

The City of Hollywood, FL

HOME-American Rescue Plan
Allocation Plan



CITY OF HOLLYWOOD
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
2600 HOLLYWOOD BLVD OLD LIBRARY BUILDING
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33022-9045

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HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Participating Jurisdiction: City of Hollywood, FL

Date: 2/1/2023

Introduction

The American Rescue Plan appropriated \$5 billion to help communities by providing housing, shelter, and services for people experiencing homelessness and other qualifying populations through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME Program). This one-time funding creates a significant opportunity to meet the housing and service needs of our community's most vulnerable populations.

On April 28, 2021, the City was awarded FY 2021 HOME Investment Partnerships Grant American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) funds in the amount of \$1,915,134. These funds must be used for qualifying individuals or families with the following criteria: homeless; at-risk of homelessness; fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; other populations where providing assistance would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; and veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria.

HOME-ARP funds can be used for four eligible activities including:

- Development and support of affordable housing
- Tenant-based rental assistance
- Provision of supportive services
- Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units

The Development Services Community Development Division of the City is responsible for the administration of HOME-ARP. They will be responsible for full administration and oversight of activities carried out by sub recipients and shall not exceed the 15% allowable under the HOME-ARP regulations. Operating funds provided to non-profits carrying out activities shall not exceed the 5% and Capacity Building provided to non-profits carrying out activities shall not exceed the 5% allowable under the HOME-ARP regulations.

In accordance with the regulations governing the HOME-ARP program funds must be used to benefit a Qualifying Population (QP). There are four eligible QPs.

1. Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5 – (1), (2), (3)
2. At Risk for Homelessness (24 CFR 91.5)
3. Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD.
4. Other Populations (Other families requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness that do not qualify under any of the populations in 1-3)

Consultation

Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:

The City reached out to local stakeholders on August 16, 2022 in order to get input for the HOME-ARP allocation plan and community needs. The City disseminated a community partner survey to collect documented input from the required consultation group as well as other stakeholders. The required consultation group includes the CoC, housing authority, organizations that provide homeless services and specialized assistance to domestic violence survivors, persons with disabilities, as well as Veterans groups. The City also held a public hearing “Citizen Needs Assessment Meeting” on December 8, 2021 to discuss community needs and potential uses of HOME-ARP. This was a joint meeting with the Community Development Advisory Board and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee to accept public comments regarding HOME-ARP and other funding. The below breakdown includes feedback from a variety of stakeholders that attended public hearing and/or provided feedback via the survey.

Table of Organization’s Feedback for Community (QPs) Needs

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback – Community (QPs) Needs
Homeless Initiative Partnership	Continuum of Care, Fair Housing	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Economy, job loss, mental health issues, substance use.
City of Fort Lauderdale HOPWA	Municipality receiving HOPWA funds	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	In adequate inventory of permanent supportive housing. Many clients are discharged to independent living before that are ready.
Broward Outreach Center	Homeless Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	The most common reasons for our organization’s clientele to be homeless is due to lack of affordable housing, lack of income, substance abuse, and/or mental health.
Broward County Housing Authority	Housing Authority	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Mental health issues, zero-income, high market rents, criminal history, bad credit
Broward County Veterans Services	Broward County Human Services Department (Elderly and Veterans’ Services)	Phone Interview by Pompano Beach on Phone 2/14/2022	The greatest challenge is affordability and available housing units. The majority of rent is above fair market and landlords are unwilling to participate in programs to subsidize rent. Elderly veterans on a fixed income are

	Division)		having trouble sustaining rent after assistance. More funding for supportive services.
Operation Sacred Trust	Homeless veterans	Direct e-mail questionnaire	Lack of affordable housing and low income.
Hollywood Housing Authority	Housing Authority	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	This may occur if an individual's/family's participation on our program ends. [loss of Housing Voucher]
Liberia Economic and Social Development, Inc.	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Lack of affordable housing, lack of employment
City of Hollywood Police Department	Municipal service that addresses the need of the qualifying population	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Loss of a job; Substance abuse; mental illness; unwilling to follow rules of the shelter.
Salvation Army	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population.	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Lack of affordable housing
The Taskforce Fore Ending Homelessness	Homeless Service provider, Fair Housing	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Lack of affordable housing, lack of living wage employment, lack of affordable health care services (including behavioral health services).
Henderson Mental Healthcare	Organization Serving People with Disabilities, Homeless Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	More affordable housing. More funding for behavioral health services, including substance use treatment
HOPE South Florida	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population, fair housing, affordable housing advocate	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Lack of Affordable Housing, Unemployment, Under employment, Health Crisis, Domestic Violence, Addiction Disorder, Mental Illness
Hispanic Unity	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population	Direct e-mail questionnaire	Reached out, but did not receive feedback.
Covenant House	Nonprofit Youth and Homeless Services	Phone Interview by Pompano Beach on Phone 2/14/2022	The current need is safe, sober housing. Homelessness is difficult enough but being homeless and in recovery is even more difficult. We want to be able to give individuals the best chance to save their lives.; The biggest service gap is access to supportive services. Individuals are

			often unaware of where to go to get services. Food insecurity and housing are huge gaps. Housing vouchers are great, but housing vouchers without job skills, life skills training, other supportive services won't do much to address the deeper problems.
Women in Distress	Domestic Violence Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Domestic Violence/Human Trafficking/safety issues

Table of Organization’s Feedback for Organizational Support/ Assistance

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback – Organizational support/ assistance
Homeless initiative Partnership	Continuum of Care, Fair Housing	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Street outreach that provides intensive case management for housing. The engagement of individuals early on is key. We need to not have conversations but genuinely engage folks and provide a comprehensive assessment of need. They next step is to provide referrals for all types of services, especially housing.
City of Fort Lauderdale HOPWA	Municipality receiving HOPWA funds	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Expanding the inventory of permanent supportive housing or expanding the availability of and access to supportive services especially mental health treatment
Broward Outreach Center	Homeless Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	We provide a wide range of services, such as: food, shelter, clothing, substance abuse treatment, education, computer literacy, job placement, health care, mental health, spiritual development and housing assistance. Each of these services are optional and individualized to help assist our clients with their unique housing care plan goals. Our programs integrate evidence-based practices such as: Trauma-informed Service Provision, Strength-Based (Solution Focused) Client-Centered Case Management, Motivational Interviewing (MI) a client-centered, directive method for enhancing intrinsic motivation to change by exploring and resolving ambivalence, and Harm Reduction Model (low barrier/housing first).
Broward County Housing Authority	Housing Authority	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Improved access to community resources. Increased funding

Broward County Veterans Services	Broward County Human Services Department (Elderly and Veterans' Services Division)	Phone Interview by Pompano Beach on Phone 2/14/2022	Immediate Placements for veterans facing homelessness, housing priority for female veterans facing homelessness, case management opportunities for veterans after housing placement.
Operation Sacred Trust	Homeless veterans	Direct e-mail questionnaire	Our organization has recently (almost a year) started helping veterans that come to our program experiencing housing hardship by applying for VA service-connected disability or compensation. Most of the time, veterans coming through our doors do not know they are entitled to or qualify for benefits. Still, we have found a way to help those veterans apply for compensation for injuries sustained during their military service, which allows them to receive monthly compensation to assist the veteran in maintaining their housing.
Hollywood Housing Authority	Housing Authority	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	The creation of more affordable housing in the community.
Liberia Economic and Social Development, Inc.	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Affordable homeownership opportunities, Affordable rental communities and Job training
City of Hollywood Police Department	Municipal service that addresses the need of the qualifying population	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Emergency Shelter; mental health treatment; substance abuse treatment and recovery; transitional housing; limited medical care; job skills; job placement assistance and computer skills training.
Salvation Army	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population.	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Rent assistance to prevent homelessness
The Taskforce Fore Ending Homelessness	Homeless Service provider, Fair Housing	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Affordable Housing
Henderson Mental Healthcare	Organization Serving People with	Direct e-mail questionnaire	More affordable housing. More funding for behavioral health

	Disabilities, Homeless Service provider	Public Hearing	services, including substance use treatment
HOPE South Florida	Non-profit that addresses the need of the qualifying population, fair housing, affordable housing advocate	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	Affordable housing, employment, behavioral health treatment
Covenant House	Homeless Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	The current need is safe, sober housing. Homelessness is difficult enough but being homeless and in recovery is even more difficult. We want to be able to give individuals the best chance to save their lives.; The biggest service gap is access to supportive services. Individuals are often unaware of where to go to get services. Food insecurity and housing are huge gaps. Housing vouchers are great, but housing vouchers without job skills, life skills training, other supportive services won't do much to address the deeper problems.
Women in Distress	Domestic Violence Service provider	Direct e-mail questionnaire Public Hearing	We have Rapid Rehousing and other dollars to assist.

Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:

Online stakeholder survey input and feedback described various needs, but lack of affordable housing and a higher need for supportive services and agency capacity building were recurring themes. The need for affordable rental housing was determined by evaluating data sources and community partner input which supports the need for rental development that will be affordable and remain affordable. Additionally, the need for long-term supportive services or case management to achieve housing stability has been identified as a priority among qualifying populations.

Public Participation

Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:

- ***Date(s) of public notice: 1/31/2023***
- ***Public comment period: start date – 2/15/2023 end date – 3/1/2023***
- ***Date(s) of public hearing: 3/1/2023***

Describe the public participation process:

The City held a public hearing “Citizen Needs Assessment” on December 8, 2021 to discuss community needs and potential uses of HOME-ARP. This was a joint meeting with the Community Development Advisory Board and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. A second public hearing was held in March 1, 2023.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

The City of Hollywood followed its adopted Citizen Participation process. The City reached out to local agencies/non-profits to inform them of the public hearing and urged them to attend and spread the word throughout the community. The City advertised both public hearings in the Sun Sentinel newspaper and made the information available on the City’s website. The City also offered to translate the public notice and other related materials for limited English proficiency clientele.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

Steve Werthman, Chief Operating Officer for Hope South Florida (HSF): They provide housing opportunities for homeless families and veterans in Broward County, including Hollywood. He is the City’s liaison to the Broward County Homeless Continuum of Care Advisory Board to the Broward County Commission. He spoke in favor of the use of HOME and other funds for Rapid Rehousing and the Housing First models. They have partnered with the City since 2011, operating the Hollywood HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program since 2014. They partnered with the City for COVID Rent Assistance and were able to distribute millions of relief funds to tenants. They were audited by three entities and found to be flawless. Homeless families are referred by Broward Outreach Center, the City of Hollywood and other providers. HSF provides TBRA for properties that the family chooses in Hollywood and Case Management and Employment Assistance, funded in part by the City’s CDBG funds and United Way. They also collaborate with another Hollywood CDBG-funded agency, Second Chance Society. Since October 2020, 21 were housed and 91% increased or maintained employment and 100% remained housed.

Lisa Vecchi, Broward Housing Solutions (BHS): They provide affordable housing for low-income people who suffer from mental illness. What causes homelessness is a lack of affordable housing. They currently serve 400 people. In Florida, for every 100 people in need of affordable housing, there are only 28 units available. That number drops in Broward County to only 18. These are important statistics. Out of the 400 people BHS serves, 89% of them were homeless before they received assistance, 98% had overall health improvements, 87% were able to stay out of the hospital, and 36% amplified their overall quality of life (education and employment opportunities). Affordable housing works. It prevents homelessness, reduce the financial burden to residents for over-utilization of hospitals and resources, and provides opportunities.

Rachel Johnson, resident housing advocate: Ms. Johnson stated that most affordable housing is not affordable. She continued with every American should be able to work for and attain the American dream – owning a home. She believes that the affordable housing process with the rules and regulations are contributing to the homelessness. The money available should be put in the hands of the people who have the credit scores that can use it towards home ownership.

Mitch Anton: Mr. Anton, who is a member of various board throughout the City, noted that when he was on the CDAB there was never \$1.9 million available. He had several questions about the funding, such as, where did it come from? Is it a one-time funding source? And do the citizens of the City know how it is going to be used? He stated the District 2 has the highest population of LMI residents and a lot of that money should stay in that district. Not to mention that organizations such as PAL, who takes care of the kids of the community need the funding as well.

Tim Burton, Liberia Homeowners' Association: Mr. Burton pointed that the City has vacant land that is usually overgrown or used as a dumping ground that should be used for affordable housing. Mr. Burton felt that the funds should be used for residents to buy houses, not continue to rent.

The City accepted the following comments that do not pertain to HOME-ARP funding:

Terrance McElroy, Lighthouse 4 Youth Tutoring and Mentoring Program: Mr. Elroy spoke of the need for his program. Currently 25% of graduating seniors meet the four standards for college admissions. That leaves 75% to fall short of basic criteria. His program is recognized by Broward Public Schools because all students that start with failing grades increase their GPA by the time they graduate. Through the program, they have realized that most problems with students start at 3rd or 4th grade. He concluded his remarks that he understood that the meeting was primarily regarding housing; however, poverty, homelessness, and poor education are all intertwined.

Salvatore Grilli, President, Boulevard Heights Neighborhood Association: Mr. Grilli explained that he believes that homelessness increased when the state-run hospital was shut down. Now the people the hospital assisted are now living on the streets. The issues go full circle – call the police

and they incarcerate the vagrant, then they are released, and back out on the streets. Of course, the homeless population doubles and triples during season with people are escaping the cold. The City needs to find a better way to deal with this issue.

Patricia Antrican, President, North Central Civic Association: Ms. Antrican believes that homelessness is an issue. However, in her area there is a lot of illegal dumping. With all the members of the associations constantly cleaning up the streets, more and more dumping occurs. She feels there is a lot of talk about developing and redeveloping Hollywood. She feels no one wants to invest in a City that looks so junky.

Kellie Richter: Ms. Richter's concern is the dark streets in Parkside. The area has a lot of construction, and it seems to be contributing to the fact that streetlights are not working. Also in that area is a lot of speeding. She would like to see speed bumps put in to curb this activity.

Andre Brown: He is concerned that with new housing the City is going to forget about current residents that need to connect to the sewer system. It is a very costly investment that residents can't afford.

Maria Jackson: Ms. Jackson stated that supported services are the safety net for LMI residents. With residents using 30% of their income for housing, and the remainder for all the necessities of life, other projects are needed to support sustainability. She would love for the board to fund a project called "Community Garden." The garden could be on city land and would teach people how to grow their food. Another project would be a community café. This café would be different than the soup kitchen in as it would be appealing to go there. Lastly, she spoke about a project for people to share their homes. For instance, snowbirds would lend their homes when not in the area.

Members of the Community Development Advisory Board and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee made up of residents commented the following:

Siobhan McLaughlin commented that the public focused on two different areas. The first was homelessness and affordable housing. This topic affects the health, emotional health, the children, and our poverty rate. The second is the quality of life within the city. We can't just keep creating housing without promoting our city's wellbeing. She commented that it was very helpful to have both boards meet together and they should both continue to work together to better how to support each other. Finally, she commented on the public comments on the children of the city and how we all need to better early childhood education.

Jennifer Luciani commented on all the presenters and their desire to help the issues of the City of homelessness, affordable housing, as well as the children and the mentally ill. She further commented that the groups that came out to advocate for the betterment of their neighborhoods. Everyone's contribution to the meeting was going to be useful in assisting the board with making decisions on the where the funds would be most beneficial.

Mr. de Souza opened the floor to AHAC members for comments:

Commissioner Adam Gruber wanted to specifically address three presenters. The first was Sal from Boulevard Heights and his concern about the homeless people in the area. Mr. Gruber spoke about a pilot program that is employing two full-time social workers in the City. He said that if anyone witnessed anyone doing anything dangerous or unlawful, they should always call 9-1-1. However, if it is just a homeless person that needed assistance, then they should call the non-emergency number. Once the call is routed to the task force, then the social worker will find the person and access the situation and offer the assistance needed. The second presenter spoke about streetlights. Mr. Gruber suggested reporting it on the City's website on the "Help Me Hollywood" page. If that did not correct the issue, then they should email their commissioner for their district directly. Lastly, Commissioner Gruber directed his attention to the connections to the sewer issue. He said that everyone is working to find a reasonable answer to make sure that residents get hooked up the City's sewer system without unreasonable expenses.

Henry Graham said that many years ago there were options for job training programs. And like most programs, they just fade away. He believes that the City should work to make ongoing job training programs an option to assist the young on getting a good start.

Stephanie Anderson spoke about a personal experience of growing up without stable housing. She spoke about her Mom saving money to buy a house that was not perfect, but it provided a roof over their heads. Then her mom continued to save money so that once Ms. Anderson moved away to go to college, they had a better housing situation. She said that she shared that story because she believes that what is spent on rent could better be spent putting the money toward home ownership. Renters are at the mercy of the landlords and that does not create stability. There are many people who have worked toward keeping a stable job, improving their credit scores, and saving but lack the funding to use as a down payment. We need to put money into helping these people, as well as protecting them from large developers that get tax breaks to build within the city, but still make a huge profit at the cost of the potential homeowner.

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

The City has not received any comments or recommendations that were not accepted.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

The CoC releases an annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count that includes valuable data for addressing the needs of residents who are experiencing homelessness. The 2020 FT. Lauderdale/ Broward County CoC PIT count data was used to capture the most recent and relevant homeless population data due to alterations in methodology during the 2021 count to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of the submission of this plan HUD has not published the 2022 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) so utilizing 2022 PIT Count data is not feasible at this time for a gaps analysis. It is noted that the Continuum of Care's jurisdiction is the entirety of Broward County so the data reflected in the PIT count is for the entire county, some numbers may not accurately capture the precise counts of the jurisdiction. Therefore, estimates and rates combined with stakeholder input have led the overall content of estimated composition. According to Broward County, the Lead Agency for the CoC, there were 165 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the City of Hollywood on the night of the count in 2022.

According to the 2020 PIT count, Black or African American residents are the largest demographic of people experiencing homelessness. About 60% of people experiencing homelessness are Black or African American, 37% are White/Caucasian, and the remainder are American Indian or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Asian, or multi-racial. 10% percent of overall homeless are Hispanic/ Latino. 68% of homeless individuals identify as Male. 82% are over the age of 24 and 13% are under the age of 18, mostly in households with other adults. About 30% were reported as chronically homeless. 157 individuals are veterans and 100 are unaccompanied youth.

Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	289	64	614	614	0								
Transitional Housing	154	50	229	229	45								
Sheltered Homeless						122	812	83	41				
Unsheltered Homeless						7	868	74	98				
Current Gap										--	-15	-837	-837

Data Sources: 1. 2020 Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. Continuum of Care 2020 Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

HUD defines those at risk of homelessness as individuals and families who have an income at or below 30% of the area median income (AMI), do not have sufficient resources or support networks to prevent them from becoming homeless, or live with instability. Using HUD's 2015-2019 CHAS data, the city has 8,605 households with incomes at or below 30% AMI, (15% of all city households). Fifty-nine percent of these households are renter households. Households at-risk of homelessness include an estimated 11,065 households who are severely cost burdened, paying over 50% of their income toward housing and 13,055 who are cost burdened (above 30%, less than 50%). Of the severely cost burdened, 3,745 are renting households who are also in the extremely low-income range ($\leq 30\%$) and considered at greatest risk of housing instability. An estimated 12,710 LMI ($\leq 80\%$ AMI) renters are cost burdened at the 30% mark, approximately 22.5% of total households in the city.

Additionally, according to ACS data, 26% (4,199 households) of cost burdened renters earned less than \$20,000 between 2017-2021, while only approximately 509 rental units offer a gross rent price within the needed range to prevent being cost burdened. In other words, there is a lack of about 3,747 affordable rental units for households making under \$20,000 a year.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence 37.9% of women and 29.3% of men in Florida experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes. Statistics from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement document there were a total of 457 domestic violence related offenses documented by the City of Hollywood Police Department.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice

There is a large overlap between those at-risk of homelessness (above data) and households in need of assistance to prevent homelessness or at greatest risk of housing instability. Lack of affordability is the primary issue highlighted in data and consultation. According to CHAS, of the severely cost burdened, 3,745 are renting households who are also in the extremely low-income range ($\leq 30\%$) and considered at greatest risk of housing instability.

While we don't have data that matches the exact definition of QP #4, we can glean general demographics and need from looking at the City's poverty levels. Poverty is often a direct correlation as it relates to households requiring housing assistance to prevent homelessness or to those being at-risk of housing instability. According to ACS, there are 21,009 (13.9% of City) residents below the poverty level, of which 27.4% are under 18 years old. Of those living under the poverty level, an estimated 7,075 (33.7%) are White, 4,535 (21.6%) are Black or African American, 11,278 (53.7%) are Hispanic or Latino (any race).

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):

The below local organizations and entities offer a variety of resources that assist the City's QPs on an ongoing basis. The City will consider and coordinate appropriately with organizations that can assist with the goals and implementation of selected activities described in HOME-ARP Activities section of this plan.

Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership (HIP) Continuum of Care (CoC) is Broward County's local planning group working to end homelessness. The CoC is a collaborative network of organizations, advocates, community residents, and businesses that plan programs with the primary goal of alleviating homelessness in all areas of Broward County. The Board addresses all aspects of homelessness including prevention, outreach, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent affordable housing, and supportive services.

The **Hollywood Housing Authority (HHA)** operates 120 public housing units and administers 828 HCV/Section 8 vouchers. The Hollywood Housing Authority maintains its properties within the City of Hollywood. In addition, subsidized private units for the Housing Choice Voucher Program administered by the Hollywood Housing Authority can be found in all sections of the community. In conjunction with public and private sector organizations, the Hollywood Housing Authority conducts a variety of programs for residents. By bringing together a team of various organizations, the Hollywood Housing Authority strives to make self-sufficiency a way of life.

The **Continuum of Housing** provides housing services through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The Continuum of Housing programs span across Broward County and offer Emergency Transitional Housing, Assisted Living Facilities, Mental Health Housing, Substance Abuse Housing, Community-Based Housing, Project-Based Rent, Tenant-Based Rental Vouchers, short-term rent, mortgage and utilities assistance, move-in assistance and Housing Case Management.

First-Call for Help of Broward County is a referral agency and the first point of contact for persons in need of crisis intervention, homeless prevention, emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, food, clothing, job training, etc. First Call for Help of Broward County uses trained volunteers and a data base of all social services providers within the region including those that are a part of the Continuum of Care.

The TaskForce Fore Ending Homelessness, Inc. is a not-for-profit agency that provides street outreach, education and advocacy to the homeless population in Broward County Florida. It offers referrals and placement in coordination with existing services. In addition, The TaskForce provides transportation to shelters, housing programs, detox facilities, hospitals, and crisis centers.

Women In Distress is the only nationally accredited, state-certified, full service domestic violence center serving Broward County, Florida, including the City of Hollywood. Its mission is to stop domestic violence abuse for everyone through intervention, education and advocacy. It strives to accomplish this mission through a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter program, individual counseling, support groups and professional trainings, which are aimed at educating the community on domestic violence. The organization currently operates a 132-bed emergency shelter. Through the shelter program, victims of domestic violence and their children are given a safe environment and provided with supportive services, helping participants to rebuild and sustain independence and a violence-free future. Women In Distress' services are designed to address individual needs and empower survivors to live a self-determined, violence-free life.

Miami Rescue Mission, Broward Outreach Centers operates the **Hollywood Center for Men** which has 110 beds for residential programs and 10 emergency beds. In addition to shelter the Center's services include job training, education & computer literacy classes, healthcare, transitional housing, permanent housing, employment opportunities, and other services.

The City employs a **Social Service Coordinator** through the Division of Community Development that helps connect residents with various agencies that provide needed services. The Social Service Coordinator provides residents guidance with accessing an array of social services such as shelter, medical assistance, behavioral health, employment/life skills training, and transportation. The City also has a **Homeless Program Coordinator** through the Police Department to provide street level outreach, crisis intervention, resource linkage, needs assessment and transportation to shelters and emergency housing.

There are many social service agencies in the City of Hollywood that provide outreach and supportive services to very low- and low-income individuals and families in order to prevent homelessness: **Salvation Army, Liberia Economic and Social Development, Inc., Feeding South Florida, Community Enhancement Collaboration (CEC), and Faith and Life Fellowship Ministries.** Services provided by these agencies include food assistance, emergency financial assistance, and job training.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

The primary unmet need as it pertains to homeless needs inventory is the availability of beds and units for both families/youth households and adults who are experiencing homelessness. There is an estimated need for over 165 emergency shelter beds and units in order to provide housing services for all homeless adults identified by stakeholders due to lack in City-specific data in the PIT Count.

Supportive services and assistance in transitioning out of emergency shelters and into permanent housing was identified as a top need. Service needs for both sheltered and unsheltered include a greater capacity to offer case management, basic needs, healthcare services, disability assistance, mental healthcare, as well as outreach, job training, and skills training.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

ACS estimates approximately 63% of the city's renters are costs burdened (paying over 30% of income to housing costs), or approximately 16,097 total renter households. Lack of affordable housing inventory and a persistent affordability gap challenge both populations recovering from homelessness and those households at risk of homelessness or housing instability. Those at-risk of homeless or housing instability often need short-term subsidies such as mortgage/rent assistance to avoid foreclosure or eviction, as well as utility assistance to avoid shutoff or security deposits to allow new rental contracts. Stakeholder feedback highlighted the need for more housing vouchers and challenges for households to find affordable housing in the City and County. Supportive services such as housing or financial counseling, landlord mediation for eviction proceedings will also benefit these persons and households.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

According to the 2022 Domestic Violence Counts Report for Florida conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence victims of domestic violence made 31 requests for shelter, housing, and other supportive services that providers could not provide with approximately 90% of these unmet requests being for housing and emergency shelter. Victims of domestic violence and single mothers were also highlighted as QPs needing particular support.

Stakeholders highlighted consistent reporting that DV beds are not sufficient. Domestic violence or human trafficking survivors often lack easy access to short-term shelter and quick access to medical and psychological services. They need specialized housing security, healthcare, and counseling services (to include networking and economic independence). Case management and financial assistance were highlighted as specific needs for this category.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice

The unmet needs for the populations needing assistance to prevent homelessness or at risk of greater housing instability mirror those from above, including rental payment assistance or utility deposit assistance and development of affordable rental housing units. Those requiring housing assistance to prevent homelessness or those at greatest risk of housing instability often need short-term subsidies such as mortgage/rent assistance to avoid foreclosure or eviction, as well as utility assistance to avoid shutoff or security deposits to allow new rental contracts. The Housing Authority cites that the most common reason for its clientele being homelessness is due to program participation ending. The PHA serves an estimated 944 families and 40 individuals. The creation of more affordable housing in the community is seen as a top priority.

Residents who have been previously homeless or are currently using some type of rental assistance may need the assistance to continue for a short or long period of time. Funding existing services and housing assistance programs is important to the housing stability of these individuals and families.

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

There is a severe lack of affordable housing for low-income households, as well as a lack of sufficient shelter units and beds for adult populations. Gaps in services include the need for more case management and outreach services, as well as mental health and life skills assistance. McKinney-Vento supportive services and homeless prevention efforts are highly needed.

Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of “other populations” that are “At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability,” as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

The City of Hollywood recognizes the definition of Other Populations set forth by HUD in the CPD Notice (Families Requiring Services or Housing Assistance to Prevent Homelessness or At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability). The criteria related to these categories include households/persons who are (1) extremely low-income with a severe cost burden, or households with (2) an annual income that is less than or equal to 50% of the area median income meet one of the following conditions from paragraph (iii) of the “At risk of homelessness” definition established at 24 CFR 91.5. No further characteristics of housing instability have been defined in the City’s ConPlan; thus the City will use the criteria listed in first six conditions listed in the “At risk of homelessness” definition established at 24 CFR 91.5.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

The data analysis combined with the consultation of key stakeholders have identified the following priority needs:

1. Lack of Affordable Rental Housing
2. McKinney-Vento Supportive Services
3. Lack of sufficient shelter units/beds for single adults with no children

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ's shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

To determine the level of need and gaps, Hollywood looked at both qualitative and quantitative inputs. Data from the U.S. Census and CHAS data were used in partnership with feedback and on-the-ground insights from key stakeholders in the area in the development of this plan. Online stakeholder survey input and feedback described various needs, but lack of affordable housing and a higher need for supportive services and agency capacity building were recurring themes. The need for affordable rental housing was determined by evaluating data sources and community partner input which supports the need for rental development that will be affordable and remain affordable. Additionally, the need for long-term supportive services or case management to achieve housing stability has been identified as a priority among qualifying populations.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

The City expects to administer programs directly through qualified subrecipients. The City will identify and select an agency or agencies that provide the eligible services and carry out the program's selected activities. This selection may be determined directly by City leadership or be conducted via a competitive process in which the City would release request(s) for proposals. The City and selected agencies will complete an agreement to comply with the HOME-ARP regulations and outline full project scope prior to receiving funding.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

The City will work with a qualified subrecipient (non-profit or other)

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program:

The City will administer the program and utilize the HOME-ARP administrative funds to manage and secure a HUD grants management consultant to assist in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan and other required administrative duties to further facilitate the grant. The City seeks to utilize the 5% for non-profit operating and 5% non-profit capacity building in an effort to maximize the use of the grant.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 1,436,350.50		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 0		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 0		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 95,756.70	5%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 95,756.70	5%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$287,270.10	15%	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 1,915,134		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

The City is committing 75% of this one-time allocation to supportive services in an effort to strengthen the outreach, case management and homeless assistance and prevention to those who are homeless and those who are at-risk of homelessness. The City will be utilizing the 15% administrative and planning to manage the grant. The non-profit operating of 5% and the non-profit capacity building of 5% is included to assist in the administration in maximizing the funding.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

The required service delivery necessary to assist homeless persons and those at-risk of homelessness was highlighted by multiple stakeholders. Access to supportive services such as case management, employment services, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment is necessary to assist those experiencing homelessness. Offering food, clothing, and other essential items to meet basic needs alleviates some of the immediate stress of living without a permanent home. Providing comprehensive mental health and substance abuse services is critical to addressing the root causes of homelessness, helping those in need to achieve self-sufficiency. Lastly, outreach programs can make an impact by proactively connecting those in need with services and resources can have a lasting impact in preventing and ending homelessness. The City recognizes other needs, to include the lack of affordable housing, but given other resources, it has elected to use this one-time allocation for supportive services.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

Not applicable, the City will allocate HOME-ARP funds to Supportive Services.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

Not applicable.

Preferences

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:

The City will not provide preferences to any population or subpopulation.

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

The City will not limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or subpopulation.

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

The City does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing.