

CITY OF PAWTUCKET



Draft Annual Action Plan
FY 2017
(July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018)
for the
Community Development Block Grant Program
HOME Investment Partnership Program
Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Submitted by:
Department of Planning & Redevelopment
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2017-2018 Annual Action Plan Executive Summary

1. Introduction

The City of Pawtucket is an Entitlement Community that expects to receive funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to invest in local solutions to address housing and community development needs. The funds include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

The primary objective of the CDBG program is to develop viable communities through the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. HOME funds are dedicated to preserving and creating affordable housing. ESG supports outreach and shelters for homeless persons, as well as programs that prevent or rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families.

The City of Pawtucket is pleased to present an Executive Summary of its Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2017 from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The Annual Action Plan serves several functions:

1. Utilizing data and community input, it prioritizes housing and community development needs, delineates a one-year strategy for addressing those needs, and establishes performance measures by which progress can be assessed in response to the City of Pawtucket's Consolidated Plan 2015-2020.
2. It describes recommendations for specific projects and services to address housing, community development, emergency shelter, and homeless needs which were identified through public meetings, needs assessments, coalition meetings, consultations with community groups (e.g. neighborhood associations, linguistic minority organizations, etc.), and proposals solicited through both public meetings and the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.
3. It outlines activities that will be funded utilizing Federal Block Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.220 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

The City's Annual Action Plan has been prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

The 2017 Annual Action Plan includes the goals and objectives outlined below, all targeting community needs related to affordable housing, economic development and employment, and strengthening neighborhoods.

- Provide essential Public Services –
- Improve Public Infrastructure –
- Expand Economic Development opportunities through business assistance–
- Improve availability and access to Public Facilities and Parks–
- Increase Affordable Housing through Rehabilitation and new construction –
- Increase the quality of life through Neighborhood Stabilization efforts–
- Decrease the incidence of Homelessness and provide services to the homeless –
- Planning and Administration –

Funding Disbursement. The 2017 Annual Action Plan represents a single application for federal funding that incorporates three (3) HUD formula programs, for a total allocation of \$2,296,273 in FY 2017 funds. The three (3) HUD programs are as follows:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) \$1,732,661
- HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) \$407,524
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) \$156,088

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Pawtucket has demonstrated progress in meeting the goals and objectives identified in the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and the most recently completed its second year of the five year Consolidated Plan. The city's successful efforts focused on activities that have positively impacted the quality of life for low and moderate income residents. These efforts have included increasing the amount of decent, safe and affordable housing; expanding homeownership opportunities; investment in public infrastructure, facilities, and parks; and providing essential public services.

An inclusive public process, community input, careful planning and a significant commitment of financial resources enabled the city to achieve modest performance across all programs and objectives despite funding constraints from HUD grants.

The City of Pawtucket remains confident that its demonstrated high level of performance will be replicated during the period covered by this Action Plan.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

In order to ensure maximum participation from the citizens of Pawtucket, the Consolidated Planning process included public meetings, and consultations with key sub-populations. In addition to consultations the City held (3) public meetings. An additional public meeting was held before the City Council on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 where the public could comment on the plan. The city also assisted various applicants with technical assistance in preparing applications for funding requests.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Monday, January 16, 2017 | General Newspaper Notice/Email Meeting Invitation to non-profits, community groups and City Councilors |
| Tuesday, January 31, 2017 | CDBG Public Meeting to Explain Grant Process Review Performance 2015-2016 (CAPER) Presentation of 1 yr. Con-Plan Needs/Explanation CDBG/ESG/HOME Programs Blackstone Valley Visitor Center Theatre, 175 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI - 6 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017 | General Newspaper Notice/Applications Available/Applications emailed to City Council members |
| February 1-27, 2017 | On-call technical assistance meetings with applicants to assist with grant eligibility and preparation |
| Monday, February 27, 2017 | Applications Due Date 4 P.M. |
| February 28 – March 7, 2017 | Review of all submitted applications for eligibility/status of current CDBG grant if previously funded. |
| March 1, 2017 | Email list of all applications received sent to Mayor and City Council in advance of public hearings |
| Tuesday, March 7, 2017 | CDBG Public Service Application Public Hearing Blackstone Valley Visitor Center Theatre, 175 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI - 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. |
| Thursday, March 9, 2017 | CDBG Activities/HOME Housing Applications Public Hearing Blackstone Valley Visitor Center Theatre, 175 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI - 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, April 19, 2017 | Present application to City Council |
| Tuesday, April 25, 2017 | Ad in The Pawtucket Times, announcing the availability of the Annual Action Plan and requesting comments on the draft proposed funding plan 15% reduction from 2016-2017 until May 25, 2017. |

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Ad in the Pawtucket Times, announcing the availability of the Annual Action Plan and requesting comments on the proposed funding plan with 2017-2018 Federal funding amounts until July 25, 2017.

All meeting locations were accessible to persons with disabilities and all meeting notices included information about how to request accommodation such as a translator or other assistance.

5. Summary of public comments

The revised Draft Annual Action Plan will be available for review and public comments between July 11 and July 25, 2017. Any comments received during that time period will be included here along with the City's response for the Final Action Plan.

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

All comments will be incorporated into the plan.

7. Summary

The 2015-2020 City of Pawtucket Consolidated Plan reflects the community input received from various individuals and organizations as well as City departments. It is hoped that the priorities chosen will have the effect of improving the lives of Pawtucket's low and moderate income residents.

The following activities listed in the Draft Annual Action Plan have been proposed to receive Annual Action Plan program funds during the 2017-2018 program year.

During FY 2017, the City of Pawtucket will make significant process in implementing its Housing and Community Development goals and priorities as set forth in its Consolidated Plan 2015-2020 and 2017 Annual Action Plan. Many of these activities stand out as having the potential for positively impacting the quality of life for the City's low and moderate income residents. All of these activities have come to fruition as the result of an active public process, community input, careful planning and a significant commitment of financial resources while providing tremendous opportunities for low and moderate income individuals and families, both young and old, throughout the City of Pawtucket. The Three entitlement programs are described as;

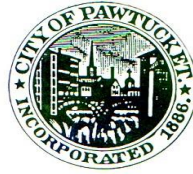
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): The CDBG Program is used to assist Pawtucket residents in a number of ways including: providing low cost loans to fix-up single and multi-family homes, installing new streets and sidewalks, making loans to local businesses, funding for neighborhood and senior centers, assisting families with child care, and many other activities directed at improving the lives of Pawtucket residents.

HOME Housing Investment Partnership (HOME): The HOME Program is used to assist Pawtucket residents with their housing needs. Programs funded with HOME dollars include: the non-profit development of affordable housing and affordable rental housing units, a first-time homebuyers' program, and rental assistance to tenants.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): The ESG Program assists emergency shelters and homeless prevention activities, emphasizes rapid re-housing, and assists people quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis.

See funding allocations charts on the following pages;

City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island



July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Citizen Comments on the Plan will be
Accepted until Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Comments may be mailed to: Edward G. Soares, Community Development Program Manager
Pawtucket Department of Planning and Redevelopment, City Hall, 137 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860
or Email - ESOARES@PAWTUCKETRI.COM

BASED ON ANTICIPATED 2017 - 2018 FEDERAL FUNDING

City of Pawtucket, RI 2017-2018 Housing and Community Development Action Plan
for Program Year 43 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018)

I. Community Development Block Grant Program

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Anticipated 2017-2018 Federal CDBG Allocation Amount | \$1,732,661 |
| Anticipated Program Income for Upcoming 2017-2018 Year | \$160,000 |
| TOTAL CDBG ALLOCATION | \$1,892,661 |

II. HOME Housing Investment Partnership Program

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Anticipated 2017-2018 Federal HOME Allocation Amount | \$407,524 |
|--|------------------|

III. Emergency Solutions Grant Program

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Anticipated 2017-2018 Federal ESG Allocation | \$156,088 |
|--|------------------|

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| TOTAL EST. FED. FUNDING BUDGET FOR 2017-2018 | \$2,456,273 |
|---|--------------------|

I. 2017-2018 Community Development Block Grant Summary

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Anticipated 2017-2018 Federal CDBG Allocation | \$1,732,661 |
| Anticipated CDBG Program Income for 2017-2018* | \$160,000 |
| Anticipated 2017-2018 CDBG Total Budget | \$1,892,661 |

*This figure is a projection based upon anticipated loan repayments in the upcoming 2017-18 program year (see accompanying detail).

2017-2018 CDBG BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAM AREA

Anticipated 2017-2018 CDBG BUDGET

| | |
|---|-------------|
| | \$1,892,661 |
| 1. Public Service Allocation | \$348,000 |
| 2. Comm. Dev. Activities Allocation | \$1,166,129 |
| 3. Administrative and Planning Allocation (20%) | \$378,532 |

2017-2018 Community Development Block Grant Detail Notes

Anticipated CDBG Program Income for 2017-2018 Program Year

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Pawt. Redev. Agency Residential Rehab Loan Payments | \$70,000 |
| Pawt. Redev. Agency Commercial Rehab Loan Payments | \$30,000 |
| Pawt. Bus. Dev. Loan Corp. Business Loan Payments | \$60,000 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME ANTICIPATED | \$160,000 |

2017-2018 Proposed CDBG Budget Allocations**PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES****DESCRIPTION****I. Senior Services****BUDGET**

Pawt. Senior Services/Senior Transportation

\$165,000

Operation and Programming of the Leon Mathieu Senior Center.

New Horizons Adult Day Care

\$40,000

Adult Day Care for low/moderate Income Pawtucket Seniors.

YWCA Rhode Island

\$2,500

Senior Health and Wellness Programming.

II. Child Care

Pawtucket Family YMCA

\$5,000

Before/after School Care for School-aged Children in Pawtucket.

III. Counseling Services

Day One (Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Ctr. Of RI)

\$4,000

Services to Victims/Families of Sexual Assault.

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program, Inc.-Renew

\$8,000

Project Renew Commercial Sex Worker Diversion Program.

Rhode Island Center for Justice

\$3,000

Low-Income Legal Assistance Project

IV. Summer Youth Programs

Camp Ramsbottom (Boys & Girls Club)

\$20,000

Provide Summer Camperships at Camp Ramsbottom.

Summer Teen Program (Boys & Girls Club)

\$3,000

Teen Summer Program.

V. Adult Education Employment

Man UP Training and Education Program

\$5,000

Education and Employment Training Program to Reduce Recidivism

Children's Friend and Service

\$6,000

Education Services Job Training Program for Entry Level Employees

VI. Youth Initiatives

Slater Mill Historic Site

\$9,000

Hands on Fiber Arts Classes with Field Trips to Mill for 4th Grade Students.

B.V. Tourism Council River

\$5,000

Educational Outings on the Blackstone River Explorer boat.

Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre

\$5,000

Arts Literacy Programing for 6-12th Graders in Pawtucket schools.

VII. Assistance To The Hungry

Pawtucket Soup Kitchen

\$26,000

Operation of the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen

Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center

\$12,000

Food Pantry

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program, Inc.

\$10,000

Emergency Food Program

VIII. Housing Assistance

House of Hope Community Development Corporation

\$6,000

Support for Case Manager Homeless Day Program ACCESS RI

Blackstone Valley Community Action Program, Inc.

\$6,000

Fair Housing Advocate

Contingency

\$7,500

Contingency Funds

TOTAL CDBG PUBLIC SERVICES**\$348,000**

2017-2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

DESCRIPTION

I. Facility Improvement Projects:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Cape Verdean American Community Development | \$60,000 |
| Darlington Early Childhood Center | \$45,000 |
| The Empowerment Factory | \$7,000 |

New Fire Protection System
New Roof for Darlington Early Childhood Center
Baldwin Elementary School Educational Garden Project

II. DPR Sponsored Improvement Projects:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Citywide Street Tree Planting | \$50,000 |
| Roosevelt Avenue/Slater Mill Streetscape | \$200,000 |
| Conant Street Parking Lot Environmental Mitigation | \$20,000 |
| Transit Oriented Development | \$522,129 |
| Summit Street Park | \$102,000 |

Street Trees in CDBG eligible Neighborhoods
Streetscape to replace Bus Shelters.
Environmental Mitigation
Transit-Oriented Development around the new Commuter Rail Stop
Creation of a New Neighborhood Park

III. Economic Development:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| RI Black Business Association | \$10,000 |
| Façade Improvement Program | \$40,000 |

Small Business Loan Program.
Small Loan/Grant Program to Improve Storefronts

IV. Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency Renewal:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Pawt. Redevelopment Agency Property Mgmt. | \$50,000 |
| Pawt. Redevelopment Agency Elderly Paint Program | \$30,000 |
| 354 Pine Street Brownfields Clean Up | \$30,000 |

Property Disposition and Management of PRA-owned Properties.
Elderly Paint Program for Single-Family Dwellings
Brownfields Clean Up Expenses at 354 Pine Street.

TOTAL CDBG ACTIVITIES **\$1,166,129**

2017-2018 CDBG ADMINISTRATION/PLANNING

| | |
|---|------------------|
| I. Dept. of Planning and Redevelopment Administration | \$303,532 |
| II. Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency Administration | \$75,000 |
| TOTAL CDBG ADMINISTRATION | \$378,532 |

DESCRIPTION

Administration Costs for CDBG Grant Management.
Administration Costs for Agency Programs.

TOTAL ALL CDBG CATEGORIES **\$1,892,661**

2017-2018 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)

| | <u>BUDGET</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|--|----------------------|---|
| I. Emergency Shelter Operations | \$49,650 | Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center - Emergency Shelter Operations. |
| II. Essential Services Day Program Operations | \$36,978 | House of Hope - Essential Services-Day Program. |
| III. Homeless Prevention Rapid Rehousing | \$57,754 | Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center - Homeless Prevention Rapid Rehousing |
| IV. Dept. of Planning Admin. Set-Aside (7.5%) | \$11,706 | Administration costs for ESG Grant management. |
| TOTAL ESG | \$156,088 | |

2017-2018 HOME HOUSING PROGRAM

| | <u>BUDGET</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|---|----------------------|--|
| I. HOME Administration Set-Aside (10% cap) | | |
| City Administrative Reimbursement | \$40,752 | Administration costs for HOME Grant management. |
| II. Administration for Housing Non-Profits (5% required) | | |
| Pawtucket Citizens Dev. Corp. Administration | \$12,000 | Administrative funds to carry-out HOME projects. |
| Blackstone Valley CAP Administration | \$8,376 | Administrative funds to carry-out HOME projects. |
| III. Available for Projects | | |
| BVCAP- Down payment/closing costs for development project | \$15,000 | First-Time Home Buyer funds for properties developed by CHDO's |
| Pawtucket Central Falls Development 256 Mendon Avenue | \$100,000 | Substantial Rehabilitation one unit 3 Bedrooms |
| Pawtucket Central Falls Development -Middle Street | \$171,396 | New Construction 2 Family Dwelling |
| Pawtucket Housing Authority - 560 Prospect - Phase II B | \$60,000 | Rehabilitation of 560 Prospect Street |
| TOTAL HOME HOUSING GRANT | \$407,524 | |