

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, there was a delay in Program Year (PY) 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded Public Works projects scheduled for completion in fiscal year 2020. As a result, those funds are considered returned funds under the CDBG program and need to be reallocated projects scheduled for completion in 2022. To allow this, the Village needs to amend its 2021 Action Plan to allow for the use of the funds.

## **Executive Summary**

### **AP-05 Executive Summary - 91.200(c), 91.220(b)**

#### **1. Introduction**

Connected to the Village of Oak Park's PY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan), the Village has prepared the Year 2 Action Plan as required under 24 CFR 91.220. The Action Plan for PY 2021 identifies the activities to be funded with the Village's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds that it will receive during the program year, which runs from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

The lead agency for the Action Plan is the Neighborhood Services Division of the Development Customer Services Department of the Village of Oak Park, a general-purpose unit of municipal government. The Division initiated the administration, organization and preparation of the Action Plan and will coordinate the public and nonprofit entities through which it will carry it out.

The federal CDBG funds are intended to create viable communities for low and moderate income (LMI) persons and households, which includes the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include fair housing outreach, housing rehabilitation and preservation, public services, infrastructure improvements, code enforcement, public facilities improvements, economic development and planning and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the following criteria: meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG Program; being consistent with the Village's PY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan; meeting the needs of LMI residents; focusing on LMI areas or neighborhoods in the Village (when applicable); coordination and leveraging of resources; response to expressed needs; sustainability and/or long-term impact; and the ability to demonstrate measurable progress and success.

#### **2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The Village of Oak Park is submitting the Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan that will guide decisions for allocating Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the period of October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. The Village is a member of the Cook County HOME Consortium, and can potentially receive HOME Investment Partnership Program funds. The Action Plan follows the five year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Con Plan), which is the Village of Oak Park's primary vehicle for identifying and prioritizing housing, community development and economic needs and strategies to guide the use of its entitlement funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

### *Priorities and Strategies*

After a thorough citizen participation process and input from Village stakeholders, the highest draft priorities were found to be: Public Services, Housing and Infrastructure for CDBG funding, Homelessness for CDBG and ESG funding, and Housing for potential HOME funding from Cook County.

With regard to draft Public Services Con Plan subcategory priorities, the highest priorities were mental health services, fair housing, and emergency food provision and nutrition services.

With regard to draft Homelessness subcategory priorities, the highest priorities were homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, rapid re-housing and street outreach.

With regard to draft Housing subcategory priorities, the highest priorities were the Small Rental Rehab Program, the Single Family Rehab Loan Program, and code enforcement. The Small Rental Rehabilitation Program increases affordability for renters in multi-family buildings having 7 or fewer units, and the Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program provides zero percent loans deferred for 20 years for low and moderate income homeowners. Code enforcement enhances the health and safety of Oak Park's population by inspecting the local housing stock and ensuring that it is in good shape. In addition, Cook County (the HOME Consortium lead agency) has put forth the following priorities for Housing: family housing with three or more bedrooms; affordable housing preservation; supportive housing; emergency and transitional housing; and accessible housing.

With regard to draft Infrastructure Improvements subcategory priorities, the highest priorities were alley improvements, water mains and lines improvements, street improvements, and sidewalk and sidewalk ramp improvements.

The Village also determined a highest priority as to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, as well as to facilitate assistance to eligible persons economically impacted by COVID-19.

Other draft high priorities were Economic Development, Administration and Planning, and Public Facility Improvements for CDBG funding. These Con Plan priorities were approved by the Village Board last year. For PY 2021, the Village has a strategy to prioritize proposed projects that meet these high priorities.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

When the Village of Oak Park began to determine CDBG and ESG needs for the PY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Con Plan), citizen and stakeholder input was sought via a survey, a poll, interviews and meetings. This input enabled the Village to choose our goals and projects for PY 2020.

The Con Plan development process occurs every five years, the most recent being in 2019 and 2020 for the 2020-2024 Con Plan (and the PY 2020 Action Plan). The Con Plan was the primary vehicle to serve low and moderate income persons in the Village of Oak Park and provided a strategy to determine the priority needs in the Village, to distribute federal funding to the areas of most need, and to affect the persons with the most need in the community. The 2019 program year was the fifth year of the 2015-2019 Con Plan and is the last year for which the Village has final accomplishments, as we are still working in PY 2020. For PY 2019, the chosen Goals and Priorities provided direction for the distribution of Federal funds to best meet the needs of the underserved in the community. The Priorities reflect the perceived needs in Oak Park, as determined through the participatory process, data and studies, survey results, and expertise of the participating agents.

The amount of PY 2019 Federal funds available was \$1,633,190 in CDBG (plus some prior year, returned funds) and \$143,061 in ESG, all used to further Con Plan objectives. The high priority activities were given special attention in PY 2019; this includes Public Services, Affordable Housing, Infrastructure, Public Facility Improvements, and Code Enforcement.

In PY 2019, as in all program years, the Village chose to distribute a relatively large amount of its CDBG allocation to local non-profit subrecipients. In the 2019 Program Year, an allocation of \$244,978 from the CDBG Program funded 14 public service activities administered by various not-for-profit service providers and one that was handled by a Village department. In addition, the Village allocated \$90,438 in CDBG Administration funds to the Oak Park Regional Housing Center, \$15,600 for facility improvements for Oak Leyden, and \$24,400 for facility improvements for UCP Seguin. Some funds to subrecipients were returned.

In PY 2019, the Village met many goals; if a goal was not met, it was short for a good reason such as the pandemic. Such successful past performance resulted in most of PY 2019 subrecipients getting funding for PY 2020. Those agencies that underperformed were reported to the CDCAC, the citizen led committee that determines recommended grants funding levels, and these reports tended to make

CDCAC members less likely to recommend a very high percentage of funding for such agencies. With 27,478 persons served with PY 2019 CDBG funds, and 11,265 persons served with PY 2019 ESG funds, the overall CDBG and ESG goals were exceeded.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

During the Draft PY 2021 Action Plan process, the Village encouraged a high level of agency consultation in an effort to demonstrate its commitment to the following: 1.) Identifying priority needs; and 2.) Engaging the participation of citizens, public agencies and non-profit organizations in a positive and collaborative manner.

The development of the Village of Oak Park PY 2021 Action Plan began on January 20, 2021 when a Notice of Federal Funding Availability was published in the *Wednesday Journal* newspaper. In addition, all agency representatives on the Development Customer Services Department grants mailing list were sent a notice, and notices were sent out in social media, as well.

After soliciting applications, the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) held hearings and conducted an in-depth review of each application. This process began on April 7, 2021, when a Notice of these meetings was published in the *Wednesday Journal* newspaper. Three public CDCAC meetings were held in April and May, 2021.

The Village of Oak Park CDCAC reviewed proposals, heard applicant presentations and made funding recommendations to the Village President and Board of Trustees for a portion of the Village's PY 2021 CDBG entitlement allocation. All of these recommendations are now included in this Action Plan.

On June 21, 2021, the Village Board released the draft PY 2021 Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period that began June 24, 2021. The Notice of Document Availability for the draft PY 2021 Action Plan was published in the *Wednesday Journal* on June 23, 2021 and advertised on the Village website, with the 30-day comment period running from June 24, 2021 to 5 p.m. on July 23, 2021. A virtual Public Hearing was held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on July 23, 2021. After being released, the draft PY 2021 Action Plan was available at the following locations:

- Village of Oak Park Development Customer Services, 123 Madison Street, Oak Park;
- The Village's Website, on the Housing-Grants page; and
- The Oak Park Public Library, Main Branch, 834 Lake Street, Oak Park.

No comments were received on the draft PY 2021 Action Plan.

On April 4, 2022 the Village Board approved a resolution for a Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period that began April 13, 2022. The Notice of Document

Availability for the Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan was published in the *Wednesday Journal* on April 13, 2022 and advertised on the Village website, with the 30-day comment period running from April 13, 2022 5:00PM to May 13, 2022. A virtual Public Hearing was held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on May 17, 2022. After being released, the draft PY 2021 Action Plan with Substantial Amendment was available at the following locations:

- Village of Oak Park Development Customer Services, 123 Madison Street, Oak Park; and
- The Village's Website, on the Housing-Grants page

On August 1, 2022 the Village Board approved a resolution for a Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period that began on August 3, 2022. The Notice of Document Availability for the Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan was published in *Wednesday Journal* on August 3, 2022 and advertised on the Village of Oak Park's website, with the 30 day-comment period running from August 3, 2022 5:00pm to September 6, 2022. A virtual Public Hearing was held from 1:00-2:00 P.M. on August 30, 2022. After being released, the draft PY 2021 Action Plan with Substantial Amendment was available on the Village website and office.

## **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

No comments were received on the draft PY 2021 Action Plan. See item #4 above for a full description of the citizen participation process for the draft Action Plan. This is also included as an attachment to the PY 2021 Action Plan.

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

Not applicable; no comments were received.

## **7. Summary**

To meet the priority needs of the community, the Village worked in partnership with other entities and will continue to identify and incorporate more partners, as well as to assist all of its partners in enhancing their service delivery systems. This will be accomplished through project funding, program monitoring, technical assistance, workshops and information-sharing, particularly through the various coalitions and committees on which the Village serves.

**PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.200(b)**

**1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan**

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		Development Customer Services/Village of Oak Park
ESG Administrator		Development Customer Services/Village of Oak Park

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative**

The lead agency for the Action Plan is the Neighborhood Services Division of the Development Customer Services Department of the Village of Oak Park, a general-purpose unit of municipal government. The Division initiated the administration, organization and preparation of the Action Plan and will coordinate the public and nonprofit entities through which it will carry it out. All of this will be done in conjunction with Cook County, the lead agency for the HOME Consortium to which Oak Park belongs.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Jeffrey Prior, Manager

Neighborhood Services Division

Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street

Oak Park, IL 60302

708.358.5412

[jprior@oak-park.us](mailto:jprior@oak-park.us)

## **AP-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

The Development Customer Services Department consults with a number of agencies throughout the year. Continuum of Care members, community representatives, subrecipients, and other public service agencies provide input into the department's plans for HUD funding in on-going consultations and collaborations. The draft PY 2019 Action Plan was forwarded to various agencies that serve Oak Park persons.

The citizen participation plan was followed; citizens and key persons were asked to consult, though they did not. Several agencies were involved through consultation, planning and communication efforts. The Oak Park and River Forest Infant Welfare Society - which runs a children's dental clinic - and the state public health agency were consulted with regard to lead based paint hazard reduction efforts, especially on the subject of children and lead.

### **Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l)).**

With the Con Plan, the Village of Oak Park involved public and private housing, health, mental health and service agencies in a number of ways. Through the Consolidated Plan consultation process, good coordination and collaboration was identified as a key priority for the Village and its partners. To address this need, the Village is involved with the meeting of community funders, partly led by the Oak Park Township Community Mental Health Board.

Beginning with the PY 2015 application process over four years ago, CDBG Public Service applicants had to include in their written narrative a discussion of how they are coordinating with other agencies in the community. If the applicants did not have these connections, they were asked to describe their detailed plans and timeline for implementing a collaborative process. This effort improves collaboration for awarded agencies and allows the Village the ability to identify other areas for additional coordination.

Additionally, many of the funded agencies participate in the Continuum of Care and work closely with other nonprofits to identify other opportunities for persons in the community. The Village attends Continuum of Care Prevention Committee and West Suburban Council on Homelessness meetings. The Village also served on the core committee that evaluated the RFP for comprehensive Coordinated Entry services and operations in Suburban Cook County and continues to work with CE.

The Village of Oak Park is committed to increasing community partnerships and investing in economic and neighborhood development. The actions identified above will further this commitment and will



increase opportunities for low and moderate income residents to receive necessary services and obtain access to affordable housing options.

During the year, the Village works closely with its subrecipients and other service providers to develop better coordination and collaboration. This includes NAMI Metro Suburban and Thrive, two agencies that assist persons with mental health issues. The Village is closely involved in the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County (Continuum of Care lead), which includes not only homeless service providers but health, mental health, substance abuse treatment and housing providers. The Oak Park Homelessness Coalition also brings together service providers and governmental organizations in the community to develop a cohesive plan to end homelessness in the Village. The Village of Oak Park consulted state and local health and child welfare agencies in preparing the lead based paint hazards sections.

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

The Village of Oak Park works with the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County (the Alliance), the area's Continuum of Care, and aligns its homeless priorities with the Alliance's strategic plan to ensure a coordinated response within the community, while still evaluating the needs specific to Oak Park. The Village is active in the Alliance's committees and in Coordinated Entry. With regard to chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth, the Village assisted these populations by participating in the local Continuum of Care and by funding five ESG activities carried out by the Alliance and Housing Forward. Moreover, Housing Forward implemented two CDBG activities to help these populations.

The Village also participates in a specific Oak Park homeless coalition that will increase interagency collaboration and ensure that persons experiencing homelessness are linked to services best suited for their needs.

In partnership with the Oak Park Township Community Mental Health Board and the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation, the Village created a committee of funding agencies, including the Alliance, to evaluate the priorities and funding efforts in the community to ensure that services are not duplicated and needs are being addressed in the most effective way possible. The goal of the committee is to ultimately provide the most coordinated funding structure that addresses the needs of the community, including persons experiencing homelessness, with an emphasis on chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth, as well as persons at risk of homelessness. This group continues to plan how to best serve the agencies that assist those in need so that grant funds can make the greatest impact.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS**

In addition to the stakeholder meetings held to determine Con Plan priorities, the Village met with a variety of funders in the community, including the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County (the Alliance), to evaluate how funds are being used to address priorities in Oak Park, including addressing homeless needs. This included a focused discussion on coordination of funds between Oak Park, Cook County, private funders and other localities. The Alliance participated in the discussion to provide a regional expertise on how this can best be achieved.

The Village also met with the Alliance through a one on one discussion that also included Housing Forward, the community's largest provider of services to persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. How current funds are being utilized, what needs still remain in the community, and how future effects can be more effectively focused were discussed. Oak Park relies on the Alliance's expertise on homeless needs in suburban Cook County – including performance standards, outcomes evaluation, and policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS – to ensure a coordinated regional effort and to provide a consistent message to all subrecipients.

Coordination among ESG recipients is facilitated through the use of the Coordinated Entry initiative that increases the efficiency of assistance to persons in need and determines targeting and prioritization for services. Starting in 2016, the Village has been involved with the implementation of Coordinated Entry, attending several introductory meetings, serving on the RFP Review Committee for Coordinated Entry, and attending regular meetings since the contract was awarded to a collaborative group led by Housing Forward.

**2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations**

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Regional organization Planning organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Continuum of Care Lead Agency
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village followed the Alliance Strategic Plan and attended meetings and special sessions all throughout the year. The Village provided an ESG grant to the Alliance for HMIS. The Alliance was interviewed for the Con Plan and play an important leadership role as the CoC.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Oak Park Regional Housing Center
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Planning organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The agency was funded with CDBG and plays a vital role, being the chief fair housing agency in Oak Park. They were consulted during the Con Plan process. They are expected to help keep Oak Park diverse and mainly free of discrimination. The Housing Center is an official Partner Agency of Oak Park government.

3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	COOK COUNTY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County Regional organization Planning organization Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cook County government (Department of Planning and Development; Bureau of Economic Development) is the lead agency for the HOME Consortium to which the Village belongs. This entire IDIS PY 2021 Action Plan is being done in partnership with Cook County.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	State of Illinois
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - State Planning organization Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	State Government
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Like all these other agencies and organizations, the State was sent the draft Action Plan, with an emphasis on lead hazard reduction and children.

5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Oak Park Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Other government - Local Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village works with the Oak Park Housing Authority (OPHA) to ensure proper housing for LMI persons, seniors, persons experiencing homelessness and persons with disabilities. The OPHA Plan and the Village Con Plan and Action Plan are consistent with each other. They received the draft Action Plan.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	OAK PARK RESIDENCE CORPORATION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Other government - Local Planning organization Civic Leaders Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village works with the Oak Park Residence Corporation to ensure proper and inclusive housing policy and actions. The Residence Corporation is an official Partner Agency of Oak Park government.

7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Housing Forward
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Regional organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Housing Forward is a subrecipient of CDBG funds, being the main homelessness services provider for Oak Park. They were interviewed for the Con Plan and play an important leadership role with the Alliance, as well as with the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition. They received the draft Action Plan.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Infant Welfare League, the Children's Clinic
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Health Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Oak Park-River Forest Children's Clinic of the Infant Welfare Society, a CDBG subrecipient, is the primary child welfare agency, which the Village consulted with regard to lead based paint hazard reductions, particularly on the subject of children.

9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	SARAH'S INN
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims Regional organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Sarah's Inn is a subrecipient of CDBG funds, being the main domestic violence services provider for Oak Park and the larger area. They received the draft Action Plan.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization Civic Leaders Foundation
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Village is involved with the meeting of community funders, led by the Oak Park Township Community Mental Health Board and the Oak Park & River Forest Community Foundation. The goal is to better serve non profit agencies.

11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Beyond Hunger
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health Health Agency Regional organization Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Beyond Hunger is a subrecipient of CDBG funds, being the main emergency food provider for Oak Park and the larger area. They received the draft Action Plan.

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

Not applicable.

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

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County	Our goals overlap very well with the Alliance's Plan.

**Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative**



The Village sought to include one other agency in this section, but the IDIS AAP search system would not allow this. This agency is the Oak Park Township Community Mental Health Board, which, along with the Oak Park & River Forest Community Foundation, works with the Village of Oak Park on matters of homelessness and finding the most efficient and effective way to serve local non profit agencies.

## **AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)**

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

During the Draft PY 2021 Action Plan process, the Village encouraged a high level of agency consultation in an effort to demonstrate its commitment to the following: 1.) Identifying priority needs; and 2.) Engaging the participation of citizens, public agencies and non-profit organizations in a positive and collaborative manner.

The development of the Village of Oak Park PY 2021 Action Plan began on January 20, 2021 when a Notice of Federal Funding Availability was published in the *Wednesday Journal* newspaper. In addition, all agency representatives on the Development Customer Services Department grants mailing list were sent a notice, and notices were sent out in social media, as well.

After soliciting applications, the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) held hearings and conducted an in-depth review of each application. This process began on April 7, 2021, when a Notice of these meetings was published in the *Wednesday Journal* newspaper. Three public CDCAC meetings were held in April and May, 2021.

The Village of Oak Park CDCAC reviewed proposals, heard applicant presentations and made funding recommendations to the Village President and Board of Trustees for a portion of the Village's PY 2021 CDBG entitlement allocation. All of these recommendations are now included in this Action Plan.

On June 21, 2021, the Village Board released the draft PY 2021 Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period that began June 24, 2021. The Notice of Document Availability for the draft PY 2021 Action Plan was published in the *Wednesday Journal* on June 23, 2021 and advertised on the Village website, with the 30-day comment period running from June 24, 2021 to 5 p.m. on July 23, 2021. A virtual Public Hearing was held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on July 23, 2021. After being released, the draft PY 2021 Action Plan was available at the following locations:

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On August 1, 2022 the Village Board approved a resolution for a Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period that began on August 2, 2022. The Notice of Document Availability for the Substantial Amendment to the PY 2021 Action Plan was published in *Wednesday Journal* on August 2, 2022 and advertised on the Village of Oak Park's website, with the 30 day-comment period running from August 2, 2022 5:00pm to September 6, 2022. A virtual Public Hearing was held from 1:00-2:00 P.M. on August 30, 2022. After being released, the draft PY 2021 Action Plan with Substantial Amendment was available at the Village Website and Main Office.

**Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The Wednesday Journal newspaper ad ran June 23, 2021. The comment period ran from June 24, 2021 to 5 p.m. on July 23, 2021. No comments were received.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	
2	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: any other language Persons with disabilities Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Draft PY 2021 Action Plan sent out to multiple agencies per the Oak Park Citizens Participation Plan. Also, the draft document was made available on the Village's website.	No comments received.	Not applicable.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The public meeting for the draft Action Plan was held on June 21, 2021. The public meeting for the final Action Plan was held on August 2, 2021.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	
4	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The public hearing for the draft Action Plan was held on July 23, 2021.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	
5	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	The Wednesday Journal newspaper ad ran April 13, 2022. The comment period ran from April 13, 2022 5 p.m. to May 13, 2022. No comments were received.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: any other language Persons with disabilities Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The draft document was made available on the Village's website.	No comments received.	Not applicable.	<a href="https://www.oak-park.us/village-services/housing-programs/community-development-shelter-grants">https://www.oak-park.us/village-services/housing-programs/community-development-shelter-grants</a>
7	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The public hearing for the draft Action Plan Substantial Amendment was held on May 17, 2022.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
8	Internet Outreach	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: any other language</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Draft PY 2021 Action Plan sent out to multiple agencies per the Oak Park Citizens Participation Plan. Also, the draft document was made available on the Village's website.</p>	<p>No comments were received.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.oak-park.us/village-services/housing-programs/community-development-shelter-grants">https://www.oak-park.us/village-services/housing-programs/community-development-shelter-grants</a></p>
9	Newspaper Ad	<p>Non-targeted/broad community</p>	<p>The Wednesday Journal newspaper ran an ad August 3, 2022. The comment period ran from August 3, 2022 5:00 to September 6, 2022. No comments were received.</p>	<p>No comments were received.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
10	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The public hearing for the draft Action Plan Substantial Amendment was held on August 30, 2022.	No comments were received.	Not applicable.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**



## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The anticipated resources section of the Action Plan describes the Village of Oak Park’s financial resources for PY 2021, as well as for the duration of the PY 2020 to 2024 Consolidated Plan. The financial resources listed are not all encompassing but serve to illustrate the Village’s ability to use federal and local funding to address the priority needs and goals put forth in this plan. The funds are anticipated to be utilized by various regional and local government entities as well as the non profit service providers that serve Oak Park. Note that \$530,667 is prior year, returned funds will be used in PY 2021; this figure is listed below. Also note that, in the Con Plan, Admin was not listed as a goal because it doesn't report accomplishments. This resulted in the dollar amount for the Goals section being short \$330,708 of the amount that was listed in both the Projects and Resources sections of this Plan (\$330,708 being the Admin total for the Village of Oak Park).

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,653,543	0	530,667	2,184,210	6,914,172	Allocated to Village departments and non-profit agencies serving Oak Park, with some funds used for grant administration.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	0	0	0	0	0	

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

Federal funding will leverage private, state and local funds by enabling the Village of Oak Park to serve those with the greatest need at the highest capacity. Additionally, federal funds will serve as funding for Village programs or service provider applications that require additional funding in order to have their program, project, or service meet the need in the community. The grant money provided by HUD will allow organizations and the Village to successfully meet the needs of the community’s most vulnerable members. In addition, when the Village does receive ESG funds, which will not be the case for PY 2021, they have to be matched dollar for dollar by subrecipients, which creates additional investment in the community.

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

**identified in the plan**

Not applicable at this time.

**Discussion**

The Village of Oak Park will continue to pursue other available federal, state and private sources to leverage entitlement grant funding for the proposed community development initiatives in the Action Plan and Consolidated Plan. This will include the continuation of a Section 108 Business Loan Program to support development and job creation. In addition, some local funds will be allocated during the 5-year period to support the Village’s Consolidated Planning priorities.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Services	2020	2024	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Entire Jurisdiction	Public Services	CDBG: \$248,031	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25562 Persons Assisted
2	Affordable & Safe Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Entire Jurisdiction	Housing	CDBG: \$351,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 14 Household Housing Unit
3	Public Infrastructure	2020	2024	Public Infrastructure	Entire Jurisdiction CDBG Target Area	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$1,215,609	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2569 Persons Assisted
4	Homelessness Assistance	2020	2024	Homeless	Entire Jurisdiction	Homelessness Assistance		
5	Public Facilities and Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Entire Jurisdiction	Public Facilities & Improvements	CDBG: \$38,862	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 17 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Economic Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Entire Jurisdiction	Economic Development Administration & Planning	CDBG: \$330,708	

Table 6 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public Services that consist of expanding the availability of and increasing access to needed public services is a key goal. Public services include, but are not limited to, mental health, domestic violence, food provision, fair housing, programs for persons with disabilities, homeless services and child/youth programs.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The Village of Oak Park aims to maintain and improve affordable housing. The advanced age of the Oak Park housing supply necessitates the need for the rehabbing of existing housing, occupied by both owners and renters. This priority also includes code enforcement, which similarly strives to ensure that properties are safe and sound. The dollar amount listed below includes \$75,000 for Code Enforcement. The dollar amount listed below does not include the single family housing rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund amount.

3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Goal Description</b>	This strategic plan goal involves creating livable communities through improvements to public infrastructure. Maintaining and improving the quality of the existing infrastructure is instrumental to ensuring that residents live in a safe, clean, and decent environment. Accessibility improvements are a large part of the work to be performed. The focus is on sidewalk, sidewalk ramp, street, alley and water line improvements. The activities will be a mix of LMA and LMC, thus being targets and covering the Village as a whole.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Homelessness Assistance
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Oak Park aims to support services to prevent homelessness and to assist those currently experiencing homelessness. These services include but are not limited to ESG street outreach, prevention, rapid re-housing, HMIS and emergency shelter, though CDBG funds are used, as well. Accomplishments and dollar amounts are listed under Public Service for CDBG. The Village will not receive ESG funds for PY 2021. The Housing Forward Homelessness Planning and Admin project is part of this Goal.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Maintaining and improving the quality of the exiting public facilities is instrumental to ensure that residents have access to safe, accessible and decent facilities and that special needs populations are cared for.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Economic development will provide greater opportunities for low and moderate income Oak Park residents and help businesses grow. Economic development will focus on running the Village Section 108 program for businesses. The Village again may need to hire a consultant to conduct underwriting for the Secion 108 program.  In addition, please note that within the Con Plan, Admin was not listed as a goal because it does not report accomplishments. This resulted in the dollar amount for Goals being short \$330,708 of the amount listed in both the Projects and Resources sections. To reflect consistency throughout AP15, 20 and 35, the 20% admin funding allocation (\$330,708) was placed within this goal.



## AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The Village has identified these projects to be implemented in PY 2021 to achieve the priorities, strategies and goals listed in the Consolidated Plan. This includes activities from allocations from previous program years that will be completed and/or funds disbursed in PY 2021. The Public Services activities funded are at the amount of \$248,031. The infrastructure activities are funded at \$1,580,109 for PY 2021. Public Facilities and Improvements activities funded are funded at \$38,862 for PY 2021. Housing activities are funded at \$276,000, including an additional \$75,000 going to a Housing Code Enforcement activity (the \$276,000 does not include the revolving loan fund balance and a past RLF contingency activity in the amount of \$108,000.) Oak Park is also continuing a Section 108 Program for a business loan fund and may continue to utilize prior year CDBG funds to conduct underwriting for this economic development loan program. Similar to last year, the Village did not receive Emergency Solutions Grant funding for PY 2021.,

#	Project Name
1	Beyond Hunger
2	Community Support Services
3	Hephzibah Childrens Association
4	Housing Forward, Employment Readiness
5	Housing Forward, Interim Housing Shelter
6	Housing Forward, OPHC Homeless Planning-Admin
7	NAMI-Metro Suburban
8	New Moms
9	North West Housing Partnership
10	Oak Park Regional Housing Center (Public Service)
11	Oak Park Regional Housing Center (Admin)
12	Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society
13	Sarah's Inn
14	Thrive Counseling Center
15	UCP Seguin of Greater Chicagoland
16	VOP CDBG Administration
17	Village of Oak Park Development Customer Services Department Farmers Market Healthy Nutrition
18	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Lead Hazard Reduction
19	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Single Family Housing Rehab
20	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Small Rental Rehab
21	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Projects Implementation
22	Village of Oak Park Property Maintenance Inspections
23	Village of Oak Park Public Works, Engineering Division, Infrastructure Improvements



#	Project Name
24	Village of Oak Park Public Works, Water-Sewer Division, Water Line Improvements
25	Way Back Inn
26	Way Back Inn (Facility Improvement)

**Table 7 – Project Information**

**Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs**

Allocation priorities for Village units were determined to be housing, infrastructure, public services, planning-administration and public facility improvements, based on consultation and public participation. The Village sought a high level of agency and public consultation in an effort to demonstrate its commitment to identifying priority needs and engaging the participation of public agencies and nonprofit organizations in a positive and collaborative manner. These actions and meetings resulted in the Village's allocation priorities. There are no expected obstacles to addressing underserved needs.

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Beyond Hunger
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$22,000
	<b>Description</b>	With many individuals in the area not knowing where their next meal is coming from, Beyond Hunger will provide direct hunger relief to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	11,500 persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	848 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL 60301
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Community Support Services
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$8,111
	<b>Description</b>	Community Support Services (CSS) provides Case Management services to Oak Park families and participants with an Intellectual/Developmental disability (I/DD). The purpose is to provide stability through these services to improve the quality of life through participation in the community.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	359 persons with a disability or a family member of a person with a disability.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.

<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Hephzibah Childrens Association
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$17,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Hephzibah behavior interventionist will provide academic and behavioral support and crisis intervention services for 50 children who reside at Hephzibah Home and attend District 97 and therapeutic schools.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	50 formerly abused and neglected children.
	<b>Location Description</b>	946 North Boulevard, Oak Park, IL 60301
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Forward, Employment Readiness
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Housing Forward Employment Readiness program will provide individual and group-based training in the soft skills necessary to become job ready and secure sustainable employment, as well as job location services to connect clients to long-term employment.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	40 homeless or formerly homeless persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	6634 W. Roosevelt Road, 2nd Floor, Oak Park, IL 60304. Note that the pandemic has created the need for a remote and virtual model.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Forward, Interim Housing Shelter
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$40,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Interim Housing program is a 24-hour-a-day place for people to stabilize while they seek permanent housing. The safe environment allows clients relief from a survival mode and time to focus on their housing goals. Housing Forward has leased the Write Inn hotel in Oak Park for this purpose.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	120 homeless persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	211 N. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302 (the Write Inn hotel)
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Forward, OPHC Homeless Planning-Admin
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homelessness Assistance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,000
	<b>Description</b>	Homelessness planning and administration in partnership with the leadership of the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	NA: this is Planning-Admin.
	<b>Location Description</b>	1851 S. 9th Ave, Maywood IL 60153

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	NAMI-Metro Suburban
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,000
	<b>Description</b>	NAMI Metro Suburban will use CDBG funds for its Drop in Center. The purpose of the project is to promote programming at the Drop In Center for adults with mental illness living in Oak Park. The services provided at our day service center include an array of wellness programs, socialization activities, supported employment and job readiness and job placement.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	125 persons with mental illnesses.
	<b>Location Description</b>	814 Harrison St., Oak Park, IL 60304 is the location but, due to the pandemic, some services are being provided remotely to be safe.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	New Moms
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$17,000
	<b>Description</b>	The project will assist adolescent and young mothers in order to assist both the parent and the child. The Parents As Teachers social work model will be followed.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	85 adolescent and young mothers and their children.
	<b>Location Description</b>	206 W. Chicago Avenue in Oak Park, with many services being provided remotely.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
9	<b>Project Name</b>	North West Housing Partnership
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$6,125
	<b>Description</b>	To provide the Village of Oak Park with an excellent home repair program for low to moderate income Senior residents in need of home repairs.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	75 Oak Park Seniors.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
10	<b>Project Name</b>	Oak Park Regional Housing Center (Public Service)
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$42,500
	<b>Description</b>	Oak Park Regional Housing Center will provide fair housing education and housing search assistance to clients in need of rental housing in an effort to combat discrimination and to ensure awareness of fair housing rights and housing opportunities to people of all races, abilities and incomes.

	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	3,500 persons in need of assistance, with 1,000 being Oak Park persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Oak Park Regional Housing Center (Admin)
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$80,000
	<b>Description</b>	Oak Park Regional Housing Center will provide fair housing education and housing search assistance to clients in need of rental housing in an effort to combat discrimination and to ensure awareness of fair housing rights and housing opportunities to people of all races, abilities and incomes.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	NA: Admin
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$21,500
	<b>Description</b>	The Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society Childrens Clinic will use CDBG to subsidize the cost of providing preventive and restorative dental care for low-income Oak Park children.



	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	4,500 persons, with 700 being Oak Park persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	320 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL 60302
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Sarah's Inn
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$12,000
	<b>Description</b>	With this project, Sarah's Inn will pay for the partial salary and fringe benefits for the Advocacy and Counseling Coordinator position. This trained position will provide supportive services to the entire family, focused not only on successful crisis intervention and emotional support to address the most common effects of trauma, but also the longer-term issues of realizing self-sufficiency.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	4,500 victims of domestic violence and their children, with 460 of them being LMI Oak Park clients.
	<b>Location Description</b>	1547 Circle Avenue Forest Park, IL 60130 and other locations.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>14</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Thrive Counseling Center
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$18,631

	<b>Description</b>	The Psychiatric Services for Medicaid Clients project provides psychiatric and medication management services to LMI clients in order that they may manage their symptoms and lead productive lives.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	212 persons with mental disabilities will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	120 Marion Street, Oak Park IL 60301
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
15	<b>Project Name</b>	UCP Seguin of Greater Chicagoland
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facilities & Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$33,000
	<b>Description</b>	UCP Seguin will improve one CILA public facility at 1045 S. Highland Avenue in Oak Park using these CDBG funds.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	2 persons with developmental disabilities will benefit from the project.
	<b>Location Description</b>	1045 S. Highland Avenue, Oak Park IL 60304
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
16	<b>Project Name</b>	VOP CDBG Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$239,708
	<b>Description</b>	General oversight, administration and management of the Village CDBG program for PY 2021.

	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	NA: Admin only.
	<b>Location Description</b>	123 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
17	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Development Customer Services Department Farmers Market Healthy Nutrition
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$16,602
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will enable the Development Customer Services Department to provide healthy, nutritious food to low income persons attending the Farmers Market.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	456 LMI persons will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The Farmers Market is located in the parking lot of Pilgrim Church at Lake Street and Elmwood Avenue in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
18	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Lead Hazard Reduction
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$99,150
	<b>Description</b>	The Village will use these CDBG funds to reduce lead hazards in the single family homes of income qualifying households in partnership with a single family housing rehabilitation activity.

	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	7 LMI households will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Up to 7 activities will be set up for this project.
19	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Single Family Housing Rehab
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	:
	<b>Description</b>	The Village will use these CDBG funds for a single family housing rehabilitation activity that will assist LMI households. This fund is replenished at \$175,000 each PY. The improvements will ensure the health and safety of homeowners. There is 47241.77 in a revolving loan contingency activity that may be partially used in PY 2021; this amount is included below in CDBG, however, the balance of the revolving loan fund is not.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Up to 7 LMI households will benefit from this project.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Up to 7 activities will be set up for this project.
20	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Small Rental Rehab
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$90,950

	<b>Description</b>	The CDBG-funded Small Rental Rehab housing project will assist owners of rental properties in rehabilitating their rental units. The property must be either a single-family detached rental dwelling or a multi-family rental building with fewer than eight units. A minimum project budget is \$2,000 per rental unit and the maximum is up to \$5,000 per rental unit. The program provides forgivable loan funds to rental owners to correct code violations and serious housing quality deficiencies. The owners will be contracted to rent 51% of their rental units to low- and moderate-income households, at affordable rents for at least two years.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	10 units of housing will be improved, with the great majority of beneficiaries being LMI.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Multiple activities will be set up for this project.
<b>21</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Housing Programs Projects Implementation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$85,900
	<b>Description</b>	This CDBG project is the Oak Park Housing Programs Projects Implementation, which covers activity delivery costs for the three housing projects: lead hazard reduction; single family rehab with the revolving loan fund; and small rental rehab.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This is an ADC project with no beneficiaries in order to avoid double counting of accomplishments.
	<b>Location Description</b>	123 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL 60302
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Property Maintenance Inspections

<b>22</b>	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable & Safe Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$75,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Neighborhood Services Division of the Oak Park Development Customer Services Department is receiving CDBG funds to improve homes and businesses in deteriorated/deteriorating income-eligible areas of the Village in order to improve the health, safety and overall well-being of Oak Park residents. A number of excellent Village CDBG funded housing programs exist for qualifying owners and renters whose buildings receive Code Enforcement violations.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	2 LMI households will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Two addresses in Oak Park to be determined.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
	<b>23</b>	<b>Project Name</b>
<b>Target Area</b>		Entire Jurisdiction CDBG Target Area
<b>Goals Supported</b>		Public Infrastructure
<b>Needs Addressed</b>		Infrastructure Improvements
<b>Funding</b>		CDBG: \$1,580,109

	<b>Description</b>	The Streets and Sidewalk Ramp project replaces deteriorating streets as well as sidewalk ramps at intersections as part of the Village annual street resurfacing project. The Village maintains approximately 110 miles of streets and when streets are resurfaced sidewalk ramps at intersections are replaced when needed to eliminate hazards that create barriers to persons with disabilities and to comply with ADA guidelines. CDBG funds will be used for these sidewalk ramp replacements at various intersections. In addition, traditional sidewalks will be replaced for the same reason listed above. Public sewer main replacement and roadway reconstruction, resurfacing, street lighting, and landscaping, and deteriorated alleys will be replaced in Low Mod Areas. For Public Works Engineering, the breakdown of funding is this: Alleys: \$426,000 ADA Sidewalks: \$300,000 Street Resurfacing and corner ADA Sidewalk Ramps: \$465,609
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	2,665 persons will benefit from this project and its five activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various locations in Oak Park.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	5 activities under this project. Alley Improvements will be funded at \$426,000; ADA Sidewalk Improvements will be funded at \$365,609; Street and ADA Sidewalk Ramp Improvements will be funded at \$536,000; Sewer (Public) and Roadways will be funded at \$97,500; and Traffic Calming will be funded at \$155,000 for a total of \$1,580,109.
<b>24</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Village of Oak Park Public Works, Water-Sewer Division, Water Line Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000

	<b>Description</b>	The Village of Oak Park will administer a program to remove lead water services (both public side and private side) from the water system over a period of time. The Village has approximately 12,000 water services that are either known to be lead or have unknown materials and assumed to be lead. Families with young children will be targeted, as the purpose is to reduce or eliminate lead poisoning. Qualifying low and moderate income persons will be the beneficiaries.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	19 LMI persons will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various addresses to be determined later.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>25</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Way Back Inn
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$5,562
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds will be used to provide counseling to the family members of recovering addicts at the Way Back Inn Grateful House, which will allow clients and family members to have better mental and physical health.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	40 persons (36 LMI persons) will benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	412 S. Wesley Ave. Oak Park, Illinois 60302-3908
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.
<b>26</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Way Back Inn (Facility Improvement)
	<b>Target Area</b>	Entire Jurisdiction



<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facilities & Improvements
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$5,862
<b>Description</b>	This project will pay for new windows (replacing old, worn windows) for the Recovery Home called Grateful House, which houses persons with special needs.
<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2022
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	15 persons (12 LMI persons) will benefit.
<b>Location Description</b>	412 S. Wesley Ave. Oak Park, Illinois 60302-3908
<b>Planned Activities</b>	One activity will be set up for this project.

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)**

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

Priority CDBG funding areas, in the Village of Oak Park, include spaces where the percentage of low and moderate income (LMI) persons is 36.29% or higher. While the general rule is that an area benefit activity must serve an area where the concentration of LMI persons is at least 51% of the total population within the geographical boundary, Section 570.208(a)(ii) of the HUD regulations allows the "exception criteria," also referred to as the "upper quartile."

HUD defines an LMI census block group, in the Village of Oak Park, as one in which 36.29% or more of the population have incomes of 80% or less of MFI. According to these criteria, 14 of the Village's 53 census block groups qualify as LMI areas. UCP Seguin is a PY 2021 subrecipient agency with a proposed Public Facilities Improvements project at one Oak Park site that is in an LMI area – census tract 8131, block group 4. Although locations have not yet been identified, the Alley Improvement Infrastructure activity, the Street Improvement Infrastructure activity, and the Code Enforcement (Property Maintenance Inspections) activity all will be conducted in LMI areas. This comprises 40% of the total CDBG funding for the Village.

Concentrations of Minority Persons: The Village of Oak Park defines areas of racial or ethnic concentration as geographical areas where the percentage of a specific minority or ethnic group is 10 percentage points higher than in the Village overall.

In Oak Park, African-American residents comprised 19.8% of the population. Therefore, an area of racial concentration includes census tracts where the percentage of African-American residents is 29.8% or higher. According to the latest American Community Survey five-year estimates, there are two census tracts that met the criteria for areas of racial concentration. These areas are: Census tract 8121 immediately to the north of census tract 8125 along the boundary of Chicago – 34.5%; and Census tract 8125 along the eastern boundary of Chicago in the central area of the Village – 31.6%. There were no other areas of racial or ethnic concentration in the Village, as of the latest federal data.

Concentrations of LMI Persons and Minority Persons: Of the nine census tracts which contained block groups identified as LMI areas, two tracts were also noted to be areas of racial concentration. With the inclusion of the specific block groups, these areas were census tract 8121, block group 1; and census tract 8125, block groups 1, 2 and 3. Although locations have not yet been identified, it is expected that the Alley Improvement activity and/or the Street Improvement activity will be conducted in LMI areas that are also areas of racial concentration. Moreover, it is possible that Property Maintenance

Inspections will be conducted in these areas.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Entire Jurisdiction	60
CDBG Target Area	40

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

### **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The rationale is that minorities and LMI persons are a general priority for the Village. Overall, the Con Plan needs assessment showed that priorities and strategies should be targeted to specific grants categories and to specific groups of persons, and not to specific areas. Three CDBG exceptions are the Alley Improvement component of Infrastructure, the Street Improvement component of Infrastructure, and Code Enforcement (Property Maintenance Inspections) priorities.

### **Discussion**

The Village will use 60% for activities for the Village as a whole and 40% for target areas serving a LMI Area benefit. The targeted area percentage is much higher than in years past because a long-deferred Alley Improvements project will be taking place in PY 2021, and this is funded at \$400,000. Also funded at that amount is a targeted Street Improvement project. Both of these are being managed by the Village Public Works Department. Note that, for the PY 2020 Action Plan, the Village made a mistake and listed in reverse the percentages for the CDBG Target Area and the Entire Jurisdiction.

## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)**

### **Introduction**

For PY 2021, the Village will not receive Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds. For information on the Village's homelessness strategy, see the Oak Park Consolidated Plan. Regardless of the loss of ESG funds, the Village uses CDBG Public Services funds to eliminate, reduce, prevent or ameliorate homelessness in Oak Park, as described below.

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

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

For PY 2021, the Village will not receive Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds. However, for PY 2021 the Village funded the Housing Forward Interim Housing CDBG activity, which will provide total shelter to persons experiencing homelessness. The Interim Housing project is a 24-hour-a-day place for people to stabilize while they seek permanent housing. The safe environment allows clients relief from a survival mode and time to focus on their housing goals. Housing Forward has leased the Write Inn hotel in Oak Park for this purpose. This activity also will provide food, case management, mental health services and referral services to persons experiencing homelessness. The Village also funded the Housing Forward Employment Readiness CDBG activity, which will give homeless and formerly-homeless persons the skills that can help them land a job.

#### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

As will be noted in each section here, for PY 2021, the Village will not receive Emergency Solutions Grant funds. However, for PY 2021 the Village funded the Housing Forward Interim Housing CDBG activity, which will provide total shelter to persons experiencing homelessness. The Interim Housing project is a 24-hour-a-day place for people to stabilize while they seek permanent housing. The safe environment allows clients relief from a survival mode and time to focus on their housing goals. Housing Forward has leased the Write Inn hotel in Oak Park for this purpose. This activity also will provide food, case

management, mental health services and referral services to persons experiencing homelessness.

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

For PY 2021, the Village will not receive ESG funds. However, for PY 2021 the Village funded the Housing Forward Employment Readiness CDBG activity, which will give homeless and formerly-homeless persons the skills that can help them land a job, become housed, and break the cycle of poverty. Moreover, for PY 2021 the Village funded the Housing Forward Interim Housing CDBG activity, which will provide case management, mental health services and referral services to homeless persons, with the goal of creating stability and opportunities for each client, in addition to providing shelter around the clock.

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

For PY 2021, the Village will not receive ESG funds. As discussed above, two CDBG activities carried out by Housing Forward will assist persons experiencing homelessness. Other Village of Oak Park CDBG Public Services activities for PY 2021 can also prevent persons from becoming homeless in the first place, and some of these serve persons being discharged back into Oak Park. These activities are: Beyond Hunger Hunger Relief, Children's Clinic of the Infant Welfare Society Dental Clinic, Hephzibah Children's Association Education and Behavioral Support for Abused/Neglected Oak Park Children, NAMI Metro-Suburban Drop-In Center, New Moms Teen and Adult Parenting Support, Sarah's Inn Domestic Violence Services, and the Way Back Inn Counseling for Family Members of the Addiction Recovery Program. Note that the Village accepts the homeless discharge policies of the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, as do a number of Oak Park CDBG Subrecipients.

## **Discussion**

For PY 2021, the Village will not receive Emergency Solutions Grant program funds. For information on

the Village's homelessness strategy, see the Oak Park Consolidated Plan. But as discussed above, two CDBG activities carried out by Housing Forward will assist persons experiencing homelessness. Note that COVID-19 has changed the nature of shelter and, since late March 2020, Housing Forward has adapted well to these changing conditions and have adequately served this clientele. Other CDBG Public Services can also prevent persons from becoming homeless in the first place, and these are noted in the section above, as well.



## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)**

### **Introduction**

To remove barriers that negatively impact affordable housing in Oak Park, the Village has been investing its CDBG funds in housing rehabilitation for multiple years and will continue to do so. Now more than ever, an emphasis is being placed on determining ways to foster affordable housing in alternative ways. Moreover, as a member of the Cook County HOME Consortium, the Village hopes to identify creative ways to increase the affordable housing stock in the community. It is important to note that the Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities section (AP 65) that precedes this section lists a number of efforts that provide affordable housing to persons experiencing homelessness and those at risk.

### **Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment**

A lack of affordable housing places residential cost burdens on low to moderate income persons, limiting their ability to pay for other goods and services, such as quality education or needed prescriptions. The Village housing efforts are aimed at improving and maintaining a high standard of housing quality while also creating or maintaining affordability.

The Village Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program helps lower income owners make much needed repairs, which enables them to remain in their affordable homes. The Small Rental Rehabilitation Program provides assistance to building owners to make needed repairs on their multifamily rental properties. After rehabilitation, these owners will provide those repaired units to renters under affordable rent limits, for a period of two years. These are even more fully described below.

Several of the public policies that negatively impact affordable housing in Oak Park are not under the control of Village government. Nonetheless, the Village is an active and supportive partner to area nonprofit housing developers and other organizations involved in the creation of affordable housing opportunities for Oak Park residents. In addition to the Village's willingness to work with affordable housing developers, the Village implements several programs and initiatives to address existing barriers to affordable housing that can be funded by CDBG and other funds. For example:

- The Village will continue to operate the CDBG-funded Small Rental Rehab housing program, which assists owners of rental properties in



rehabilitating their rental units. The property must be either a single-family detached rental dwelling or a multi-family rental building with fewer than eight units. A minimum project budget is \$2,000 per rental unit and the maximum is up to \$5,000 per rental unit. The program provides forgivable loan funds to rental owners to correct code violations and serious housing quality deficiencies. The owners will be contracted to rent 51% of their rental units to low and moderate-income households, at affordable rents for at least two years. The Village will continue to administer a Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program. Under this program, low and moderate income homeowners may qualify for no-interest loans to correct code violations and serious housing quality deficiencies. The program is funded using an established revolving loan fund comprised of recaptured CDBG loan funds. This program usually goes hand in hand with a Lead Hazard Reduction Grant program, which is primarily funded by CDBG but also will benefit from additional grant from Cook County, called the *Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Grant*.

The Village will also work closely with agencies that provide expanded housing options to current and potential Oak Park residents. One such agency is the Oak Park Regional Housing Center, which assists many lower-income renters, including persons with disabilities. The Village is committed each program year to continuing to remove the impediments to fair housing choices for all protected classes and affirmatively furthering fair housing choices, as evidenced by Oak Park allocating a large part of its total CDBG allocation to Oak Park Regional Housing Center's fair housing activities.

Past efforts include assisting local seniors by working with the Village Aging in Place Commission, Arbor West Neighbors and participating in the Community Building Blocks Workshop at the Oak Park Library. Among other important topics, the latter focused on equity and affordable housing.

## **Discussion**

The Village is committed to helping to reduce and remove barriers to affordable housing by making housing more affordable, preserving the condition and availability of existing housing stock and helping citizens build assets of all kinds: human, social, financial, physical and natural. To this end, the Village and its community partners have incorporated an integrated system of services and programs to meet the various needs of individuals as they progress toward financial self sufficiency. This includes coordinated efforts to assist persons experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. Lately, the Village and the other taxing bodies are committed to making equity a reality in the Village.

In addition to supporting the initiatives of local organizations that serve low and moderate income residents, by providing employment training, case management, shelter and other social services, the Village of Oak Park administers programs that aim to mitigate poverty. The Village can

directly impact some of poverty's primary causal factors which include poor quality housing, expensive housing, lack of education, unemployment, low income and ill health. The Village can cause impact by utilizing resources, improving housing stock, and assisting in the provision of vital social services, employment opportunities, public health services and an excellent educational system. The multi-pronged approach provided by the programs run by the Village and its subrecipients, have the ability to reduce the number of households with incomes below the poverty level. Specific components of the Village's poverty reduction strategy are listed in another part of this Action Plan (a part of AP 85).

## **AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction**

The following are actions to be undertaken by the Village of Oak Park to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The Village has identified several obstacles that will impede its ability to address the needs outlined in the Consolidated Plan and this Action Plan. These obstacles are listed below.

- The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs in the Village of Oak Park is the limited financial resources available to address identified priorities. For example, the amount of CDBG funds available under the 15% Public Service cap is consistently and significantly less than the amount requested to meet local goals. Thus, many worthwhile projects are funded at lower levels due to the ceiling on these funds.
- The relative absence of available developable land for new affordable housing construction, coupled with the extremely limited availability of existing residential structures available for purchase and rehabilitation, severely restrict the capacity of the Village to facilitate the expansion of the affordable housing stock (both owner and renter) in Oak Park.
- Another obstacle is the impact of limited available funding sources. The Village, along with most other communities, has even fewer resources available to address issues, as municipalities face revenue reductions. The recent COVID-19 pandemic was a huge financial strain on the Village of Oak Park.

To address one obstacle, the Village is part of a funder coordination group that is working towards developing ways to better collaborate, coordinate and streamline the grant application and awarding process so that more can be achieved with limited resources. This will help to address the need for additional financial resources by lessening the level of grant management undertaken by subrecipients and providing clear and measurable outcomes to ensure resources are being utilized in the most effective way possible.

The Village is also identifying new and innovative ways to increase the affordable housing stock by coordinating with local agencies to identify areas of opportunity.

To address the need for a more vibrant economy, the Village has made economic development a priority by continuing to market the Oak Park Section 108 business loan fund that was previously approved by

HUD.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

Oak Park has been investing its CDBG funds in housing rehabilitation for many years, but now, more than ever, an emphasis is being placed on identifying ways to foster affordable housing. The following are actions that will be taken to increase the affordable housing stock in the community.

Several of the public policies that negatively impact affordable housing in Oak Park are not under the control of Village government. Nonetheless, the Village is an active and supportive partner to area non-profit housing developers and other organizations involved in the creation of affordable housing opportunities for Oak Park residents. In addition to the Village's willingness to work with affordable housing developers, the Village implements several programs and initiatives to address existing barriers to affordable housing that can be funded by CDBG and other funds. Several of these initiatives are listed below.

- The Village will continue to administer the Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program. Under this program, low- and moderate-income homeowners may qualify for deferred, no-interest loans to correct code violations and serious housing quality deficiencies. The program is funded using an established revolving loan fund comprised of recaptured CDBG loan funds. This program usually goes hand in hand with a Lead Hazard Reduction Grant program, which is primarily funded by CDBG but also will benefit from a grant from Cook County. This Cook County grant is called the *Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Grant*.
- The Village will continue to operate the CDBG-funded Small Rental Rehab housing program, which assists owners of rental properties in rehabilitating their rental units. The property must be either a single-family detached rental dwelling or a multi-family rental building with fewer than eight units. A minimum project budget is \$2,000 per rental unit and the maximum is up to \$5,000 per rental unit. The program provides forgivable loan funds to rental owners to correct code violations and serious housing quality deficiencies. The owners will be contracted to rent 51% of their rental units to low- and moderate-income households, at affordable rents for at least two years.

Recognizing that property taxes can increase the cost of housing and affect the Village's ability to provide affordable housing, the Village continues to promote new commercial development to ease the reliance on residential real estate property taxes. Oak Park is also aware of the possibility of Village persons being displaced, and thus works with Housing Forward to assist persons in need.

The Village of Oak Park will apply \$276,000 in PY 2021 CDBG funds to Village lead hazard reduction grant activities, small rental housing rehabilitation activities, and a programs delivery activity (project implementation). The Single Family Housing Rehabilitation program will begin the 2021 program year with \$179,887 funds in repaid CDBG loans for its revolving fund. In addition, prior year, returned funds

in the amount of \$108,000 will be utilized for Single Family Housing Rehabilitation homeowner rehabilitation loans. These funds are part of a contingency plan for housing at a time when loans are not scheduled to be paid back.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

*Oak Park Public Health Efforts:* The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has identified all 3 of Oak Park's ZIP codes as high-risk ZIP codes for pediatric blood lead poisoning. High-risk ZIP codes are based on housing data & family economic status obtained from the Census. Given the older housing stock in Oak Park and the corresponding probability that children can be exposed to lead, the Village has committed to strong efforts in lead education, prevention and abatement. As a result, Oak Park children with elevated blood levels receive professional case management through the Oak Park Public Health Department. Public Health is committed to eliminating elevated levels of lead in children in Oak Park. The Village has an agreement with IDPH to provide case management services for all children that live in Oak Park. Public Health is considered the State's delegate agency for childhood lead and participates in public awareness and education campaigns, provides nursing lead case management and will conduct environmental investigations, when required, under the State Act & Code. Because of the age of the Village's housing stock, all Oak Park ZIP codes are defined as high risk for children.

*Housing Activities to Reduce Lead Hazards:* Since HUD implemented more stringent lead-based paint regulations, the Village of Oak Park Single-Family Rehabilitation (SFR) program & all other housing projects assisted with CDBG funding, have adhered to these requirements. Housing Programs staff will continue to advise prospective loan recipients about lead issues and any required corrective action or construction. The SFR program will continue to incorporate lead hazard reduction in its activities for rehabilitation of owner occupied LMI properties, using CDBG & Cook County dollars. Village staff will also notify applicants who may receive CDBG funds of the requirements of lead-based paint hazard reduction and mandate compliance as a condition of funding housing activities. Activities will be closely monitored for adherence to the regulations. The Village of Oak Park process for lead paint hazard reduction will include hiring general contractors with licensed workers or subcontractors to perform the lead hazard reduction construction work. A specification-writing software system, that includes lead reduction work, is in place. If warranted, relocation assistance will be provided. Lead inspections and environmental reviews will be conducted on the activities. Beyond the Village Housing Programs unit, through the Public Works Department, the Village will work to make water lines lead-free in PY 2021.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

There are a variety of actions the Village will undertake throughout the upcoming program year in an effort to reduce the number of poverty level families and increase self sufficiency. Many activities funded through CDBG will work towards this goal.

The Village is committed to helping to reduce poverty by making housing more affordable, preserving

the condition and availability of existing housing stock and helping citizens build assets of all kinds: human, social, financial, physical and natural. To this end, the Village and partners have incorporated an integrated system of services and programs to help individuals gain financial self sufficiency.

In addition to supporting the initiatives of local organizations that serve LMI residents by providing employment training, case management, shelter and other social services, the Village administers programs that aim to mitigate poverty. The Village can directly impact some of poverty's primary causes which include poor quality housing, expensive housing, lack of education, unemployment, low income and ill health. The Village makes an impact by utilizing resources, improving housing stock, and assisting in the provision of vital social services, employment opportunities, public health services and an excellent educational system. The programs run by the Village and subrecipients have the ability to reduce the number of households with incomes below the poverty level. More specifically:

***Social Services:*** The Village Health Department is a state certified local health department that is responsible for protecting the health of the community from preventable death, disease, illness and injury. It has been a great asset during the pandemic. The Health Department identifies community problems and potential epidemics, develops health policies, enforces local ordinances and links residents to a wide range of direct services. Programs include community nursing and childhood lead reduction, both of which provide for health education, prevention services, case management, counseling and referral to other community health partners. The Health Department often provides consultation and referral services for those in poverty. One specific program is the CDBG-funded Healthy Nutrition Incentives. This program provides incentives for LINK card users to purchase farm-fresh healthy products from the Oak Park Farmers Market. Many social service programs are also offered by subrecipients of CDBG funds in the Village to assist persons with incomes below the poverty level. For example, the Village increases family self sufficiency by funding Housing Forward, which prevents and eliminates homelessness. CDBG funded agencies provide services that make a huge impact. The Village supports other important services by allocating approximately 94 percent of its PY 2021 CDBG Public Services category dollars to local social service agencies.

***Economic Development:*** Through the HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program, the Village has a Section 108 loan fund in the amount of \$3 Million. These funds will be loaned by the Village to promote businesses expansion and improvement, create and retain jobs, assist LMI persons, and deliver positive economic benefits to Village residents. Developing a variety of businesses in Oak Park is critical to providing living wage jobs for a diverse population with multiple jobs skills and experiences. Economic Development is accomplished by utilizing many different funding sources including, but not limited to, CDBG, Section 108, TIF and local funds.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

Village staff works throughout the year to increase institutional structure, both within the Village and with our partner agencies. Staff maintains contact with partner agencies, offering referrals for funding

and training opportunities, where appropriate. Staff also attends relevant training and conferences (virtually, as of late), where available, on all aspects of grant and project management.

As mentioned previously, the Village participates in the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition, which is comprised of a variety of service providers in the community. The Coalition has a primary goal of ending homelessness in the community, which has increased, and will continue to increase, coordination and collaboration between organizations. The Village has also initiated a meeting of funders operating both in the community and in surrounding areas to investigate ways to better coordinate funding and more effectively fund services that meet the community need and provide measurable outcomes.

The Neighborhood Services Division, within the Development Customer Services Department of the Village of Oak Park, works with the network of public agencies and local non-profit organizations through which it will eventually carry out the Action Plan. In administering its programs, the Village works cooperatively within a local government landscape that includes Oak Park Township, Elementary School District 97, High School District 200, the Park District of Oak Park, the Oak Park Library District, the Oak Park Housing Authority/Residence Corporation and the Oak Park Township Mental Health Board.

In contracting with public, private and non-profit agencies to deliver the community programs and services outlined in the Action Plan, the Village uses its annual budget process to coordinate and allocate funding. The Village's governing body, the Village Board, receives public input via the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) regarding the allocation of CDBG and – when available – ESG funds.

Non-profit CDBG subrecipients are monitored based on a risk analysis, and previous performance is reported, by Village staff, to the CDCAC when agencies apply for funding. Many of the Village's largest contract service providers, or "community partners," receive funding from other sources. The community partners funding includes local Village funds, other government or private grants, user fees, operating income and member support. Private sector agencies also play a role in meeting the goals outlined in the Action Plan.

Coordination among agencies in the development and implementation of housing and community development programs and services is critical in efforts to maximize the use of limited resources. The Village is committed to the close coordination of all of its projects and programs with other agencies at the local, regional and national levels, though IDIS Action Plan space limitations prevent them from all being listed here.

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

Through the Consolidated Plan consultation process, good coordination and collaboration was identified as a key priority for the Village and its partners. To address this need, the Village is involved with the

meeting of community funders, as discussed above.

Beginning with the PY 2015 application process over six years ago, CDBG Public Service applicants had to include in their written narrative a discussion of how they are coordinating with other agencies in the community. If the applicants did not have these connections, they were asked to describe their detailed plans and timeline for implementing a collaborative process. This effort improves collaboration for awarded agencies and allows the Village the ability to identify other areas for additional coordination.

Additionally, many of the funded agencies participate in the Continuum of Care and work closely with other non-profits to identify other opportunities for persons in the community. The Village attends Continuum of Care Prevention Committee and West Suburban Council on Homelessness meetings. The Village also served on the core committee that evaluated the RFP for comprehensive Coordinated Entry services and operations in Suburban Cook County.

The Village of Oak Park is committed to increasing community partnerships and investing in economic and neighborhood development. The actions identified above will further this commitment and will increase opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents to receive necessary services and obtain access to affordable housing options.

## **Discussion**

As noted in the introduction, the narrative in the sections above are actions to be undertaken by the Village of Oak Park to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. The Village wanted the sections to be lengthier, but this IDIS system limits the amount of characters for each field, resulting in shorter sections.



## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction

The following are program specific requirements, one item showing that there is no program income available, one item showing that all of the Village's CDBG funds are used to serve LMI persons, and the other dealing with HESG funds, systems and processes. The Village would also like to report on the regional AFH that it is completing.

#### *Assessment of Fair Housing*

With Cook County Government serving as the lead agency along with Enterprise Community Partners, the Village is participating in a regional Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) Plan. The effort is ongoing and was severely delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected that the AFH will be submitted to HUD later this year or early in 2022.

### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

#### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

#### Other CDBG Requirements

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

### **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(l)(4)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

- **Written Standards, Housing Forward**

1. Housing Forward, Street Outreach:

There are no eligibility requirements as individuals and families are encountered on the streets and in public places where they receive information, support and basic supplies (personal hygiene items, water, food, gloves, etc.). If the person is interested in ongoing services, and/or if the Street Outreach team member continues to encounter the person on the street, they will conduct a brief assessment to determine their eligibility for other programs of the agency, and help them collect the necessary documents.

2. Housing Forward, Rapid Re-housing

Eligibility for the Rapid Re-housing program is established by HUD. The individual or head of household must meet HUD's definition of literally homeless. They must also have a verifiable source of income, or the potential to gain income to eventually take over the lease of the apartment. RRH requires clients to meet with a case manager not less than once per month and must be re-evaluated quarterly. The Case Manager must document that the Client lacks sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing without assistance and the types and amounts of assistance that s/he needs to retain housing. The program requires that program clients notify their case manager of changes in their income or other circumstances (e.g., changes in household

composition) that affect their need for assistance. When notified of a relevant change, the program must reevaluate the program client's eligibility and the amount and types of assistance that s/he needs.

### 3. Housing Forward: Homelessness Prevention

All calls are pre-screened by the Homelessness Call Center and referred to the Homeless Prevention Specialist who completes a screening form. The eligibility requirements for the programs are that the applicant is experiencing a housing crisis: i.e. about to be evicted, and has no other financial resources and has proof of an economic hardship. During the course of the assessment, the Homeless Prevention Specialist informs the caller of the required documents needed to establish the housing crisis and the timeline for submission. Once those are submitted the application is processed and a decision is made as to eligibility.

### 4. Housing Forward, Emergency Shelter

All new clients are seen by a case manager and complete an intake. The eligibility requirements for the PADS Shelter program are to be homeless and to be aged 18 or above if not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. During the course of the intake the case manager gathers information about past housing and homeless services. Individuals are allowed up to seven nights stay without taking part in case management. After seven days, participants must provide information so that staff can verify their homelessness and past housing history.

Note that, since the pandemic began, Housing Forward uses an Interim Housing program, which is a 24-hour-a-day program for people to stabilize while they seek permanent housing. The safe environment allows clients relief from a survival mode and time to focus on their housing goals. The program is based at the Write Inn Hotel on north Oak Park Avenue and also utilizes Sojourner House on south Austin Boulevard in Oak Park.

Note also that the Village will not receive ESG funds for PY 2021.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

With the Alliance to End Homelessness serving as the Lead, and with the participation of all members of the Continuum of Care, Housing Forward plays a leadership role in the advancement of service coordination after being selected to lead suburban Cook County's Coordinated Entry (CE) system, now called Entry Point. Through Entry Point, single adults, families, veterans and youth experiencing homelessness will be matched to services and housing based on their preferences and level of need. The system is running extremely well at this time.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to

private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

For each program year that the Village receives ESG funds, the Village advertises the RFP for ESG funds by publishing a notice in the local newspaper. In addition, all known non-profit agencies receive a notice via email. The agencies that apply for funding have their proposals reviewed by the local Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC), which makes funding recommendations to the Village Board. The Board ultimately votes to approve the funding recommendations, which become a part of the draft Action Plan. The two usual Subrecipients of Oak Park ESG funds are the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County and Housing Forward. The Village of Oak Park will **not** receive ESG program funds for PY 2021.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Executive Board, and the Board of Housing Forward both maintain formerly homeless clients as members of their boards and meet the participation requirement. These are the two usual Subrecipients of Oak Park ESG (HESG) funds.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The following are the performance standards created by the Continuum of Care to measure the goals of reducing and eliminating homelessness as identified above:

- Engagement rate: the percent of persons exiting shelter where the destination is known
- Percent of persons exiting shelter who used 30 shelter-nights or fewer
- Percent exited to permanent housing, for each component type (Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing)
- Follow up on housing status 6-18 months after Homelessness Prevention assistance

In addition, when the Village does receive ESG funds, all ESG Subrecipients are expected to meet the goals that they set in their ESG proposals. They must report each quarter, and complete a final report at the end of the program year. This is all ultimately reported in Sage.

## Discussion

The Village of Oak Park will continue to collaborate with the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care in order to address the needs of homeless individuals and families in Oak Park. The Village attends Continuum of Care Prevention Committee meetings and West Suburban Council on Homelessness meetings.

This participation also includes attending meetings on the implementation of the Suburban Cook County Coordinated Entry (CE) system. CE is a community wide system that standardizes and expedites the process by which people, experiencing homelessness or who are at imminent risk of homelessness, access shelter, housing, and homeless resources.

CE is helping suburban Cook County municipalities and assistance providers better target the limited resources that are provided by the homeless assistance system to people who are experiencing homelessness. By standardizing the intake process across the region, by sharing information in real time, and by adopting uniform prioritization policies, homeless service agencies will be able to refer people to the right program based on their preferences and level of need.

The Village was an important part in the creation of CE, being a member of the committee that chose the CE provider. Looking back at the last year that the Village received ESG funds, both of the Village of Oak Park PY 2019 ESG subrecipients enthusiastically and substantially followed CE practices, and both have Written Standards for serving clients and providing services. As noted elsewhere, the Village will not receive ESG funds for PY 2021.

