced through the rental registration program that requires all rental properties located in single-family zoned areas to be inspected at least once every three years. All other minimum housing code is enforced on a complaint basis.

The city does not impose rent controls or impact fees. Regulations that are designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens may affect the cost of housing. However, these regulations are not designed to discourage the availability of affordable housing. Therefore, the City of Lawrence does not propose actions or reform steps to remove or restructure such policies in the coming year.

HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)

- 1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).***

Not applicable to the City of Lawrence.

- 2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME or ADDI funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule.**

The City of Lawrence does not provide HOME funding directly to homebuyers, so there is no instances of program recapture funds.

- 3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:**
 - a. 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.**
 - b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.**
 - c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.**
 - d. Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.**
 - e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.**
 - f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.**

The City of Lawrence does not use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multi-family housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds.

- 4. If the PJ is going to receive American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funds, please complete the following narratives:**
 - a. Describe the planned use of the ADDI funds.**
 - b. Describe the PJ's plan for conducting targeted outreach to residents and tenants of public housing and manufactured housing and to other families assisted by public housing agencies, for the purposes of ensuring that the ADDI funds are used to provide down payment assistance for such residents, tenants, and families.**

- c. ***Describe the actions to be taken to ensure the suitability of families receiving ADDI funds to undertake and maintain homeownership, such as provision of housing counseling to homebuyers.***

The City of Lawrence does not receive ADDI funding.

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. ***Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.***

Continuum of Care

Lawrence developed its Continuum of Care strategy in 1993. Revisions and updates have been made to the strategy as services have changed and needs have shifted. The Continuum of Care strategy is used to move homeless individuals and/or families from homelessness through necessary supportive services to permanent housing. The lead entity for the CoC planning process had been the Practitioners Panel (PP), however in 2008 the Practitioner's Panel opted to join the Statewide Continuum of Care in order to access additional funding opportunities. The Practitioner's Panel disbanded when the switch to the Statewide Continuum of Care took place. Homeless strategy for Lawrence will continue to be developed locally, although funding will now be aligned with the statewide continuum that is led by the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition. See Continuum of Care Diagram and the Housing Vision Chart below.

Intake, Outreach, and Assessment

Through the PATH grant, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center conducts homeless outreach for people who are mentally ill. Through a contract with the City of Lawrence, Bert Nash manages an outreach team of three, for the homeless community at-large. Outreach workers go to places frequented by homeless people, establish contact in order to build trust, then offer assessment and services. The homeless outreach workers can set up case management services for those who

qualify or can refer people to other organizations for services. Besides outreach workers, most agencies that provide for the very-low income and homeless individuals or families are able to provide services or referrals for assistance.

Programs with ongoing case management and continuing care also contribute to prevention services in the community. To further assist with homeless prevention and outreach efforts information and education about programs are posted on community bulletin boards in various locations where homeless and at-risk individuals congregate.

Douglas County Aids Project, The Lawrence Community Shelter, The Salvation Army, Housing & Credit Counseling, Inc. and Independence, Inc. are all agencies that do intake, outreach, or assessment and will receive CDBG funding. See Investment Summary for details.

2. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Emergency Shelter

In the past, the general homeless population, including families, has been able to access nighttime emergency shelter at The Salvation Army upon passing a Breathalyzer test. In 2009, the Salvation Army closed its 24-hour, seven-day-a-week shelter that began operations during 2004. The Lawrence Community Shelter provides shelter for those who are unable to pass a Breathalyzer test, as well as also accept non-intoxicated, single male/female individuals in need of shelter. The Lawrence Police Department assists with late night emergency admissions to the shelter. On weekday mornings and during the day, the Lawrence Community Shelter provides drop in shelter and services, with an emphasis on employment, for people experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness. The Lawrence Community Shelter will receive CDBG support for emergency housing activities as the sole emergency shelter in Lawrence. Family Promise of Lawrence also provides temporary shelter for families in Lawrence.

Transitional Housing

Service agencies assist homeless individuals with finding housing and supportive services. Transitional housing is also provided through vouchers funded by HOME funds to the general homeless population. LDCHA will receive HOME funds for transitional housing vouchers (Tenant Based Rental Assistance). The Salvation Army is developing a

transitional housing program, and has applied for funding through the Balance of State Continuum of Care.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Private nonprofit agencies administer 62 (only six for chronically homeless) units of permanent supportive housing. The Community Commission on Homelessness estimates the need for another 32 supportive housing units for chronically homeless individuals. The need was based on the 2009 Homeless Survey.

Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) is currently in the 6th year of a Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Grant for its permanent supportive housing program, Hope Building. Hope Building provides housing and support services for up to six chronically homeless persons with disabilities. The LDCHA operates the program with the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center providing mental health services and DCCCA providing substance abuse services. As of January 2010, the Hope Building was at full capacity.

The Lawrence Community Shelter applied for McKinney-Vento funding for a permanent supportive housing program but did not receive funding.

3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.

Chronic Homelessness

Developing permanent supportive housing units for chronic homelessness is a high priority for the City of Lawrence. LDCHA will continue to operate HOPE Building, a PSH project that serves six chronically homeless individuals. Additionally, LDCHA submitted a Shelter+Care application for the 2010 CoC and was declined. The Salvation Army also submitted an application for their TH project and they were not awarded funding. Faith-based initiative Family Promise has developed small PSH projects serving 2-3 chronically homeless individuals. It is the goal of the city to develop 26 new PSH opportunities during the 2008-2012 Consolidated Plan Period.

Beginning in 2006, the City of Lawrence began funding a homeless outreach team with general fund dollars. The outreach team of three makes connections with homeless individuals on the street and in

shelters, with the goal of engaging them in services and eventually assisting them in movement to more stable housing options.

The coordination of efforts to end chronic homelessness includes the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The Lawrence CoC implemented HMIS with nine participating agencies in 2006 and transitioned to the statewide HMIS during 2008. The HMIS includes HUD funded and non-HUD funded emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing programs, as well as service agencies providing outreach and case management services to homeless.

- 5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.**

Discharge Planning

Foster Care:

Youth who leave the foster care system because they have attained 18 years of age are eligible to participate in Independent Living Services, contracted by Kansas Social and Rehabilitative Services. Caseworkers begin working with youth who will age out of foster care on a discharge plan as early as age 15 to ensure that youth will not need to seek McKinney-Vento housing options. Planning includes housing, employment and education.

Mental Health:

SRS has adopted a policy that would prevent discharging homeless individuals from publicly funded institutions or systems of care into homelessness or into HUD funded programs for the homeless.

Corrections: *

The Douglas County Jail is in the process of developing an extensive re-entry program that includes a housing component. A full-time Re-entry Coordinator has recently been hired. The County recognizes that releasing offenders into homelessness increases the likelihood for re-offending.

DRAFT

HOUSING VISION CHART (6/1462007; Updated by CCH 10/13/2009)

Shelter *75 **125 (one facility)	Temporary Housing *100 new	Transitional Housing (TBRA) *35 new	Permanent Supportive Housing *22 new	Permanent Housing
Transients (10 – outreach worker estimate) – may or may not seek shelter. Chronically homeless (32 – PIT count) - may or may not seek shelter, may or may not be interested in permanent ETH, TH or PSH.	Single Homeless and Families without Children (70 PIT count) – likely will seek shelter; 35% will move into TH; some will need PSH and others will need private housing. Homeless Families with Children (45) – likely will seek shelter; many will move into TH; some will need private housing.	Single Homeless, Families Without Children and Families with Children (35 HA estimate) – likely will qualify for TH immediately if vouchers are made available.	Single Homeless, Disabled and/or Chronic (22 estimate) - assuming not ALL disabled will need PSH and not all chronically homeless will pursue PSH.	

* Number of units needed to meet immediate housing needs, based on 2007 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count numbers and service provider estimates.

**Number of individuals based on 2009 information from social service agencies serving Lawrence homeless.

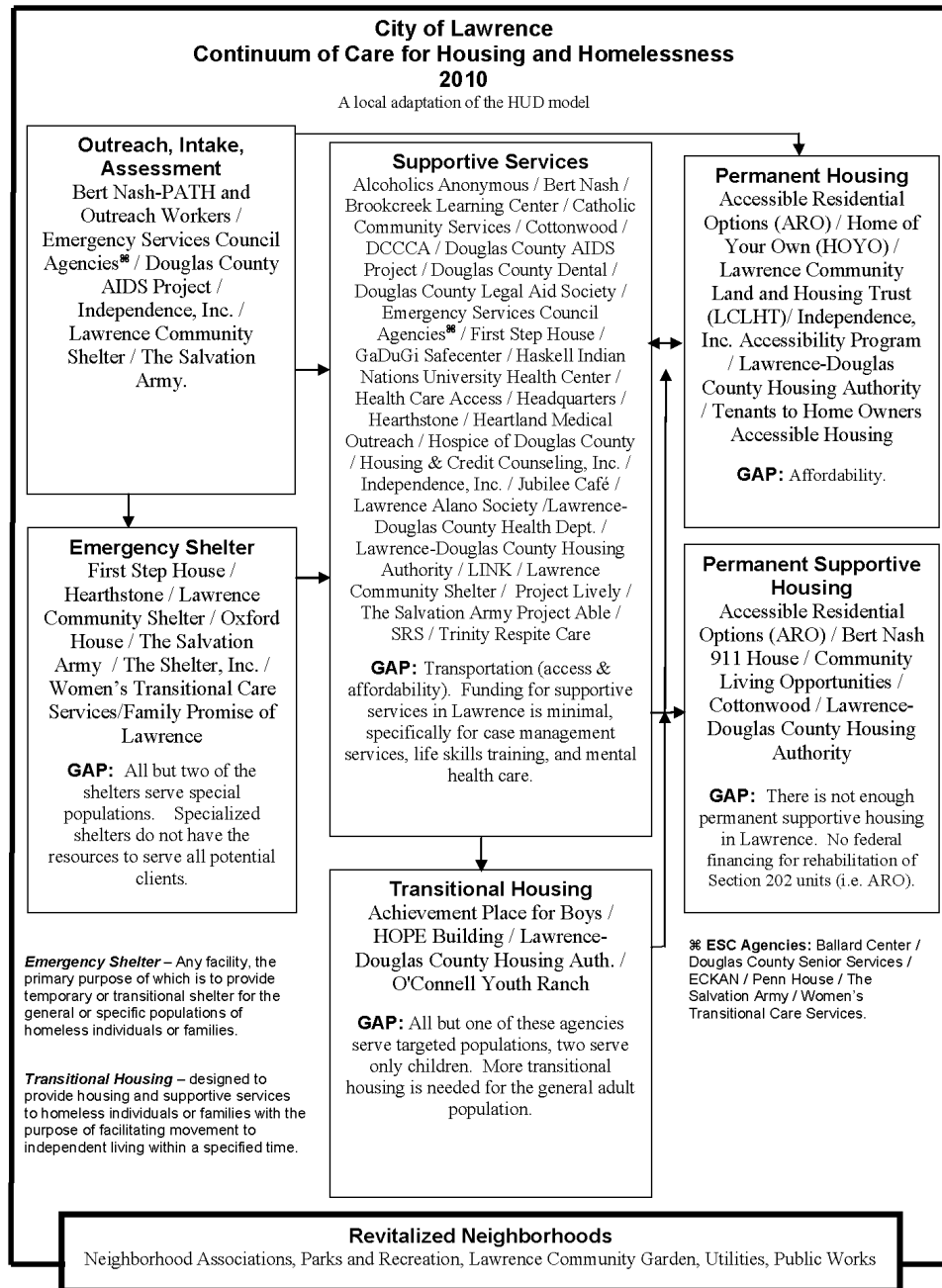
Emergency Shelter: A short-term facility (90-120 days) used to get people off the street in order to stabilize for movement to better housing options. This option does not include or account for shelters that serve special populations (WTCS, First Step House, etc.).

Emergency Temporary Housing: A parallel alternative to the shelter, where people can obtain immediate housing while awaiting a spot in TH or other longer-term housing, working to address housing barriers.

Transitional Housing: Assisted housing with support services, available for up to two years. Major gap is for people who are precluded from LDCHA due to methamphetamine conviction, sex offender status or other recent drug convictions.

Permanent Supportive Housing: Permanent housing with ongoing support services.

Permanent Housing: Assisted or non-assisted public or private housing with no time limit.



Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

The City of Lawrence is a grantee through the State of Kansas KHRC and is not an entitlement community.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.

The City of Lawrence has several non-housing community development needs being funded with CDBG sources, including Douglas County AIDS Project Emergency Assistance Program, Ballard Community Center Emergency Services Council Utility and Rent assistance (General Public Services), Housing and Credit Counseling Tenant-Landlord Counseling and Education/Credit Counseling (Tenant/Landlord Counseling), City of Lawrence Public Works sidewalk project and lighted pathway project (Sidewalks), North Lawrence Improvement Association CMP Installation Project (Flood Drain Improvements), Ballard Community Center Early Education Building Repair, the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence building weatherization, and Social Service League of Lawrence (Neighborhood Facilities).

2. ***Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.***

*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

The City of Lawrence utilizes the “Step Up to Better Housing” strategy for the community’s allocation decisions for CDBG and HOME funding. In the 2010 program year, the City will provide CDBG funds to programs that assist low-moderate income owner-occupants with Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation (14a. 570.202), First Time Homebuyer Housing Rehabilitation (14a 570.202), Weatherization (14F 507.202), Furnace Loans (14F 507.202), Emergency Loans (14F 507.202), TBRA (HOME Rental Assistance), the Lawrence First Time Homebuyer’s Program (HOME Homeownership Assistance), and Lawrence Habitat for Humanity (HOME Production of New owner units).

Step Up to Better Housing

*Developed for the City Commission
and the Citizens of Lawrence
by the*

Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) Committee

Practitioners Panel

and

**Community Development Block
Grant Review Board**

Staffed by the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department

Emergency Housing

Temporary options for immediate, safe shelter for people who are homeless. Some shelters serve specific groups.

Needs

- Year-round, 24-hour emergency shelter with appropriate services.
- Emergency housing for families.
- A larger shelter for battered women and their children.
- Shelter with peer support for people with severe and persistent mental illness.

Strategies

- ✓ Consider emergency shelter needs when investing available funds.
- ✓ Seek private and public funds to strengthen Lawrence emergency shelters.
- ✓ Endorse expansion efforts of well-managed existing shelters.

Traditional Housing

Housing and services designed to promote residential stability, increase skills, enhance self-determination and move people who are homeless to permanent housing within 24 months.

Needs

- Short term housing units and services.
- Respite housing for people with mental illness.

Strategies

- ✓ Seek private and public funds to develop transitional housing in Lawrence.
- ✓ Consider transitional housing needs when investing available funds.
- ✓ Endorse efforts to develop transitional housing in Lawrence.
- ✓ Secure more tenant based rental assistance.
- ✓ Encourage landlords to accept tenants who receive rental assistance.

Community Groups

- ❖ United Way
- ❖ Service Providers
- ❖ Neighborhood Associations

Permanent Housing

A variety of ownership and rental choices including permanent supportive housing arrangements.

Needs

- Low-income homebuyer and rental assistance.
- Programs to help sustain homeownership.
- Public and private policies that promote permanent housing for people with low income and people with disabilities.

Strategies

- ✓ Continue to invest funds for homebuyer assistance.
- ✓ Consider supportive service needs for low-income elderly and persons with disabilities when investing available funds.
- ✓ Continue to invest funds in rehabilitation, weatherization and emergency loans.
- ✓ Secure more tenant based rental assistance.
- ✓ Encourage landlords to accept tenants who receive rental assistance.
- ✓ Encourage landlords to accept tenants with low, stable incomes and good rental histories.

Revitalized Neighborhoods

- Continued revitalization in target neighborhoods.
- Continued environmental code enforcement.
- Education for homeowners and renters.

Strategies

- ✓ Promote neighborhood improvement.
- ✓ Improve existing housing stock.
- ✓ Encourage neighborhood associations.
- ✓ Define sidewalk fund procedures.
- ✓ Improve mobile homes and mobile home parks.
- ✓ Continue crime prevention.
- ✓ Insure that housing complies with the Uniform Housing Code.
- ✓ Favor mixed-income development.
- ✓ Meet American Disabilities Act and Fair Housing Act requirement.
- ✓ Support public/private partnerships.

Background

In August 1996, the four groups who advise the City on housing policy (Housing Advisory Council, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Committee, Practitioners Panel, and Community Development Block Grant Review Board) met jointly with City staff to develop consensus goals and priority. The groups recommended that the City adopt goals and make spending decisions based on the theme of helping each citizen of Lawrence **Step up to Better Housing**. Four categories of needs emerged: emergency housing, transitional housing, permanent housing and revitalized neighborhoods.

The groups believed that all citizens would benefit from a coordinated approach to housing. The potential gains include enhanced property values, stronger, safer neighborhoods and economic

development resulting from investment. In the interim, the four groups have become three, (Housing Advisory Council and CDBG Advisory Committee), and they still make recommendations within this framework. The Strategy, used to frame Lawrence housing policies, is reviewed each year by the City Commission and is included in the Annual Update of the Consolidated Plan.

Lawrence City Commission

Erv Hodges, Mayor
Jim Henry, Vice Mayor
David Dunfield
Marty Kennedy
Mike Rundle

Participating Groups

HAND Advisory Committee

The eleven member HAND AC develops and proposes HAND strategy and policy and reviews Housing Code and Environmental Code appeals. In addition, they make recommendations to the City Commission on the allocation of CDBG and HOME funds.

Practitioner's Panel

The twenty-seven member Panel shares information on housing programs, services and needs and makes recommendations to the HAND Advisory Committee for carrying out strategy.

Community Development Block Grant Review Board

The GRB reviews and acts on housing rehabilitation request, including hearing appeals. The GRB has seven members

Housing and Neighborhood Development Department Staff

Staff works closely with the above three advisory groups, both as members and as resources to the groups. For additional information, please call 832-3108 for information.

Antipoverty Strategy

1. *Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.*

Antipoverty Strategy

One purpose of the Consolidated Plan Programs and other initiatives in Lawrence is to reduce the number of persons in poverty. The emphasis in Lawrence is to help people rise out of poverty, rather than temporarily easing their situation. Although essential short-term direct aid such as emergency food and shelter is provided, the strongest community support is for programs to address the root causes of poverty and assisting people in becoming self-sufficient in the long-term. Two key components of helping people attain self-sufficiency are employment and housing.

Examples of programs that directly influence people's ability to escape poverty include job education and placement services as well as housing advocacy, homeless prevention and rental assistance. Projects that indirectly affect poverty include those that improve the community at-large and provide transportation and child care services that help people access employment and services. CDBG, HOME, CoC and State ESG funds are often used as matching funds for other grants that also contribute to reducing the number of families living in poverty. Thus, the power of these federal dollars is leveraged to a greater extent.

Recognizing that limited Consolidated Plan dollars should be focused where the need is greatest; Lawrence gives preference to projects that directly benefit low and moderate income residents or serve low and moderate income neighborhoods over those that will benefit the city as a whole. This strategy will ensure that scarce resources are directed to best serve those who have the greatest need, including those areas with the greatest concentration of poverty.

In addition to Consolidated Plan programs, a number of other public, private, and partnership initiatives have been designed to assist in the reduction of poverty rates. These include the Workforce Development Center, the Douglas County Re-entry Program, and a newly forming partnership of employment agencies.

The City's "Step Up to Better Housing" Strategy and the "Housing Vision" developed by the Community Commission on Homeless will serve as the baseline for the city's antipoverty strategy.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

- 1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.***

The City of Lawrence will provide CDBG funding to Independence Inc, which will administer an Accessible Housing Modification program, which provides accessibility improvements on owner-occupied and rental units occupied by adults and children with disabilities.

- 2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.***

The City of Lawrence in 2009-2010 received Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding in the amount of \$562,134 that is being utilized to develop rental housing on vacant (previously demolished) land. The rental housing will provide rentals to two families under 50% AMI, two families under 60% AMI and one family under 80% AMI, and is being developed by the City of Lawrence CHDO, Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. The City of Lawrence also received \$216,798 in CDBG-R funding that is being utilized for infrastructure, public service building improvements, and building acquisition. Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funding was awarded to the City of Lawrence in the amount of \$648,000 and is being utilized in a program administered by the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority. Tenants to Homeowners, Inc, has also applied for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with the State of Kansas and are awaiting the award decision. Lawrence will continue to focus its funding in accordance with the "Step Up to Better Housing Strategy".

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

- 1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.***
- 2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing,***

and assistance for persons who are homeless.

- 3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.*
- 4. Report on annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.*
- 5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.*
- 6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.*
- 7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.*
- 8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.*
- 9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.*

The City of Lawrence does not maintain a HOPWA program.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

The City of Lawrence does not maintain a HOPWA program.

Other Narrative

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.

DRAFT