



**City of New Bedford, Massachusetts**  
**Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor**

**Office of Housing &  
Community Development**  
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director



**Fiscal Year 2011  
Action Plan  
Certification**

*Community Development Block  
Home Investment Partners  
Emergency Solutions Grant*

Submitted to the U.S. Dep  
Housing & Urban Devel



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**FISCAL YEAR 2013 ACTION PLAN  
JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014  
YEAR FOUR OF THE FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2010-2014**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The City of New Bedford, Massachusetts is pleased to present an Executive Summary of its Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2013 running from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

**Purpose.** This 2013 *Action Plan* serves several functions:

1. It outlines activities that will be funded utilizing Federal Block Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.220 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended during fiscal year 2013.
2. The Action Plan serves as New Bedford's consolidated submission for the Fiscal Year 2013 *Action Plan* and Certifications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program components of the Action Plan.
3. It describes recommendations for specific projects and services to address housing, community development, emergency shelter, and homeless needs which were identified through public meetings, needs assessments, coalition meetings, consultations with community groups (i.e. neighborhood associations, linguistic minority organizations, etc.) and proposals solicited through both the public meetings and the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.
4. This *Action Plan* delineates a one-year strategy for providing housing and community development in response to the City of New Bedford's *Consolidated Plan.2010-2014*, a long-term community needs assessment and housing analysis completed in May of 2005 and implemented on July 1st of 2006, the City's *Continuum of Care* Strategy articulated in its SuperNOFA application for the 2012 funding round and the City's *Ten Year Plan to Address and Eliminate Homelessness* released in 2006.

**Public Participation.** In order to ensure maximum participation from the citizens of New Bedford, the Action Plan process included public meetings, technical assistance workshops and distribution of information in multi-language formats in a variety of media formats. In addition to these traditional notices, the OHCD also sent out written and electronic notices to a diverse cross-section of neighborhood leaders, private interests, citizens and community stakeholders. The OHCD then conducted two public meetings in January of 2013 at the Carney Academy and the Office of Housing & Community Development. Forty-one community leaders, residents and representatives of local non-profits attended these public meetings, focus groups and forums. Minutes of these public meetings are provided within the appendix of the final 2013 Action Plan.

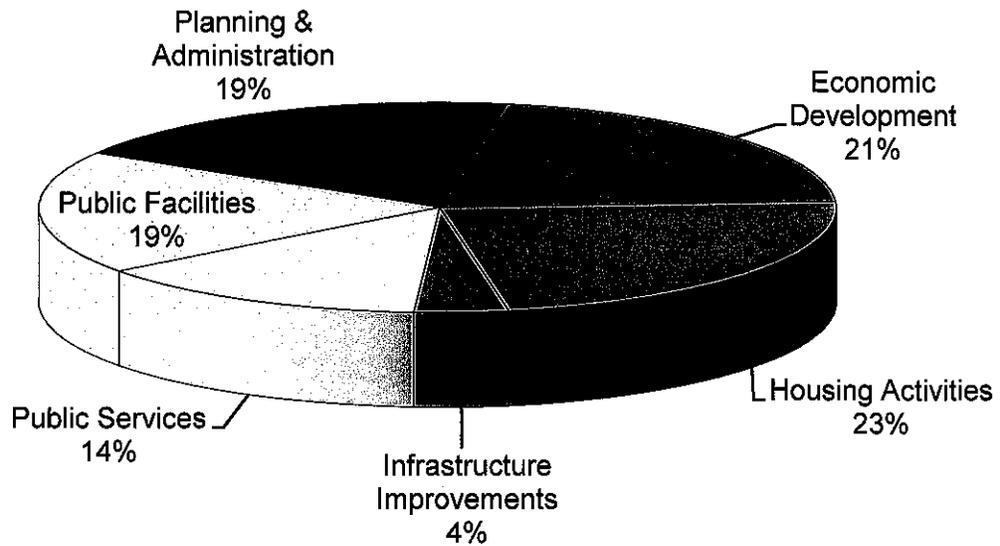
A draft of the 2013 *Action Plan* was available for public review from May 15 2013 through June 13, 2013 in city libraries, City Hall and the Office of Housing & Community Development. A notice of the draft Action Plan's availability was published in the *Standard Times* on May 15, 2013 and posted on the City of New Bedford website.

**Funding Disbursement.** The 2013 *Action Plan* represents a single application for federal funding that incorporates three HUD formula programs, for a total allocation of \$3,765,252 in FY 2013 funds. The three HUD programs are as follows:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) at \$2,762,250
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) at \$237,974
- HOME Investment Partnership, at \$765,028

Anticipated program income for FY13 will come from two revolving loan funds (economic development and housing) and is estimated at \$200,000.

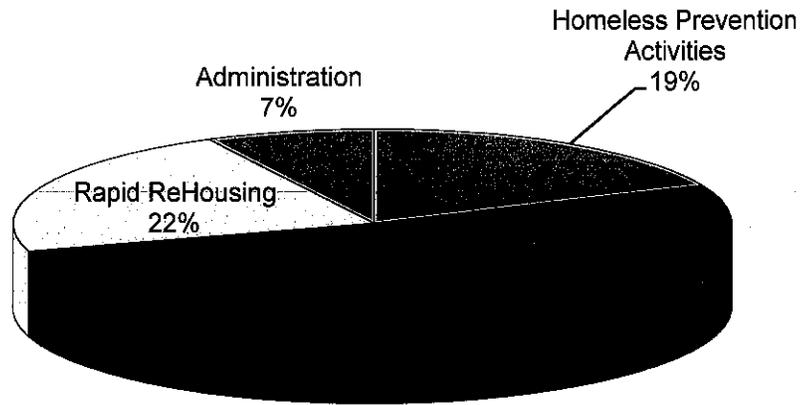
### CDBG Funding Allocations for FY2013\*



**Total CDBG Funding Available FY2013: \$2,762,250**

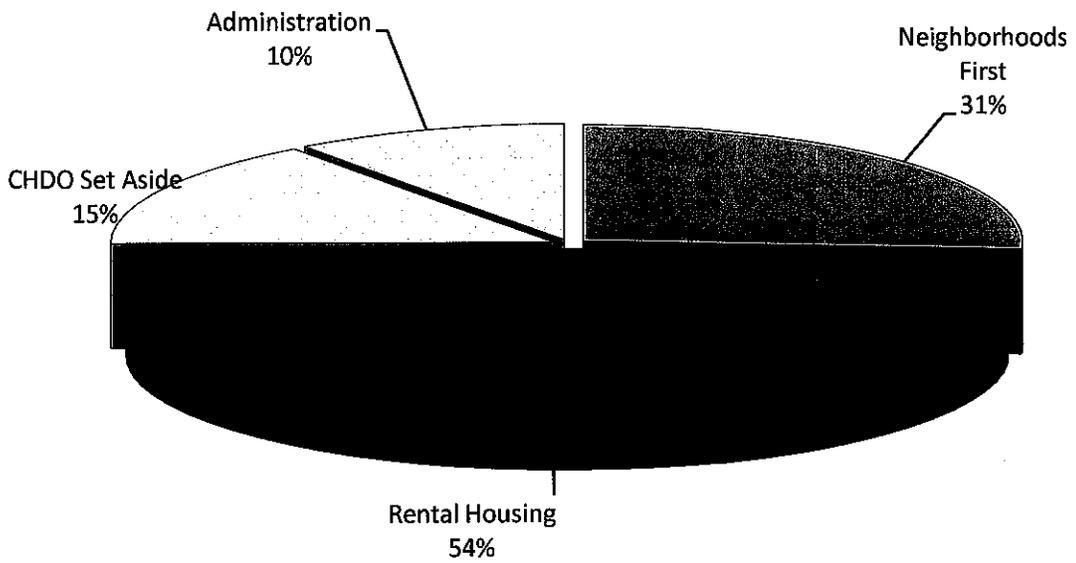
NOTES: The budget includes planning and administration. \*Although there is a cap of 15% on public services, the budgeted figures represented by this pie chart are based on the entitlement plus program income and carryover from FY 2012.

### ESG Allocation for FY 2013



Total ESG Funding Available FY2013: \$237,974

### HOME Allocation for FY 2013



Total HOME Funding Entitlement FY2013: \$765,028

Section III of the 2013 Action Plan summarizes proposed uses for the \$3.764 million from the three formula grant programs (CDBG, ESG and HOME funding) as well as funds recaptured through program income and FY2012 carryover funds. Approximately 40 CDBG activities are described in the complete *Action Plan*.

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) created the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Re-authorized in 1990 as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, local communities are encouraged to use the resources of the CDBG Program to develop flexible, locally designed community development strategies to address the program's primary objective, which is the:

*"...development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic development opportunities principally for persons of low and moderate income."*

The 2013 Action Plan is based on a CDBG entitlement allocation from HUD of \$2,275,000 and carryover funding in the amount of \$287,250. Additionally, we anticipate earning \$200,000 in revolving loan funds during FY2013 that will be used to fund additional economic and housing loans in FY2013 bringing the total CDBG budget to \$2,762,250. The following chart provides a categorical breakdown of the CDBG funding for FY 2013:

During the past fiscal year the City met or exceeded the goals and objectives outlined in its strategic plan for housing and non-housing activities.

B. EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act) enacted into law in May 2009, amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes, including:

1. Consolidation of three homeless programs into a single grant program;
2. Changes in HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness;
3. Increased prevention and rapid re-housing resources; and,
4. Increased emphasis on performance and continuum-wide coordination.

The law revises the Emergency Shelter Grants program and renames the program the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program.

ESG is designed to broaden existing emergency shelter and homelessness prevention activities, emphasize rapid re-housing, and help people quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. ESG funds may be used for street outreach, emergency shelter services, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

The stated objectives of the Emergency Solutions Grants Program are to "increase the number and quality of emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities for homeless individuals and families, to operate these facilities and provide essential social services, and to help prevent homelessness.

The Emergency Shelter Grant portion of the 2012 *Action Plan* is based on an ESG entitlement formula allocation from HUD of \$237,379 and carryover in the amount of \$595. A total of 7 homeless service

provider agencies were funded to provide Rapid Re-housing, homeless prevention and operational and maintenance expenses for homeless shelters.

C. HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The HOME Program was created to develop safe, decent and affordable housing through a variety of mechanisms including, home rehabilitation, assistance to first time homebuyers, affordable rental housing development, and assistance to community housing development organizations.

## Budget Proposal

The budget charts on the following pages provide a detailed breakdown of the CDBG, ESG and HOME programs and projects for FY 2013:

# FY13 CDBG, ESG and HOME FUNDING: BUDGET

**FY2013 Amount  
Awarded**

*Revised: March 18, 2013*

## 1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING<sup>1</sup> \$2,762,250

### INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

	PROJECT NAME	
Department of Public Infrastructure	Tree Plantings in LMI Neighborhoods	100,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>

### CLEARANCE & DEMOLITION

	PROJECT NAME	
Building Department	Clearance & Demolition	100,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>

### PUBLIC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Office of Housing & Community Development	Project Management	80,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Vacant Lot Mini-Park Project	75,000
The Trustee of Reservations	Allen C. Haskell Property	100,000
Kennedy Donovan Center Inc.	385 County Street Acquisition	125,000
Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Beaches	Dias Field Improvements	9,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Brooklawn Park	15,000
Cape Verdean Association	Cape Verdean Cultural Center	20,000
CSS of Fall River, Inc	Sr Rose House Shelter Renovation	50,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$474,000</b>

### PUBLIC SERVICES

Access for Community Enhancement Services	Recreational & Social Activities for People with Disabilities	2,000
Art Therapy Inspirational Art for Seniors, Inc.	Healing Emotions through Art	7,000
Artworks!	Teen Reach Beyond	5,000
Dream Out Loud Program	The Creative Careers Program	7,000
Coastline Elderly Services	Community Mainstream Program	10,000
Department of Community Services	Elder Services Project	120,150
Department of Community Services	Recreation Summer Day Program	31,000
Department of Community Services	Summer Jobs Program	27,000
Department of Community Services	Supportive Recreation	33,000
Domestic Violence Unit	Domestic Violence Intern Coordinator Project	25,000
Dennison Memorial Community Center	Academic Excellence Program	15,000
Easter Seals Massachusetts	Training & Technologies Program	7,000
Greater New Bedford Boys' & Girls' Club	Youth Outreach Transportation Project	7,500
Immigrants Assistance Center, Inc.	Ombudsman Services Project	8,000
New Bedford Art Museum	ArtMobile	5,000
North Star Learning Center	Acushnet Heights Youth Club	8,000
North Star Learning Center	Farmer's Market at Clasky Common	5,000
Old Dartmouth Historic Society	Youth Apprenticeship Program	8,900
PSILL – Friends of SMEC, Inc.	Trans. Resources for Community Inclusion	5,000
South Coastal Counties Legal Services	Housing Law Project	10,000
Team Builders Inc	Performing Arts for Stronger Families	7,000
Trips for Kids	Urban Explorers	5,000
United Way Hunger Commission	The Hunger Relief Project	5,000
Yoga Kids, Inc.	Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds	5,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>368,550</b>

<sup>1</sup> This total reflects the FY13 entitlement [\$2,275,000], revolving loan fund accounts [\$200,000] and FY12 carryover funds [\$287,250].

# FY13 CDBG, ESG and HOME FUNDING: BUDGET

FY2013 Amount  
Awarded

## HOUSING AND REHAB PROJECTS

Office of Housing &Community Development	Storefronts Reimbursement Program	50,000
Office of Housing &Community Development	Housing Accessibility	60,000
Office of Housing &Community Development	Emergency Repair Program	75,000
Office of Housing &Community Development	Deleading Program	50,000
Office of Housing &Community Development	Financial Assistance (Furided from RLF)	100,000
Office of Housing &Community Development	Service Delivery	300,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>635,000</b>

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New Bedford Economic Development Council	Economic Development Assistance Project	484,700
Office of Housing &Community Development	E.D. Revolving Loan Fund Account (Funded by RLF)	100,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>584,700</b>

## PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

CDBG Planning and Administration	Entitlement Management & Project Monitoring	500,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>500,000</b>

# FY13 CDBG, ESG and HOME FUNDING: BUDGET

FY2013  
Amount  
Awarded

Revised: March 18, 2013

## EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUNDING – \$237,974

SRN, Inc	Harbour House Family Shelter	15,000
Catholic Social Services	Sister Rose House	15,000
Catholic Social Services	Emergency Services Department	59,471
SEMCOA, Inc	WRAP House--Maintenance	23,000
New Bedford Women's Center	Battered Women's Shelter	26,700
PACE, Inc.	Furniture, Lifeline Fuel and Rental Assistance Project	25,450
Steppingstone, Inc.	New Bedford Women's Therapeutic Community	20,000
Steppingstone, Inc.	Homeward Bound	12,550
Veteran's Transition House, Inc.	Operational Expenditure Reimb Project	23,000
Administration		17,803
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>237,379</b>
<b>CATEGORY (Round 2)</b>		
Shelter Operations		122,700
Rapid Re-Housing		52,876
Homeless Prevention		44,090
Administration		17,803

## **TOTAL ESG ENTITLEMENT EXPENDITURES \$237,974**

### 3. HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP FUNDING \$765,028

Neighborhoods First Program	240,000
Rental Housing Program	333,772
CHDO Set Aside (15%)	114,754
Administration (10%)	76,502

## **TOTAL HOME ENTITLEMENT EXPENDITURES \$765,028**

### Conclusions

During FY13 the City of New Bedford will make significant progress in implementing its Housing and Community Development goals and priorities as set forth in its Consolidated Plan 2010-2014 and 2013 Action Plan. Many of these activities stand out as having the potential for positively impacting the quality of life for the City's low and moderate income residents. All of these activities have come to fruition as the result of an active public process, community input, careful planning and a significant commitment of financial resources while providing tremendous opportunities for low and moderate-income individuals and families, both young and old, throughout the City of New Bedford.

The City of New Bedford remains confident that its high level of performance enjoyed in the past years can be maintained as it continues exploring innovative opportunities to improve the quality of life for its low and moderate-income citizenry.



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## FISCAL YEAR 2013 ACTION PLAN JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014

### YEAR FOUR OF THE FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN.2010-2014

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## I. Introduction

The City of New Bedford has prepared this 2013 *Action Plan* outlining activities that will be funded utilizing Federal Block Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.220 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. This document serves as New Bedford's consolidated submission for the Fiscal Year 2013 *Action Plan* and Certifications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program components of the Action Plan. It describes recommendations for specific projects and services to address housing, community development and homeless needs which were identified through public meetings, needs assessments, consultations with community groups and proposals solicited through both the public meetings and the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

This *Action Plan* delineates a one-year strategy for providing housing and community development in response to the City of New Bedford's *Consolidated Plan.2010-2014*, a long-term community needs assessment and housing analysis completed in 2012. *Action Plan* presents data in several distinct categories: an overview of New Bedford's housing and community/economic development needs, a review of the five-year goals, strategies and actions proposed in the *Consolidated Plan* to meet the identified high priority needs and the specific activities proposed for Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014) that represent the fourth year of program goal implementation of the *Consolidated Plan*. The geographic distribution of proposed projects and activities is also described in the *Action Plan*.

The Office of Housing & Community Development also took into consideration the priorities of the *Continuum of Care Plan 2012* that it prepared in cooperation with the City's Homeless Service Provider Network. The *Continuum of Care Plan 2012* was submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development representing the City's 17th application for

Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Service funds in January 2013. The City of New Bedford has been successful in receiving McKinney funding as the result of such plans every year since FY96. The most recent application submitted to HUD in January 2013 incorporated all new requirements as set forth in the Hearth Act and described the integrated and coordinated system of housing, employment, emergency and supportive services designed to reduce and prevent homelessness in New Bedford.

### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

The Office of Housing & Community Development has an adopted Citizen Participation Plan that establishes the process by which the annual *Action Plan* is planned and developed in consultation with the public.

The planning and citizen participation activities for the 2013 *Action Plan* commenced in January of 2013, when the Office of Housing & Community Development conducted its annual public meetings at its headquarters in downtown New Bedford and Carney Academy. These meetings were conducted for the purpose of soliciting public comment and project proposals relative to community needs and program priorities. Forty-one people attended the public meetings, and an additional 14 citizens and agency representatives attended a technical workshop to assist people with the preparation of proposals for funding on January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Office of Housing & Community Development. A total of 47 proposals requesting \$3.9 million in CDBG funding, including 27 proposals requesting \$686,453 in public service funding and an additional 9 proposals for ESG funding were submitted during a four-week period ending February 12, 2013.

Furthermore, 4 City departments submitted funding requests to offset their costs related to longer-term community development programming, including such projects as infrastructure improvements and recreation programs that serve low and moderate income people.

### **PLANNING AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE**

#### **Year Round**

Coalition meetings, consultations with community organizations, and participation in various community-based planning efforts

#### **January 2, 2013 – January 4, 2013**

Publication of multi-language advertisements in newspapers, flyers distributed to neighborhood leaders, posted within the community at public buildings, advertising January Public Meetings

#### **January 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Public meetings conducted to solicit input for Draft 2013 *Action Plan*; release of RFP made available to the general public

#### **January 11th, 2013**

Technical Assistance Workshop

#### **February 12th, 2013**

Deadline for receipt of proposals

**May 15, 2013**

Publication of Draft *2013 Action Plan* and distribution to public locations. Distribution of *2013 Action Plan* Executive Summary to City Council

**May 15, 2013 – June 13, 2013**

Thirty-day (30) Public Comment Period, Draft *2013 Action Plan*

**June 13, 2013**

City Council Vote to Authorize Transmittal of *2013 Action Plan*

**June 17, 2013**

Submission of Final *2013 Action Plan* to HUD

**July 1, 2013**

2013 CDBG, ESG, & HOME Fiscal Year Begins

Copies of the Draft *2013 Action Plan* have been made available for a 30-day public comment period at branches of the public library, the City Clerk's Office in City Hall and the Office of Housing & Community Development at 608 Pleasant Street beginning May 15, 2013. Written comments submitted during the 30-day public comment period ending June 13, 2013 have been included in the Final *2013 Action Plan*.

**Summary of public comments**

The City received numerous comments and views from citizens in support of various projects and programs. The comments are included in the Public Hearing Appendix of the plan.

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

Not Applicable.

**Lead & Responsible Agencies**

**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
Lead Agency	City of New Bedford	Office of Housing & Community Dev.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Patrick J. Sullivan, Director  
City of New Bedford, Office of Housing and Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
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(508) 979.1500

## II. Federal Resources

The 2013 Action Plan represents a single application for federal funding incorporating three HUD formula programs in addition to program income, for a total estimated allocation of \$3,277,407 in FY2013 funds. The three HUD programs are as follows:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), at \$2,275,000  
 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), at \$237,379  
 Home Investment Partnership, at \$765,028

Anticipated program income for FY13 will come from two revolving loan funds (economic development and housing) and is estimated at \$200,000.

### ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Other Resources potentially available in the City of New Bedford in FY2013

Sub-Recipient Name	Source of FY13 Funding	Funding Description	Amount of Funding
<b>ACCESS FOR COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT SERVICES, INC.</b>	Department of Developmental Services	Individual Support Services	\$25,000
	Access Inc. Dances	Monthly Fund Raising Dance -2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at the VFW Poirier	\$17,000
<b>ART THERAPY INSPIRATIONAL ART FOR SENIORS, INC.</b>	Coastline Elderly Services	To maintain program	\$5,500
	ARAW	To maintain program	\$4,000
	Donations	To maintain program	\$2,000
<b>ART WORKS! PARTNERS FOR THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY, INC.</b>	NB Lcc	Youth after-school	\$2,500
	Island Foundation	General operating	\$10,500
	MCC	Cultural data and operating	\$1,000
	Donors/patrons	programs	\$800
	NB Rainy Day	Artists and teachers	\$1750
	NB Day Nursery	youth	\$1750
	Annual Appeal	Unrestricted gifts from individuals	\$25,000
<b>BOYS' &amp; GIRLS' CLUB OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD</b>	United Way	FY2013 Allocation	\$7,000
	Demoulas Fund	Grant for Current Operations	\$5,000
	Island Foundation	Grant for Current Operations	\$10,000
	HDM's Home Delivered Meals (State)	Home delivered meals and meals served at congregate sites meals for elders that are State Homecare clients. 185,000 meals are provided to New Bedford residents annually.	\$542,400
<b>COASTLINE ELDERLY SERVICES INC. (CESI)</b>	Title III C Federal funding	Home delivered meals and meals served at congregate sites meals for elders that are not State homecare clients. Supplements State monies for same 185,000 meals for New Bedford residents.	\$263,000
	USDA Grant	Supplemental funding for the Nutrition Program	\$18,900
	USDA Commodity credits	Supplemental funding for the Nutrition Program	\$40,950
	State Nutrition	Supplemental funding for the Nutrition Program	\$189,900
	Targeted Care Private grants	This funding plays an instrumental role to indigent seniors by ensuring that those individuals who are at risk are given assistance to purchase adaptive equipment, help with rent to avoid eviction, pay for utilities or out of pocket	\$35,400

**COASTLINE ELDERLY  
SERVICES INC.  
(CESI)  
Cont'd**

		expenses for prescriptions, etc. 77% are NB residents.	
	Supportive Living – (State)	Provide assistance to elderly living in supportive living facilities. These services include light housekeeping, personal care, laundry, education assistance, grocery shopping and brief tasks. Currently we provide these services for 45 New Bedford residents.	\$203,000
	Money Management (State)	Money management strategies to ensure elders' bills are paid on a timely basis. Currently have 34 New Bedford residents receive this service.	\$18,500
	Title III – Federal Funds – A	Provides planning and support for all Title III funds.	\$70,000
	Title III – Federal Funds – B	Provides a variety of programs and services ranging from legal, medical/mental health, fuel assistance, support groups through contracts with over 22 community agencies in order to maintain elders in their homes and decrease costly institutionalization. 75% NB residents.	\$166,200
	Title III – Federal Funds – D	Provides health and wellness support programs to elders. 70% NB residents.	\$11,981
	Senior Aide Program Federal funds	Promotes useful part-time job opportunities in community service activities, for unemployed low-income persons who are 55 years of age and older. Currently serving 19 New Bedford residents	\$254,863
	Senior Care Options.	Enabling individual to live in the community independently through Managed Care Mass Health Programs. Currently serving 661 NB residents.	\$2,075,000
	Personal Care Attendant Mass Health	Consumer self-directed care through Mass Health, which provides consumers with personal care services to enable them to live independently. Currently we have 417 NB residents.	\$328,382
	Foster Grandparents Federal Funds	Foster grandparents are assigned to area schools and agencies serving special needs children. Currently there are 17 New Bedford locations.	\$161,650
	Aging Services Access Point - State	Homecare purchased services provide Homemaker, Personal Care, Respite, Adult Day Health, Social Day Care, Home Health Aides, Grocery shopping, Laundry and Transportation to 857 NB residents.	\$2,670,000
	Enhanced Community Options - State	Provides additional Homecare services to consumers with higher than average needs for 56 NB residents.	\$461,000
	Coordination of Care - State	Screenings for medically eligible elders, nursing home and adult day health admissions.	\$348,000
	Title III – Federal Funds – E	To reduce caregiver stress by strengthening caregivers' knowledge and ability to care for dependent elders we provide a variety of services to caregivers	\$64,280

<b>COASTLINE ELDERLY SERVICES INC. (CESI) Cont'd</b>		caring for elders in our community including respite, adult day health, social day care, home health aides and translation services. 65% served in NB.	
	Title III – State Funds – E	To reduce caregiver stress by strengthening caregiver's knowledge and ability to care for dependent elder we provide a variety of services to caregivers caring for elders in our community including insurance counseling and other specialized services. 62% served live in NB.	\$12,400
	Ombudsman – Federal	Visits to 1,300 elders in 11 Nursing and Rest Homes in New Bedford for advocacy and to assist in resolving residents complaints, while ensuring optimal quality of life for all residents.	\$30,376
	Community Mainstream - City of NB, Private and Federal grants	Screen low income individuals for over 60 federal and public assistance programs that they may potentially qualify for. These benefits range from Food Stamps, TANF, Veterans Benefits and others. 80% elders served live in New Bedford.	\$43,000
	Community Choices – State	Ensures eligible Mass Health clients, who are enrolled in Section 2176 Elder Care Waiver, receive coverage for needed community services for the purpose of delaying or preventing nursing facility admission. Currently serving 100 NB residents.	\$1,006,000
	Residential Coordinator – Private Grants	The residential coordinator does case work with elderly disabled and family residents that may be in need of support, refers them for assessment, links them with service providers in the community and monitors the provision of the services. Served 82 New Bedford residents	\$59,000
	Options Counseling	Elders and family members are educated regarding the availability of other resources. They cannot be enrolled in state home care programs nor enrolled in long-term Mass Health in a Nursing Home. Served 120 New Bedford residents.	\$60,000
	Coastline/Title III	Senior Scope - awards made in fall for federal fiscal year	\$4400
	Polaroid Foundation	ESOL	\$4500
	Gr. NB Refuse	Trash Vouchers	\$1500
DESE	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Summer	\$2,000	
<b>CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES, INC.</b>	Private Insurance, Catholic Charities	Mental Health Services: counseling services provided primarily to uninsured individuals and families	\$20,000
	Private Donations, Catholic Charities	Solanus Casey Food Pantry: provides food twice a week. Last year provided service to 21,457 individuals	\$50,000
	Catholic Charities	Furniture Program: provides donated furniture to homeless families	\$25,000
	Mass Bar, Catholic Charities	Legal Services for immigrants	\$158,765

<b>CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES, INC. Cont'd</b>	Catholic Charities Polaroid foundation Acorean Government and DHS & Fernandez Foundation	DREAMer's Program, Citizenship and ESL for immigrants	\$250,000
	Acushnet Foundation	Early Childhood Education	\$5,000
	Catholic Charities	Disability Advocates	\$55,000
	Catholic Charities	Basic Needs Advocate	\$35,000
	Mass Bar/Catholic Charities	Legal Services for Domestic Violence	\$79,903
<b>DENNISON MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER</b>	Foundations	Grants from private foundations to assist in personnel costs for the agency.	\$25,000
<b>CITY OF NEW BEDFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	Chapter 90	Ch. 90 Apportionment for FY 2013	\$2,138,278
<b>THE DREAM OUT LOUD CENTER, INC.</b>	WIB	To support our In-School Program (Received \$35,000 in FY11)	\$25,000
	Island Foundation	Operating Support of our Creative Careers Program. They invited us to increase our ask this year.	\$10,000
	Helen Ellis Foundation	Receive every year for Creative Careers Program since 2005.	\$2,000
	Verizon Foundation	Received to support our Creative Careers Program in FY12. Will apply again.	\$5,000
	Betsy Mellor Foundation	For operating support. Has been a donor since 2006.	\$12,000
	Rainy Day Foundation	For operating support. Recently began funding organization again. Has support in years 2003-2006. Wi	\$2,000
	McLean Foundation	For funding of equipment. Received in FY08, Invited us to apply again.	\$10,000
	Crapo Foundation	Creative Careers Support. Received \$8,000 in FY10, will be applying to again.)	\$8,000
	Women's Fund Foundation	Creative Careers Support. Received in FY10, FY11. Will be applying this FY.	\$5,000
<b>THE DREAM OUT LOUD CENTER, INC.</b>	United Way Foundation	Creative Career Instructor Support. Received in FY11, 12. Invited to reapply.	\$4,060
<b>EASTER SEALS MASSACHUSETTS</b>	Mass Rehab.	Youth Leadership Network Funds	\$12,000
	Development Funds	Individual contributions	\$20,000
<b>GREATER NEW BEDFORD WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD</b>	DOLWD (Federal) & DESE (State)	Mass DOLWD contracts provide U.S. Dept. of Labor funding as follows <u>Workforce Investment Act-\$2,195,000, Wagner/Peyser \$370,000, Veterans&amp; U.I., -\$175,000, REA -\$26,000, Skills Start \$37,000</u> National Emergency Grant funding through DOL for <u>On the Job Training \$227,000.</u> Massachusetts DESE provides <b>\$330,000</b> for 2 Adult Basic Ed. Programs, Pathways grants, Connecting Activities, and Career Center support.)	\$3,360,000
	Mass DOLWD (State Funds)	The Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development contracts approximately <b>\$133,000</b> of <u>State One Stop</u> funding for support of the One-Stop Career Center. The funds support career center facilities and staff salaries. Staff assist any resident	\$228,000

<b>GREATER NEW BEDFORD WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD Conf'd</b>		from the Greater New Bedford area in job seeking activities and unemployment claims assistance Also provided is <b>\$95,000</b> from the <u>Workforce Training Fund</u> to support the Workforce Investment Board and Youth Council.	
	Commcorp	Funds awarded by Commonwealth Corporation for Youth jobs and programs include <u>Youthworks</u> <b>\$330,000</b> <b>Also WTF grants for:</b> Mfg Consortium training <b>\$350,000</b> and Healthcare Consortium training <b>\$250,000</b>	\$830,000
<b>SRN / HIGHPOINT</b>	DPH/BSAS (State)	The Department of Public Health, through its BSAS Transitional Support Services Program, has allocated over \$1.5 million to assist individuals, most who are homeless, in need of intensive Transitional Support Services who are awaiting placement in residential substance abuse treatment programs.	\$1,530,698
	DPH/BSAS (State)	The Department of Public Health, through BSAS has allocated \$1.6 million to provide intense residential substance abuse treatment with long term aftercare services to men and woman who have an opiate and/or other substance abuse disorder and are court referred.	\$1,600,000
	DHCD (State)	The Department of Housing and Community Development has allocated approximately \$767,000 to provide emergency shelter to homeless families which include housing assistance and stabilization services.	\$ 766,973
	Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.	In home visits to caregivers who are non-English speakers and are taking care of homebound family members. The program provides the caregiver access to the services of the IAC.	\$7,649
	Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.	Access/Advocacy for non-English speaking elders. To provide advocacy, support and general case management to non- English speaking elders.	\$10,800
	Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley	To provide outreach and educate limited English/non-English speaking elders about Medicare and Medicaid abuse, fraud and errors.	\$5,000
	Sailor's Snug Harbor	Provide citizenship and immigration services to fisherman and their families. Citizenship Outreach Education at local high school immigrant students in becoming US Citizens.	\$15,000
	Island Foundation	General support services to immigrants.	\$10,000
	United Way of Greater New Bedford	Bilingual/bicultural case management for Non-English speakers. (Portuguese & English).	\$20,000
	New Bedford Public Schools	AMIGOS Project. Translation and interpreting services.	\$20,000
	Citizenship for New	The IAC provides citizenship information	\$21,655

	Americans	assistance and support to immigrants along with Native Language Citizenship classes in Portuguese and Cape Verdean Creole to the elderly population that meet the criteria to apply in their native language.	
	Comm. Foundation Polaroid - State	Provides ESOL classes with citizenship preparation	\$10,000
<b>NEW BEDFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.</b>  <b>New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc. Cont'd</b>	Mass Development (State)	The NBEDC has loan funds available through a line of credit. (balance available)	\$1,060,000
	Small Business Administration Federal Stimulus (Fed)	This provides funds for Micro Enterprise businesses. (balance available)	\$346,000
	US Economic Development Administration (EDA) Fishing (Fed)	Grant funding originally used for fishing loans and available for local businesses. (balance available)	\$983,092
	US Economic Development Administration (EDA) Non-Fishing (Fed)	Grant funding for loans and available for local businesses (balance available)	\$67,929
	Bank of American (Private)	Provides loan funds for local businesses. (balance available)	\$21,750
	Citizens Bank	Provides loan funds for local businesses. (balance available)	\$3,000
	<b>NEW BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	State/Federal Through State	VAWA Grant- Civilian Advocate State 911 Training Grant Byrne JAG FY11 Through EOPSS State Highway Safety Grant State 911 Personnel & Equipment Grant Shannon Community Safety Initiative
Federal		ATF Overtime DEA Overtime Justice Assistance Grant FFY10 Justice Assistance Grant FFY11 Justice Assistance Grant-Recovery Act FBI Overtime US Marshalls Task Force	\$6,097 \$17,202 \$145,136 \$116,532 \$546,577 \$17,202 \$13,000
<b>NORTH STAR LEARNING CENTERS, INC.</b>	Department of Early Education & Care (EEC)	Provides funding for the administrative & direct care operations of our 2 Early Care and Education Centers as well as our Schooner School Age Program. State contracts awarded through 8/2014 renewable for 3 year intervals. Provides subsidies for working families. Provides funding for support services to children ages 1 month – 12 years old.	\$1,588,596
	Department of Children and Families (DCF)	Provides funding for the administrative and direct care operations of our Youth Services Programs which includes the Family Actualization Support and Empowerment Program (F.A.S.E), the Kinship Program, and Family Visitation Program. Youth mentoring, advocacy, and individualized support services are	\$679,370

<b>NORTH STAR LEARNING CENTERS, INC. Cont'd</b>		provided using a wraparound approach. Youth and family support and stabilization are primary goals of the programs. Current state contracts awarded through 6/2014.	
	United Way	Provides funding for the implementation of the Devereux Early Childhood Initiative: involves early childhood teachers and parents in assessing children's social and emotional strengths in working together to create individualized plans for children to ensure children's school readiness and success.	\$36,000
	Department of Public Health (DPH)	Provides funding for the Tying on Success program located at Roosevelt Middle School: a mentoring program for violence-prone middle school boys. The program focuses on improving self-esteem, social skills, and academic grades.	\$29,015
<b>OLD DARTMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY – NEW BEDFORD WHALING MUSEUM</b>	Jessie Ball DuPont Foundation	Funding for Apprentice Program	\$30,000
	Howard Bayne Fund	Funding for Apprentice Program	\$30,000
	Island Foundation	Funding for Apprentice Program	\$30,000
	United Way Summer Fund	Funding for Apprentice Program	\$5,000
	Bristol County Savings Bank	Funding for Apprentice Program	\$8,000
<b>PACE, Inc.</b>	HHS (Federal) & DOE (State)	Funding sources for the YouthBuild /AmeriCorps program \$178,000 Health & Human Services and state YouthBuild (DOE) \$182,000 and private funding \$411,745	\$250,321
	OCCS (State)	The Office of Child Care Services will provide over \$20 million in federal funding through the state OCCS for Child Care Resource and Referral. The program also receives funds for 9 Community Partnerships, and Mass Family Network.	\$34,324,755
	DHHS (Federal)	Federal monies through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for low-income residents of the City of New Bedford to pay for Fuel Assistance in the winter months.	\$7,372,355
	DHHS (Federal)	Federal assistance for Head Start Program for children of low-income families geared to early childcare development and Head Start Project and Welfare to Work program.	\$3,748,281
	DHCD (State)	Core funding/franchise grant to PACE for administration of grants for low-income residents of the City of New Bedford and special projects funding.	\$474,733
<b>PEOPLE SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT LEISURE – FRIENDS OF SMEC, INC.</b>	Fundraiser	Annual Fundraiser Held in March	\$3,000
	SMEC/SAIL	In-kind services in the form of space and personnel provided by SMEC/SAIL	\$6,000
	DOE	Massachusetts Department of Education	\$30,000

<b>CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, DEPT of RECREATION</b>	(State)	Summer Food Service Program Expansion Grant New Sites.	
	DOE (State)	Massachusetts Department of Education Summer Food Service Program Start Up Grant Program-site preparation	\$2,500
	DOE (State)	Summer Food Service Program Grant to provide 1,800 free breakfasts and lunches daily to qualified youngsters during the summer months (July 2nd through August 24th) housing projects, park sites, public schools in the City of New Bedford.	\$202,000
	AmeriCorp Mass. Promise Fellow	Provides an intern to create new programming and capacity for youth services.	\$13,750
	DOE Project Bread	SFSP Sponsor Incentive Grant to increase services through addition of new sites or programming.	\$5,000
<b>SEMCOA, Inc.</b>	DPH (State)	Mass Dept of Public Health-Bureau of Substance Abuse Services-Provides funding for residential substance abuse services women & men with special emphasis on services for Chronic Homeless individuals and as well as supportive case management services for women	\$1,132,814
	DTA (State)	Mass. Dept. of Transitional Assistance (DTA)-Provides funding for food benefits for substance abusers that reside in the SEMCOA treatment facilities.	\$87,500
	MPB (State)	Mass Parole Board-provides funding for residential substance abuse treatment & services for men transitioning from incarceration back to living in the community	\$109,500
	United Way (Private)	Funding for the SEMCOA Monarch House – supports counseling services for women.	\$25,000
	MHSA	Massachusetts Housing And Shelter Association provides HUD funding for leasing 11 (SROs) low threshold permanent housing for chronically homeless males	\$53,362
	FEMA	Provides funding for a meals program for women residing in Monarch House, a transitional residential program for women recovery from substance use disorder.	\$1,256
<b>SISTER ROSE HOUSE</b>	Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance	Transitional Homeless Prevention Program for 7 individuals.	\$53,497
	DTA (State)	Operational funding source for Emergency Shelters for Homeless Individuals.	\$320,137
<b>SOUTH COASTAL COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES, INC.</b>	Massachusetts Legal Services Corporation (MLAC)	Travel (2012 RFP Leveraged fund reported on page 22)	\$1,456
	MLAC	General Operating Support	\$1,226,627
	Legal Services Corporation (LSC)	General operating support. Funding is limited by certain Federal restrictions, such as the restriction from using funds to serve undocumented persons.	\$795,243

<b>SOUTH COASTAL COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES, INC. Cont'd</b>	Coastline Elder Services	Legal Services for low-income residents over 60 years of age in Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Gosnold, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, and Rochester.	\$44,322	
	Bristol Elder Services	Legal Services for low-income residents over 60 years of age in Attleboro, Berkley, Dighton, Fall River, Freetown, Mansfield, North Attleboro, Norton, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea, Taunton, and/or Westport.	\$50,000	
	Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands	Legal Services for low-income residents over 60 years of age in twenty-two towns of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket (Title III funds).	\$52,000	
	Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging	Legal Services for low-income residents over 60 years of age in Abington Avon Bridgewater Brockton Duxbury East Bridgewater Easton Halifax Hanson Kingston Pembroke Plymouth Plympton Stoughton West Bridgewater Whitman (Title III funds).	\$83,000	
	Housing and Urban Development	Housing Legal Services- Continuum of Care on Cape Cod	\$24,936	
	City of New Bedford CDBG	Housing Legal Services	\$12,500	
	Cape Town Funding	Legal services on the Cape Cod.	\$45,600	
	Battered Women Legal Assistance Fund	Family Law for victims of domestic violence	\$422,661	
	Disability Benefits Project	Disability Law	\$175,188	
	UW Gr Plymouth County	Family Law in Plymouth County	\$6,250	
<b>SOUTH COASTAL COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES, INC. Cont'd</b>	UW Gr Attleboro Taunton	Housing Law	\$6,050	
	Steward Healthcare	Legal services to combat social determinants to health	\$36,667	
	AG HomeCorps Funds	Foreclosure legal assistance in SE Mass	\$233,800	
	Bristol County Savings Bank	Elder law services	\$3,000	
	Charles Bacon Foundation	Elder law services	\$4,998	
	Island Foundation	Education Advocacy in New Bedford	\$20,716	
	J. Boynton Fund	Elder Law	\$3,750	
	L.G. Balfour Foundation	Elder Law in Attleboro	\$30,000	
	<b>STEPPINGSTONE</b>	TJX Foundation (Private)	The TJX Foundation awarded a grant to fund the nutritional component of the New Bedford Women's Therapeutic Community Program.	\$5,000
		DPH/BSAS (State)	The Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) provides funding for substance abuse in supportive housing	\$28,079
DPH/BSAS (State)		The Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) provides funding for residential treatment services for recovering substance abusers.	\$384,537	
<b>TEAM BUILDERS, INC.</b>	Deborah Bastoni	Personnel-Donated time (conservative	\$4,500	

		estimate	
	Team Builders/HOM staff	Contractual Services - Donated time (Conservative estimate)	\$1,900
	City of New Bedford	In kind donation of space and utilities estimated to be valued at \$1,500 a month	\$18,000
	Fundraising	Shows, T-shirts, public donations and sponsors	\$11,600
<b>TRIPS FOR KIDS, INC.</b>	Island Foundation	General Operating Funds - Will apply	\$10,000
	United Way Summer Fund	Summer Program Fees - Will apply	\$5,000
	Program Fees OSS	Program Fees - Invoice as due	\$4,000
	Program Fees Nativity	Program Fees - Invoice as due	\$4,352
	Program Fees YWCA	Program Fees - Invoice as due	\$1,000
	Tuition Income	Service Fees - Invoice as due	\$8,500
<b>TRIPS FOR KIDS, INC. Cont'd</b>	Individual Contributions	General Operating Funds - Ongoing	\$78,114
	Corporate Contributions	General Operating Funds - Will apply	\$2,500
	Trips for Kids National	General Operating Funds - Will apply	\$1,000
<b>UNITED WAY</b>	Local Fundraising	The United Way's raised funds that are allocated to local community based agencies for health and human service program. Funds assist primarily low-income residents of the Greater New Bedford area. United Way also houses the Hunger Commission of SE MA and Community Building MiniGrants program.	\$737,166
	DSS (State)	The Department of Social Services provides this amount to the United Way of Greater New Bedford to administer Community Connections, a state-sponsored program that provides facilitative leadership for a variety of community-based initiatives to strengthen and support families and prevent abuse and neglect.	\$521,500
<b>TOTAL OTHER RESOURCES</b>			
<i>Potentially available in the City of New Bedford in FY 2013:</i>			<b>\$80,872,235</b>

### **III. Summary of Community Development, HOME and ESG Priorities & Specific Objectives**

#### **A. FISCAL YEAR 2013 ACTION PLAN HOUSING ACTIVITIES**

The FY 2013 *Action Plan* includes proposed activities that meet the priority housing and community needs as described in the *Consolidated Plan 2010-2014*, which outlines the City of New Bedford's strategy to address the housing problems of its low- and moderate-income citizens, the homeless and its housing stock. Priority needs in the *Consolidated Plan 2010-2014* include:

- Increasing the amount of decent, safe and affordable housing by supporting the rehabilitation of substandard units, especially those in 1 to 3-unit structures. Restoring and enhancing the local building stock can simultaneously reduce high energy costs, reestablish local history and create jobs;
- Increasing the supply of rental housing affordable to low and moderate income households;
- Supporting the development through rehabilitation of affordable housing that is suitable for that segment of the populace with special housing needs, including the frail elderly, severely mentally ill, developmentally disabled, physically disabled and persons with AIDS and related diseases;
- Expanding opportunities for homeownership among those households presently unable to purchase their own home;
- Providing affordable housing options to non-profit caregivers who are meeting the shelter and other needs of the homeless, including victims of domestic violence and those with AIDS and related diseases;
- Reducing lead-based paint hazardous conditions in privately owned housing; and
- Increasing energy efficiency in residential properties—especially one-three family dwellings. Providing resources for energy efficiency improvements for low and moderate income homeowners and renters will increase affordability and housing stability and contribute toward reducing New Bedford's overall energy consumption and carbon footprint.
- Minimizing displacement involving involuntary permanent relocation.

#### **1. CONTINUATION OF CURRENT PROGRAM ACTIVITY**

The Housing Activities proposed for the upcoming year correspond to the priority needs identified in the *Consolidated Plan 2010-2014*. Programs administered through the New Bedford Office of Housing & Community Development will preserve over 50 units of owner and renter housing using HOME, CDBG, state and

private program funds. In addition, the following prioritized activities will be undertaken for Fiscal Year 2013:

- Provide grants to 9 households to assist with necessary and emergency repairs that enable applicants to remain in their homes.
- Provide housing rehab loans and grants to 5 low and moderate income households to assist in bringing their property up to regulatory codes and for energy efficiency improvements such as insulation, installation of high-efficiency boilers and hot water heaters, and door and window replacement.
- Provide down-payment and closing cost assistance, as well as rehabilitation assistance or gap financing, if required to a total of 12 households purchasing their first homes.
- Provide loans for the development, acquisition and rehabilitation of rental housing assisting a total of 8 units.
- Provide loans and grants for the abatement of hazardous materials including lead based paint and asbestos to assist 15 units of housing.
- Support applications for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and other financial resources when such applications include units affordable to extremely low income households so as to assist such units.

**2. IDENTIFICATION OF NEW PROGRAM ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2013**

The Office of Housing & Community Development will identify areas for new program activity by investigating ways to preserve and develop low-income housing units in mixed-use and mixed-income projects. Some of those identified areas of program activity will be as follows:

- Provide financial and technical assistance to two designated Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOS); People Acting in Community Endeavors, (PACE) and Community Action for Better Housing Inc, (CABH, Inc.)
- Collaborate with PACE and Community Action for Better Housing [CABH]: These agencies are certified CHDOs that are able to utilize HOME funds for activities such as the acquisition and rehabilitation of abandoned/distressed properties for the subsequent sale to low/moderate income first-time homebuyers or the development of affordable rental housing opportunities to provide housing to low and very low income residents.
- Explore identification and certification of new qualified CHDO agencies.
- Assist non-profits in developing transitional and permanent housing for homeless and special needs populations.

- Use geographic targeting to focus funding resources in ways that support neighborhood improvement; work to create neighborhood-based planning guidelines in the *Consolidated Plan* that include opportunities for neighborhoods to plan to preserve and develop low-income housing compatible with goals for neighborhood improvement.
- Continue to develop affordable housing opportunities within the city's targeted neighborhoods.
- Coordinate efforts for collaboration and cross marketing of programs with MassSave and local "Green Economy" Initiative contacts in the City.
- Promote energy star standards and energy efficiency measures, whenever possible, in all rehabilitation and new construction projects.
- Utilize the Tax Title Disposition Program and the Attorney General's Receivership Program to the greatest extent to acquire tax delinquent properties and vacant lots for redevelopment including new construction of in-fill housing.
- Promote the development of affordable housing specifically targeted to low and moderate income seniors.
- Continue to forge relationships with non-profit agencies that are applying to and receiving funding from other funding sources to purchase and rehabilitate abandoned and foreclosed properties in targeted neighborhoods for homeownership, affordable rental housing, and permanent supportive housing for families and individuals.

## 2. ABANDONED PROPERTY AND FORECLOSURE STRATEGY

To address the sharp increase in foreclosure rates nationally and locally and the sharp increase in abandoned and vacant property in the City of New Bedford, the City has instituted a comprehensive Abandoned Property and Foreclosure Strategy.

The plan is an outgrowth of the Mayor's Interdepartmental Housing Task Force, assembled in 2006 and coordinated through the Office of Housing & Community Development. The plan institutes a strategic, multi-dimensional approach to the problem of abandoned properties and foreclosures, and involves four areas of activity: **Legal Action, Administrative Oversight, Enforcement & Inspection and Foreclosure Prevention and Redevelopment.**

### Legal

- I. Continued implementation of two ordinances to deal with abandoned and problem properties.
  - a. Prevention and Abatement of Nuisances Ordinance
  - b. The Vacant Building Registration: requires inspection and registration of all vacant buildings within the city and imposes steep fines for non-compliance.

II. The Office of Housing & Community Development will continue to build on the success of working with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office to employ the Receivership Program. The Receivership Program allows the court to appoint a "Receiver" to correct code violations and public safety issues in instances where the owner does not respond to any directives.

#### **Administrative**

I. The Departments of Housing & Community Development and Inspectional Services, working with Management Information Systems, have developed a comprehensive database of all abandoned and foreclosed properties. City departments having any role in the inspection or disposition of city buildings will have access to this list from a central server and are able to note any actions taken or changes of status that occur.

#### **Foreclosure Prevention and Redevelopment**

I. The Office of Housing & Community Development will continue to implement programs and initiatives to address the mortgage foreclosure crisis. The OHCD has coordinated with local banks, legal assistance agencies, non-profit housing counseling agencies and Mass Housing to form the New Bedford/Fall River Housing Partnership to assist homeowners faced with foreclosure and educate consumers about financial literacy, credit worthiness, as well as available purchase and rehabilitation programs.

II. The OHCD is working closely with HUD and the State Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) to implement the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). OHCD has received NSP funding to address the foreclosure crisis in New Bedford. NSP funding has been targeted to four neighborhoods that have experienced high rates of foreclosures. The areas, Acushnet Heights, North End, Cove Street and South Central are also part of the OHCD targeted neighborhoods for revitalization. NSP funds have been targeted for the following initiatives:

- a) Acquire and rehabilitate residential properties that will be offered to eligible homebuyers through a lottery process.
- b) Acquire and rehabilitate abandoned/foreclosed properties for rental housing to assist low and very low income residents.
- c) Acquire and rehabilitate abandoned/foreclosed properties to create affordable rental housing for formerly homeless individuals and families

III. OHCD will also coordinate the redevelopment of foreclosed properties, working with local banks and non-profit housing developers. The New Bedford/ Fall River Housing Partnership has launched a mortgage product for those looking to purchase foreclosed properties within the City known as "Buy New Bedford"; this product can be used in conjunction with the City's first time home buyer program to provide down payment and closing cost assistance as well as rehabilitation assistance to help bring the foreclosed properties back to meet minimum housing quality standards and local building codes. In addition, the local lenders of the Housing Partnership have collaborated with our office and the non-profit housing developers by providing affordable mortgages for the lottery properties and eligible lottery purchasers. The Housing Partnership has recently launched a website that has a page that lists all Affordable Lottery Properties for potential buyers to view online.

## **B. PUBLIC HOUSING**

The City of New Bedford works closely with the New Bedford Housing Authority (NBHA) to encourage public housing improvements and public housing residents' involvement. The City of New Bedford's Five Year Consolidated Plan supports the NBHA Plan with the following actions and commitments:

- Use of HOME and CDBG funds to expand the supply of affordable housing in the City;
- Use of CDBG public service funding to support non-profit entities undertaking youth and elderly programs within NBHA areas;
- Coordination of CDBG and HOME funding for lead based paint removal and remediation and
- Use of CDBG and HOME funds to stabilize the neighborhoods in which there is an excessive concentration of poverty, including some in which there are NBHA developments.

The New Bedford Public Housing Authority's Plan for Fiscal Year 2012, identifies several goals that are consistent with the City's prioritized use of funds.

There is a great need for households earning below 30% of the median income (MFI). To meet this need, the NBHA will target more than 75% of all Section 8 Voucher new admissions to families at or below 30% of MIA. At the same time the NBHA will give preference for public housing admission to working families and those enrolled in educational, training, or upward mobility programs in order to de-concentrate poverty and have an income mix at targeted developments. Public Housing residents will have the option of paying income-based rents or flat rents (ceiling rents) to eliminate rent increases that penalize residents who obtain employment. Minimum rents will be \$50.00 per month but discretionary minimum rent hardship exemptions will be available.

### **1. Identification of New Program Activities for FY 2013**

The City has partnered with NBHA to create units of supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and supportive housing for families that experience repeat homelessness. Several developers have utilized the NBHA project-based Section 8 vouchers program in the development of affordable housing projects throughout the City. The City has assisted these developments by leveraging CDBG and HOME funding for development costs. The use of NBHA project based vouchers provides a stable flow of rental income and assures that low and very low income families are assisted in these developments.

The City will continue to collaborate with the New Bedford Housing Authority's ROSS (Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency) Program to help provide services to residents of the Housing Authority.

The New Bedford Housing Authority does not expect to lose any property from its housing inventory for any reason, including loss through public housing demolition or conversion to homeownership.

## **C. NON-HOUSING OBJECTIVES**

The New Bedford Office of Housing & Community Development's Non-Housing Objectives will consist of supporting and promoting a vital system of community-based public services by maintaining and expanding the physical infrastructure through planning, acquisition, construction, renovation and restoration of facilities, with a prioritized consideration for those facilities providing space to activities or projects serving low and moderate income

persons/households and special needs populations. In addition, projects that improve access to public services for persons with disabilities through removal of architectural or physical barriers, or improved access design, will also be evaluated and verified for regulatory compliance and prioritized according to need.

The Office of Housing & Community Development will further provide services that fill priority service gaps. Funding priority will be given to proposed program activities that are responsive to identified health status indicators that target *Consolidated Plan.2010-2014* priorities.

The Office of Housing & Community Development will support program activities that enhance coordination with and build on regional job training efforts, such as New Directions, and YouthBuild programs. In addition, efforts will be undertaken to address the economic development initiatives of New Bedford, with emphasis on creating permanent employment opportunities, particularly for persons of lower-income status.

The promotion of neighborhood-based business revitalization efforts by providing technical assistance to small business owners and individuals within CD-eligible census tracts will be accomplished through the New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc. and their partners in the neighborhood business associations—Downtown New Bedford, Inc., North End Business Association, and South End Business Association. Participation in regional strategic planning efforts to create a continuum of business development services in New Bedford will continue to be a priority of the organization. The Office of Housing & Community Development will also continue to provide funding and technical assistance to the New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc. to provide direct assistance to the aforementioned neighborhood business associations.

The Office of Housing & Community Development will respond to the needs for infrastructure improvements such as the reconstruction of city streets and sidewalks, in eligible, low-income census tracts, the demolition of abandoned and unsafe buildings, and the replacement of leaded water lines.

One of the main focal points of the administration and the Office of Housing & Community Development is to strengthen neighborhoods in need by providing programmatic opportunities to those targeted low-income residents. Those expenditures under the *Consolidated Plan.2010-2014* and subsequent Action Plans are intended to have a geographic as well as target population focus. The City recognizes its role in strengthening targeted neighborhoods by following four main objectives:

- Help neighborhoods overcome barriers to economic vitality and overcome blight;
- Empower communities by promoting neighborhood participation in identifying needs, developing projects, and resolving their own problems at the neighborhood level;
- Promote improvement in the coordination of services at a neighborhood level, and organize public services built around identified needs of individuals within the community, and

- Create stronger linkages between public services and physical development projects to address priorities and enhance positive impacts in a given geographic area.

**1. Improvements to Public Facilities and Parks**

The OHCD will undertake physical improvements to improve public facilities and parks that directly serve low and moderate income residents throughout eligible census tracts in the City to benefit the quality of life for area residents.

**2. Public Services**

The Office of Housing and Community Development provides CDBG funding to dozens of non-profit agencies that provide much needed services and programs to eligible New Bedford residents. The Public Services Program will continue to provide funding for those areas identified in the *Consolidated Plan* as prioritized areas of public service. These prioritized program areas were identified through the citizen participation initiative required under the plan guidelines and were identified as the public service areas with the highest needs. Prioritized areas of services to high-risk populations include youth services and recreational programs (after-school programs), health, and housing related services.

Programs that promote health and wellness, particularly youth, will also be prioritized. OHCD is a partner agency involved in a city-wide and state-wide obesity prevention program called Mass in Motion. Wherever possible, OHCD will apply the overarching Mass in Motion goal of universal access to nutritious food and opportunities for physical activity to the projects it funds.

Funding for recreational programs will be undertaken for city residents, such as senior therapeutic art activities, youth camp and summer lunch programs, youth employment and internship programs, senior drop-in center services, a creative careers after-school program for teens, recreational activities for handicapped youth, assistance to neighborhood sport groups, youth transportation to after-school activities and programs, and special events targeting low and moderate income children and their families.

Support services for domestic violence prevention efforts will be partially supported by CDBG funds to benefit low and moderate income and eligible special populations; a continuation of funding will be given to the New Bedford Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit in order to employ one student intern and several volunteers to assist victims of domestic abuse. These interns will work with victims to prosecute spousal/domestic partner abusers for punishment under the law.

**3. Neighborhood Revitalization**

In keeping with the City of New Bedford's mission to increase the City's stock of safe, decent, affordable housing, the Office of Housing and Community Development has instituted comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategies. The goal of these strategies is to remove blight and significantly improve the quality of life in some of New Bedford's most deteriorated neighborhoods. To this end, the OHCD has identified five neighborhood target areas in which to concentrate its

improvement initiatives and provide incentives for reinvestment. These five target areas are:

- a. **North End:** Including most of census tract 7 and a four-block area in census tract 12, this area is bordered by Coggeshall Street to the south, Belleville Avenue to the east, Coffin Avenue to the north, and the Conrail tracks/Ashley Boulevard area to the west.
- b. **Acushnet Heights:** Comprised mainly of census tract 13, this area is bordered by Maxfield Street to the south, Purchase Street to the east, Penniman Street to the north, and County Street to the west.
- c. **South Central:** Comprised primarily of census tract 19, this area is bordered by Potomska Street to the south, So. Second Street to the east, Walnut Street to the north, and County and Pleasant Steets. to the west.
- d. **South First.** Comprised mainly of census tract 26, this area is bordered by Cove Road and Grit Street to the south, Rodney French Boulevard and JFK Highway to the east, Potomska Street to the north, and County Street to the west.
- e. **Cove Street.** Including most of census tract 27 and a two-block area from census tract 26, this area is bordered by Mott Street to the south, East Rodney French Boulevard to the east, Cove Street to the north, and Brock Avenue to the west.

In each of these areas, a number of projects are underway which will significantly improve conditions for their residents. In addition, several housing initiatives in the Acushnet Heights, South First/South Central and Cove Street areas have been completed. Whether it is through rehabilitation or economic development, the City's revitalization efforts continue to change the face of New Bedford's neighborhoods and increase the supply of safe, decent affordable rental housing and the rate of home ownership in these areas, particularly for persons of low-to-moderate income.

#### 4. **Economic Development and Job Creation Initiatives**

The City of New Bedford's Economic Development Council has been charged as the leading economic development agency in the city. As a quasi-public entity, the NBEDC has become the leader in promoting business growth and promoting community development initiatives in the business community. The NBEDC's main objective has been to serve as a focal point for information on economic development issues and has worked to coordinate New Bedford's efforts to expand the existing business base through the recruitment of new businesses to the city, as well as assisting with costs for the expansion of existing businesses in the City. The NBEDC has acted as a catalyst for city economic development growth by working with various local constituent groups to attract businesses and job opportunities and to improve the quality of life for City residents.

The NBEDC provides business assistance through a number of CDBG and EDA loan pool resources. Micro-enterprise funds are available to support small business growth as well as a host of other Revolving Loan Fund Programs, under CDBG and EDA funding, to offer business expansion funds, business relocation financing, and basic business development loans. These initiatives include funding for the Community Economic Loan Fund, (CELF), and the management of the EDA Fisheries Grant, as well as the management of the EDA Non-Fisheries Loan Pool.

**D. HOMELESS AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITIES**

**1. Identification of Homeless Needs and Continuum of Care Strategy**

The City of New Bedford rises to the challenges posed by poverty, hunger and homelessness through the membership component of its Continuum of Care known as its Homeless Service Provider's Network [HSPN]. The HSPN is a resource base committed to the eradication of homelessness and the restoration of basic human dignity to all people.

Over the past several years the homeless service provision system in the City of New Bedford through the HSPN has become increasingly adept at identifying and meeting the range of needs faced by homeless individuals and families. The HSPN has continued to address the issues surrounding homelessness in the City. Established in 1995, the HSPN has grown to a consortium in excess 50 human service providers, state agencies, local businesses, civic organizations, private corporations, religious organizations, educational representatives, the legal and law enforcement communities, providers from within the medical community and representatives from the City of New Bedford's Department of Community Services and the Office of Housing & Community Development.

This group spearheads a collaborative effort to maintain and develop a comprehensive planning process around the issues of homelessness. Each year the HSPN and the City, through the Office of Housing & Community Development, undertake a planning process to formally review and develop its *Continuum of Care*, a broader planning process that describes the movement of a consumer from outreach, emergency housing, transitional housing and supportive services to permanent supportive and independent housing.

**Chronic Homelessness & The Ten Year Plan.** In April of 2006 the City of New Bedford formally adopted its Ten Year Plan to Address and Eliminate Homelessness prepared by a Mayoral Task Force on Homelessness. The Plan includes strategies to prevent and eliminate chronic homelessness and is consistent with the chronic homeless goals promulgated by the U.S. Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness.

In its Ten Year Plan, the City identifies the following six broad goals, each of which are detailed further in the Ten Year Plan:

1. Prevent homelessness for both individuals and families experiencing either episodic or chronic homelessness;
2. Expand the supply of permanent supportive housing targeted to homeless individuals and families;

3. Improve the existing network of emergency shelter and transitional housing
4. Improve coordination and collaboration among homeless providers to meet the needs of emerging homeless subpopulations;
5. Expand employment opportunities and employment-related services for homeless individuals and families; and
6. Improve access to mainstream resources for homeless individuals and families.

The HSPN is now reviewing the plan and will write an addendum which reflects the changing priorities and foci of homeless service provision locally, regionally, and nationally. The updated plan will align more closely with *Opening Doors*, the federal strategic plan to end homelessness, and with state priorities and best practices.

The Continuum of Care, acting through its HSPN and the South Coast Regional Network to End Homelessness, is committed to eradicating all forms of homelessness and will continue its programmatic and systemic vigilance in FY2013 to that end.

**McKinney-Vento Supportive Housing Programs** *Continuum of Care* plans are prepared for HUD as part of its application process for an annual opportunity to apply for McKinney-Vento Supportive Housing funding. The City of New Bedford has applied for this funding since 1995 and to date has received over \$21.7 million dollars for homeless programs including supportive services, operational services, leasing for permanent housing, rehabilitation and construction.

As of this Action Plan, there are currently ten active projects that receive Supportive Housing Program funds. The projects provide a total of 39 transitional housing beds and 234 permanent housing beds:

Existing Program Name	Purpose	Capacity
The Donovan House Project	Transitional Housing	20 beds
Network House Project	Transitional Housing	10 beds
The Graduate House Project	Transitional Housing	9 beds
Journey to Independence Project	Permanent Housing	32 beds
Step-Up Project	Permanent Housing	42 beds
The Oasis Project	Permanent Housing	12 beds
Coming Home Project	Permanent Housing	51 beds
Family Preservation Project	Permanent Housing	38 beds
Housing First Project	Permanent Housing	59 beds
New Bedford HMIS Project	HMIS Compliance	N/A

The Homeless Service Provider Network will continue to meet monthly and in conjunction with its subcommittees, to address issues of homelessness and poverty

in New Bedford. Together these individuals and organizations have created a climate that is supporting and initiating positive changes and have developed a comprehensive planning process to prioritize needs, resources and programming to best meet the needs of the community's homeless.

The HSPN will plan, establish and operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system that provides an initial comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services in accordance with the CoC rule to ensure that the resources within the CoC are best utilized and directed to the most appropriate population and result in the most effective outcomes.

The City of New Bedford Office of Housing and Community development plans on submitting a planning grant application to in part, develop a coordinated system. The system will allow for a coordinated approach to quickly identify individuals and families, utilizing a uniform assessment tool, match programs and resources that are best suited for the appropriate population.

In addition to those activities limited to the New Bedford city limits, representatives from the City's HSPN and from the community at large have joined the South Coast Regional Network to end homelessness, a state-sponsored initiative aimed at finding regional solutions to the problem of homelessness in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Thanks to a funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness and additional fundraising efforts, New Bedford will continue to partner with the cities of Fall River, Attleboro, and Taunton to serve homeless families in Southeastern Massachusetts with homelessness prevention and shelter diversion resources.

## **2. Identification of Proposed Activities**

The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing & Community Development, in collaboration with the Homeless Service Providers Network, anticipates submitting a Continuum of Care Application for funding later this year, under the anticipated Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

In addition to this important application for funding, this Fiscal 2013 Action Plan includes proposed homeless prevention and assistance activities such as:

- Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds in the amount of \$237,974 for Operations and Essential Services such as operational expenses and maintenance costs associated with individual and family homeless shelters, Shelter Rehabilitation, Homeless Prevention activities such as fuel assistance programming, first month's rent and/or security deposit assistance, Street Outreach, Rapid Re-Housing funding for activities related to homelessness prevention and housing stabilization.
- The Hunger relief project of the United Way to assist in the delivery of turkeys for very low income families unable to afford a Thanksgiving Day meal; the housing law project to provide free legal services to those at risk of becoming homeless.

- SEMCOA, SE MA Veteran's Transition House, Steppingstone, Southeast Regional Network, High Point Treatment Center and Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc., provide programs and treatment services that address substance abuse.
- Elderly services and advocacy programming that connects elders with mainstream resources.
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Administration.

**E. MONITORING**

In order to fulfill the objectives set forth by this Year 2013 *Action Plan*, the City of New Bedford's Office of Housing & Community Development will continue to closely monitor all activities funded under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, the program components under the Continuum of Care Interim rule (formally the Supportive Housing Program) and the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

All projects funded under this plan will be monitored on a quarterly basis for compliance with fiscal and statistical record keeping procedures. Statistical figures required under the program will include household income documentation of the individuals and families served under the program in order to ensure that over 51% of all project participants are low to moderate income. Those monitored will also be recorded for racial/ethnic identification. Record keeping procedures documenting returning clients will continue to be recorded in order to accurately assess the number of units that are being provided under each projects activity. The Office of Housing & Community Development will ensure compliance with regulations, maintenance of accurate records and proper use of federal funds and will conduct annual on-site visits based on a risk assessment analysis. Non-profit agencies receiving entitlement funding for the first time will be given technical assistance to establish appropriate record keeping, verification and reporting procedures.

Each activity funded will have established goals, objectives and performance measurements. Through quarterly reporting and formal monitoring (where applicable) all activities will be evaluated by analyzing the goals and objectives stated in the agreements with actual accomplishments and ensure the timeliness of expenditures.

In addition, where applicable, all contracts for construction will continue to be monitored for Section 3 compliance and compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act and the Massachusetts and Federal Prevailing Wage Laws. All contractors participating in CDBG funded projects will continue to be required to fulfill all required regulations.

The Office of Housing & Community Development will conduct Risk Analysis process to determine what programs will be selected for at least one formal monitoring site visit to ensure that all records are maintained in accordance with HUD guidelines. Measures will be taken to correct any inconsistent activities at the end of each formally monitored site visit to ensure total compliance with HUD guidelines.

The Office of Housing & Community Development performs inspections of rental housing projects as required to ensure compliance with HOME program requirements. To ensure compliance with rent and income restriction requirements of the HOME program, the

OHCD, on the anniversary date of each HOME assisted rental housing project, mails a rent and income survey to the property owner and requests lease information, as required.

**Matching Fund Requirements For Federal Entitlement Programs**

The estimated matching contributions to affordable housing assisted with HOME Fiscal Year 2012 funds were calculated in accordance with HUD 24 CFR 92.218 regulations. The City qualifies for a 50% match reduction in the match requirement under HUD’s fiscally distressed criterion.

All Emergency Solutions Grant funding recipients must designate a match on a dollar-for-dollar basis for the funds requested and for all funds received. These funds must be accounted for prior to the City’s date of the award. The calculation for all matching fund amounts is defined each year in the Request for Proposal (RFP) Application, which follows all HUD regulatory guidelines delineated in Subtitle B of Title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, as amended.

**F. OTHER ACTIONS**

<p><b>Evaluate and Reduce Lead-Based Hazards</b></p>	<p><u>Issue</u>            In the City of New Bedford, it is estimated that there are approximately 35,000 residential units likely to contain lead-based paint, or 80% of all units. Of which, approximately 58% are occupied by low and moderate-income tenants. Older homes are more likely to have lead-based paint than newer homes.</p> <p>According to a HUD study, the likelihood of lead-based paint is 90% in housing units built before 1940, 80% in units built from 1940-1969, and 62% in units built from 1970 to 1979. In 1979, lead-based paint was no longer allowed in residential buildings.</p> <p>With its aging housing stock, New Bedford remains near the top of high-risk communities in Massachusetts with the greatest incidence of elevated lead levels and lead poisoning.</p>	<p><u>Implementation</u>            The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) promulgated a new regulation on September 15, 1999 (64 FR 50140) establishing requirements for notification, evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards in federally owned residential property and housing receiving Federal assistance. The Lead Paint regulations require the city to utilize certified lead-based paint personnel, including inspectors, risk assessors, abatement supervisors, and abatement workers, in all residential rehabilitation programs.</p> <p>The City has effectively incorporated the HUD Lead-Based paint regulations within existing programs. Based on the extent of lead-based paint in the community, it is anticipated that the regulation will affect almost 90% of the residential units assisted with Federal funding in FY 2013.</p>
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<p><b>Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing, Continued</b></p>	<p><u><b>Issue, Continued</b></u>  Fair Housing and First Time Homebuyers, Continued</p> <p>Lead Paint</p> <p>Blighted, Abandoned or Vacant Buildings</p> <p>Public Awareness and Education</p> <p>Banking Services</p> <p>Landlord Issues</p>	<p><u><b>Implementation, Continued</b></u>  Home builders to promote housing choice through special advertising and outreach programs. These associations will be encouraged to educate their membership of their respective responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act.</p> <p>Expand education program to first time home buyers regarding their rights and responsibilities regarding fair housing laws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Increased public awareness of the Lead Paint Abatement Programs administered through the Office of Housing &amp; Community Development utilizing federal, state and local funding through brochures, cable television and advertisements</li> <li>o Continued collaboration with the Attorney General's Office in the combined effort to engage in the Receivership Program, thereby creating the means for the provision of an appointment of receivers by the courts of the state to undertake and oversee the rehabilitation of residential properties with persistent, un-remedied code violations.</li> <li>o The prudent use of New Bedford's share of Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds, as well as other available funds to partner with non-profit affordable housing developers to purchase and rehabilitate abandoned, foreclosed and/ or vacant properties for resale to qualified first-time homebuyers and for the creation of affordable rental housing.</li> <li>o Designation of a City staff person that is available to the Greater New Bedford Association of Realtors as a resource person/technical assistance liaison for the real estate community to provide ongoing literature and information about housing programs available to the community.</li> <li>o Consideration of meetings with those banks that are not investing in certain New Bedford census tracts (that correlate with high minority and low income populations) to solicit a commitment from them to reinvest in these targeted neighborhoods. This could be fortified through a community-banking partnership where local banks make specific minimum commitments to lending in underserved neighborhoods.</li> <li>o Continuation of work between service providers in the HSPN and landlords of federally funded units in addressing how</li> </ul>
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		clients with poor CORI checks can secure safe, affordable, housing.
<p><b>Foster and Maintain Affordable Housing</b></p> <p><i>(See also the City's "Analysis of Impediments 2006" plan.)</i></p>	<p>The City of New Bedford recognizes the importance of fostering and maintaining affordable housing for its residents and has committed resources to achieve those ends.</p>	<p>All HOME funded activities and Section 8 Housing Assistance Programs are targeted to fostering and maintaining affordable housing throughout the City.</p> <p>The City serves as grantee for McKinney-Vento funding working with local agencies to develop, provide and maintain a variety of housing resources through Supportive Housing Programs that transition homeless families and individuals into permanent housing.</p> <p>The Office of Housing &amp; Community Development is working cooperatively with private developers, non-profit developers and community groups in developing initiatives for new affordable housing throughout the City.</p>
<p><b>Stem the tide of foreclosures and abandoned housing.</b></p>	<p><u>Issue</u> The City of New Bedford is one of five MA communities targeted by the state for aggressive action on foreclosure prevention and redevelopment of abandoned housing.</p>	<p><u>Implementation</u> The City has adopted a comprehensive Abandoned Property and Foreclosure Prevention Strategic Plan. (see Item A-2 above)</p> <p>The City of New Bedford, through the Office of Housing &amp; Community Development, will access available public and private resources to aggressively redevelop abandoned housing, and return it to productive use, while adding to the City's inventory of affordable housing for renters and first-time homebuyers.</p>
<p><b>Institutional Structure and Coordination Efforts</b></p>	<p><u>Issue</u> The City of New Bedford, like all municipalities, should develop institutional structures while enhancing coordination between housing and service-based agencies.</p>	<p><u>Implementation</u> The City of New Bedford actively works with a variety of non-profit agencies and community groups to develop and implement the projects and activities described in the Annual Action Plan. In addition, technical assistance is regularly offered to community and neighborhood groups interested in developing projects for future funding consideration.</p> <p>There are two community-based organizations designated as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs): People Acting in Community Endeavors, Inc. (PACE), and Community Action for Better Housing (CABH). The Office of Housing &amp; Community Development [OHCD] regularly works with these CHDOs and provides technical assistance to further develop their capacity in implementing affordable housing activities. In addition, OHCD also coordinates a variety of affordable housing programs including HOME programs and Supportive Housing Programs.</p>

## IV. Proposed Activities for Fiscal Year 2013 Action Plan

This section summarizes proposed uses for the estimated \$3.6 million from the three formula grant programs (CDBG, ESG and HOME funding) as well as funds recaptured through program income and FY 2012 carryover funds. Approximately 40 CDBG activities are described in the complete *Action Plan*.

### A. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) created the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Re-authorized in 1990 as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, local communities are encouraged to use the resources of the CDBG Program to develop flexible, locally designed community development strategies to address the program's primary objective, which is the:

*"...development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic development opportunities principally for persons of low and moderate income."*

The 2013 Action Plan is based on a CDBG entitlement allocation from HUD of \$2,275,000. Additionally, we anticipate earning \$200,000 in revolving loan funds (\$100,000 in program income generated from each of two loan funds, economic development and housing, resulting from loans issued previous to FY2013) during FY2013 that will be used to fund additional economic and housing loans in FY2013.

The FY2013 CDBG entitlement allocation and program income is added to a carryover of \$287,250 from FY 2012 of unspent money bringing the total CDBG budget to \$2,762,250. The City of New Bedford estimates in FY 2013 that at least 94% of CDBG funding will benefit low and moderate-income persons.

[NOTE: The \$368,550 amount allocated to Public Services under the 2013 *Action Plan* does not exceed the \$371,700 available under the public services cap. The public services cap is based on the sum of the FY2013 entitlement (2,275,000) plus the earned program income from FY2012 (203,000) multiplied by 15%. This calculation is consistent with Section 105(a)(8) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended by the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA).]

Category	Amount
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS</b> <i>Improvements include the reconstruction and repaving of streets and sidewalks in several of the City's low-income census tracts</i>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES</b> <i>Demolition of unsafe and blighting structures</i>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>PUBLIC FACILITIES</b> <i>Renovations to Parks, Vacant Lots and the Shelters and property acquisition</i>	<b>\$474,000</b>
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b> <i>Funding to 24 non-profits and city departments providing services including, but not limited to: programs for youth, individuals with disabilities, senior citizen population, services for victims of domestic violence, youth outreach programs, counseling subsidies for low and moderate income persons, hunger relief and art therapy.</i>	<b>\$368,550</b>
<b>HOUSING AND REHABILITATION</b> <i>Funded provided for several housing rehabilitation programs, including lead based paint removal, emergency repairs and a commercial storefront program</i>	<b>\$635,000</b>
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> <i>Economic development assistance projects sponsored by the City's economic development agency: New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc. (NBEDC).</i>	<b>\$584,700</b>
<b>PLANNING &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b> <i>Planning and revitalization activities; administrative costs for program planning, monitoring, historic preservation, and citizen participation and staffing.</i>	<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL CDBG PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$2,762,250</b>

NOTE: This CDBG budget includes both the FY13 entitlement [\$2,275,000] revolving loan fund accounts [\$200,000] and FY12 carryover funds [\$287,250]

## B. EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

### Written Standards for Provision of ESG Assistance for subrecipients

The City of New Bedford completed a set of Written Standards governing the use of Emergency Solutions Grant funds as part of the 2011 Action Plan substantial amendment.

A copy of the Written Standards is attached to the Action Plan as an appendix.

The City of New Bedford OHCD administers the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) and coordinates activities to enhance the quality and quantity of homeless facilities and services for homeless individuals and families. ESG funds can be used for a variety of activities, including:

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Homeless Prevention
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Administration

The city OHCD administers the ESG program for the Continuum of Care. The City distributes its ESG funds through a competitive process. In January, 2013, a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) under the ESG program was issued by the City, soliciting proposals from qualified organizations. Each respondent to the RFP is carefully evaluated utilizing various selection criteria and a rating system. The evaluation process includes City staff and the CoC Application Review Committee who review, evaluate and score the proposals.

The CoC Application Review Committee is also involved in the review of all ESG funding requests and the monitoring of ESG programs throughout the year.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

**Maximum Points Possible: 100**

**Quality of Program Design** **25 Points**

Includes demonstration of unmet need, consistency with needs and priorities of the Consolidated Plan and Continuum of Care, overall program merit, coordination with existing services and evidence of community support

**Quality of Proposal Elements** **25 Points**

Includes outcomes, assessment plan, action plan/timeline and budget

**Capacity and Experience** **25 Points**

Includes direct experience, local experience, past grant administration, staffing and resources and partners

**Funding Request** **25 Points**

Includes use of leveraged funds or other resources and program sustainability

### **Summary of the Consultation Process**

The City began the consultation process to determine the allocation ESG funds with the New Bedford Homeless Service Provider Network (HSPN) the governing body of the New Bedford Continuum of Care (COC). HSPN meetings in November and December focused on the new ESG regulations and structuring policies and procedures for the administration of ESG funding including performance standards and outcome measurements. Subsequent HSPN meetings in January and February focused on the priority needs for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing services within the New Bedford COC. In addition to the HSPN meetings, the City, presented a detailed overview of the Hearth Act and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program at two public meetings, as part of the annual Action Plan process. Those meetings were also broadcast to the general public via the local cable access channel. Through this public process the City was able to gather input from both the general public and consult with the HSPN in determining how to allocate ESG fund for eligible activities. As the consultation process continued, the City will have held future meetings with the HSPN as well as direct ESG recipients to develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, as well as develop funding, policies, and procedures for the operation and administration of the HMIS.

## Performance Standards

The City consulted with the HSPN regarding the development of performance standards for activities funded under ESG in 2012.

All ESG contracts entered into by the City are subject to on-going monitoring throughout the term of the contract. The primary methods of monitoring include:

- On site monitoring reviews
- Review of monthly/quarterly reports
- Review of final reports and APRs
- Periodic site visits, including view of randomly-selected case files
- On-going contact with program staff

The contractual agreement requires grantees to submit monthly/quarterly and final reports. The performance standards and program outcomes are carefully reviewed and are directly correlated to funding disbursements. Subrecipients are advised that unless all reporting requirements are satisfactorily met, and performance goals are met, requests for reimbursement are not processed for payment. General performance standards such as the unduplicated number of persons or households prevented from becoming homeless and the unduplicated number of persons or households assisted from emergency shelters/streets into permanent housing will be reported, as well as meaningful outcomes.

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

The City of New Bedford is currently working on the establishment of a centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements. The City has participated in a statewide planning session coordinated by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Over the next year the City will continue to work with DHCD and other stakeholders to coordinate a comprehensive state-wide system.

**Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).**

The City utilizes the Request for Proposal process described above to allocate ESG funds. The City will ensure that all programs awarded meet the ESG categorical requirements.

**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 HSPN, governing body of the New Bedford CoC recently modified its by-laws to require that at least one member of the Executive Committee is a formerly homeless person. The election of a new Executive Committee in January 2013 included the election of a formerly homeless person. The Executive Committee is the governing body of the CoC in New Bedford and is the main decision and policy making body.

C. **HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM [HOME]**

The HOME program was created under the National Housing Affordability Act of 1990. Under HOME, HUD will award funds to localities on the basis of a formula, which takes into account tightness of the local housing market, inadequate housing, poverty, and housing production costs. Localities must qualify for at least \$500,000 based on HUD's distribution formula, to receive direct allocation of funds, or can apply to the state or combine with adjacent jurisdictions.

**1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:**

The City will permit HOME funds to be invested as loans, grants, deferred payment loans, and other types of investment permitted by the regulations described in 92.205(b). The City will not permit other forms of investment without the prior approval of HUD.

**2. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:**

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

**HOME Match**

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 amending the National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA) requires participating jurisdictions (PJs) to provide matching contributions of 25 percent for the HOME funds spent on eligible projects. The City of New Bedford qualifies for a 50 percent match reduction due to its designation as a distressed community.

**Resale/Recapture Provisions**

The City of New Bedford has elected to continue the previously HUD approved (March 17 and October 22, 1993) first-time homebuyer resale guidelines by following 24 CFR §92.254(a)(5)(ii), commonly called by HUD "Option #2", namely the recapture of the full HOME Investment subsidy amount out of the net sale proceeds.

The City of New Bedford will recapture all of the HOME assistance to the First Time Home Buyer under the following conditions:

Borrower agrees to repay the entire Loan unpaid principal balance, unpaid interest and any other amounts due under the Loan upon the earlier of any of the following Loan Events:

- a) The sale, lease, mortgage or other transfer of any kind or nature of the entire building of the mortgaged property or the placement of any lien, attachment, or other encumbrance of any nature on the mortgaged property without the written consent of the City; or
- b) Borrower's failure to occupy the Property as Borrower's Principal Place of Residence during the entire HOME Affordability Period specified above; or

- c) Borrower's failure to perform or to cause to be performed any of the conditions or covenants contained in this note or contained in the mortgage executed by the maker(s) used to secure this note.

In the event of foreclosure of the first mortgage the MORTGAGOR agrees that the net proceeds of a foreclosure sale (after payment of the prior mortgage) shall be paid to the City of Lowell in payment of the amount loaned under the HOME agreement as set forth in 92.254(a)(5)(ii)(A)(3). The City must demonstrate that it has made a good faith effort to salvage the project and preserve it for affordable housing.

**INSUFFICIENT PROCEEDS.**

If the Net Proceeds are insufficient to repay the balance of the Loan and any unpaid interest, and Borrower's investment, the City shall recapture a share of the Net Proceeds.

- a) Net Proceeds are defined as the sales price, minus repayments of any loans, other than the City Loan, secured by the Property plus closing costs of Borrower. Expressed mathematically, this is:

$$\text{Net Proceeds} = \text{Sales Price} - (\text{non City Loans secured by Property} + \text{closing costs of Borrower})$$

- b) City shall recapture its share of Net Proceeds first, with Borrower receiving the remaining balance of Net Proceeds. City's share of Net Proceeds is expressed mathematically as:

$$\text{City Share of Net Proceeds} = \frac{\text{City Loan}}{\text{City Loan} + \text{*Owner Investment}} \times \text{Net Proceeds}$$

Borrower shall receive the remaining balance of Net Proceeds after City recaptures its share.

- c) \* Owner investment means Owner(s) original down-payment investment, principal reductions in original mortgage amount, and/or investments made by the Owner(s) which would qualify as capital improvements under Internal Revenue Service rules. Documentation required for capital improvements would include copies of actual bills for eligible material costs associated with improvements or copies of contractor agreements detailing the nature and extent of the improvements. Sweat equity costs will not be considered.

Such recaptured amounts will be recycled through the City of New Bedford's HOME Investment Partnership fund in order to assist HOME eligible activities.

The City of New Bedford does not intend to use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds during the 2013-2014 Program Year.

### **Affirmative Marketing**

The City of New Bedford, through its Office of Equal Opportunity, provides information to citizens regarding fair housing laws and policies. The City of New Bedford will include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo or slogan and statement in all press releases, advertising, brochures, solicitations for owners, and any written communication to fair housing and other groups, which describe the HOME program.

The actions undertaken to provide information about federal fair housing laws and the City's affirmative marketing policy and otherwise attract eligible persons from all racial, ethnic, and gender groups in the housing market area to the available housing will include the following, where applicable, by the City of New Bedford.

1. Informing the general public through a public notice in the *New Bedford Standard Times*, *O'Jornal*, *El Vocero*, *Cape Verdean News*, and any other local publications deemed appropriate.
2. Informing potential tenants by providing written information about the HOME program to each tenant in units scheduled for rehabilitation.
3. Informing owners by mailing program descriptions to each property owner interested in participating in the HOME program. The City of New Bedford will require that each owner participating in the HOME program must comply with specific requirements in order to carry out the City's affirmative marketing program and procedures. The participating owners will be asked to provide costs associated with these requirements in their planned operating costs and subsidy decisions. The actions to be undertaken by each owner will include:
  4. Advertising in the newspapers indicated in paragraph A.1. if the owner ordinarily advertises available rentals to the news media.
  5. Contacting the City of New Bedford as soon as it is known that a unit in their rehabilitated property is to become available. Early notification, within thirty (30) days or prior to the upcoming vacancy if possible, will be requested of the participating owners.
  6. Certifying that they will comply with the HOME program Affirmative Marketing requirements and use the Equal Housing Opportunity logo or slogan and statement in all ad, brochures, and written communications to other owners and potential tenants.
  7. Displaying the fair housing poster in rental offices or other appropriate locations visible to the general public.

If necessary, owners of small properties with limited management staff may seek a waiver of these requirements on a case-by-case basis from the City of New Bedford.

The City of New Bedford will require that the following procedures be used by participating owners to inform and solicit applications from persons in the housing market area who are not likely to apply for housing without special outreach:

8. Education, outreach and notification to local community groups or organizations, places of worship, employment centers, housing groups and

- housing counseling agencies that are involved with the many subpopulations within the City.
9. Establishment of translating services for non-English speaking members of the citizenry, when applicable.
  10. Initiation of open, public meetings through the various organizations and groups identified in paragraph C.1. above in conjunction with the Office of Equal Opportunity.

#### **Minority/Women's Business Outreach**

The OHCD staff conducts a variety of outreach efforts to ensure the participation of minority and women's businesses. Examples of some of these efforts include:

1. Advertising all major bids in the local newspaper and City website;
2. Placing documentation in all major bids referencing the State SOMBA website and information regarding the database of MBE/WBE contractors and Contracting with the Greater New Bedford Career Center, The New Bedford Housing Authority and The YouthBuild Program to assist with employment and training opportunities for Section 3 area residents.

#### **SUMMARY OF PROGRAM and ACTIVITIES FUNDED**

The HOME Program was created under Title II (HOME Investment Partnership Act) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA) of 1990 that was signed into law by President George Bush on November 28, 1990 and amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992.

In accordance with 24 CFR 92.150, the City has prepared its HOME Program Description for FY 2013, identifying the estimated use of funds, consistent with housing needs identified in the *Consolidated Plan.2010-2014* for each of the HOME Program eligible activities. Since no specific HOME Program projects have been identified at this time, there could be a reapportionment of the proposed allocation of HOME Program monies and matching contributions among the proposed activities. Appropriate file documentation will be maintained should this occur.

According to the needs-based formula for distributing HOME funds to states, metropolitan cities, urban counties, and consortia, the City of New Bedford will receive \$765,028 in FY 2013. Federal requirements provide for 100% of the HOME Program funds to be used to assist low-income households.

Housing Rehabilitation programs will include new construction, homeownership initiatives such as down payment and closing cost assistance, CHDO projects, and rental housing rehabilitation.

In addition, the City of New Bedford, through the Office of Housing & Community Development, will continue to utilize HOME funding to create affordable rental units through participation loans with housing developers utilizing the Low Income Tax Credit Program. The City will commit HOME funds to acquire and rehabilitate distressed property utilizing Low Income and Historic Tax Credits, City and State HOME funds, Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds, The Federal HOME Loan Bank, MHP, and Private Financing. The Program has rehabilitated over 200 distressed housing units over

the past three years. In addition, over \$16 million in private investment has leveraged City HOME funds.

**COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND THE HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM** The City of New Bedford will set aside not less than \$114,754 (15%) of its FY 2013 HOME Program fund allocation, for qualified local Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds are to be used for investment only in housing to be developed, sponsored, or owned by CHDOs.

The City, in accordance with HOME program guidelines, will continue to work with two designated CHDOs for fiscal year 2013 and will explore the identification and certification of potential new CHDO agencies:

- *PACE, Inc.* This non-profit agency has been a designated CHDO since 1992. PACE continues to acquire and rehabilitate distressed properties in conjunction with the PACE/YouthBuild New Bedford program.
  
- *Community Action for Better Housing, Inc.* This non-profit agency has been a designated CHDO since December 1995. This organization has initially targeted its efforts in census tracts 19, 26, and 27. The primary focus of this organization is to create affordable homeownership opportunities for residents from targeted neighborhoods. With the assistance of the City, CABH, Inc. has acquired numerous distressed buildings in the Cove Street neighborhood and has completed the rehabilitation of other multi-family buildings that will now provide both rental and homeownership opportunities for low-moderate income individuals/families.

The City/CHDO relationships will include execution of contracts covering proposed projects and activities, the methods by which these activities will be monitored in accordance with goals and federal regulations, appropriate timetables for implementation of projects or activities, reporting requirements, information and data collecting, and operating budgets.

Further, should the need arise, the City will seek technical assistance training and pass-through federal funds made available to CHDOs through non-profit intermediary organizations selected by HUD.

**ACQUISITION FOR FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS** The City of New Bedford has developed the Neighborhoods First Program that provides down payment/closing cost assistance, gap and rehabilitation financing to eligible first time homebuyers. This program has resulted in a public/private partnership with local banks that are providing below-market rate mortgages. The participants in the Neighborhood's First program must agree to utilize the property as their principal residence for their duration of ownership. Their income cannot exceed 80% of the City's median income and if there are any rental units assisted, the rental units must be occupied by individuals and families whose income does not exceed 60% of the median income.

All properties shall meet Section 8 Housing Quality Standards (HQS) at the time of initial occupancy. In accordance with HUD regulations, in the event of resale of a property, the City shall recapture the HOME subsidy provided to the property for use by other eligible HOME recipients. In cases where there are insufficient net proceeds to repay the full amount of the assistance, the repayment required will be the difference between the sale price and any and all outstanding mortgages, subject to a certified appraisal. This recapture provision will be enforced by the City with the use of deed restrictions and similar legal mechanisms. All recaptured HOME funds will be reused to assist other HOME eligible households.

All participants in the Neighborhoods First Program receiving first time homebuyer assistance are required to receive Homebuyer Counseling. The City's OHCD offers a comprehensive First Time Homebuyer course over a two night period that offers over eight hours of educational material to assist potential first time homebuyers with the entire homeownership process.

The curriculum covers the following topics:

- Planning for home ownership
- Credit & budget issues
- Working with Real Estate Professionals
- Financing the home purchase and the loan application process
- Lead paint issues
- Home inspections
- Home maintenance
- Landlord counseling
- Predatory lending
- The closing process
- Successful homeownership

Upon completion of the course, participants receive a certificate qualifying them for City and State specialized mortgage programs.

The City anticipates that approximately 25% of HOME funds will assist minority first time homebuyers.

**HOMEOWNERSHIP -- MODERATE/ SUBSTANTIAL REHABILITATION OF EXISTING PROPERTY** The City of New Bedford will provide below market rate loans and/or grants to eligible owner-occupied homeowners to assist in the moderate/substantial rehabilitation of income-eligible housing units. Assistance will also be provided to homeowners in the form of construction specifications and construction supervision. Properties will be limited to one to four (1-4) family properties, or condominium units, and after rehabilitation, values shall not exceed 95% of the median purchase price for the City as determined by HUD.

The HOME investment shall not be less than the required \$1,000 per unit amount and shall not exceed the maximum level permitted per unit as designated by HUD. The property shall also, at a minimum, meet the Section 8 Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

Eligible applicants cannot exceed 80% of the median income for New Bedford, and if there are any rental units assisted, the rental units must comply with the rent and income restrictions of the HOME Program.

**HOMEOWNERSHIP -- NEW CONSTRUCTION** HOME funds will be made available to new construction of single and two-family homes on previously vacant lots. The completed homes will be sold to income-eligible first-time homebuyers.

**RENTAL HOUSING -- MODERATE/SUBSTANTIAL REHABILITATION OF EXISTING HOUSING** The City of New Bedford will provide below-market rate loans to eligible property owners to assist in the moderate rehabilitation of income-eligible housing units. Assistance will also be provided to property owners in the form of construction specifications and construction supervision. This Program can also assist for-profit and not-for-profit developers in the rehabilitation of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low and very low-income individuals and families. Assistance will adhere to HUD's minimum/maximum HOME expenditure and shall also, at a minimum, meet Section 8 Housing Standards (HQS).

Initial rents and future rents shall also coincide with the designated per bedroom fair market rents as designated by HUD, also taking into consideration utility allowances. The HOME assisted units must be rented to income eligible individuals and families. This will be determined by verifying tenants' annual income in accordance with their family size.

<b>HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FY 2013 ALLOCATION</b>	
Neighborhoods First Program <i>(Down Payment, Closing Cost Assistance, Gap and/ or Rehabilitation Financing)</i>	\$240,000
Rental Housing Program	\$333,772
CHDO Set Aside (15%)	\$114,754
Administration (10%)	\$76,502
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 765,028</b>

The estimated matching contributions to affordable housing assisted with HOME FY2013 funds were calculated in accordance with HUD 24 CFR 92.218 regulations. The City qualifies for a 50% reduction in the match requirement given a fiscal distress criterion and information derived from the 2000 U.S. Census. HOME Recapture provisions: In accordance with 24 CFR 92.254 the City of New Bedford complies with the recapture provision when HOME funds are used to assist with homeownership. The City executes a deed restriction for a period of 5 – 30 years, dependent upon program and funding levels. In the event the property is sold, transferred prior to the affordability term, the City will recapture the full amount of HOME assistance in accordance with the Deed restriction and Promissory Note.

# Performance Based Charts

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Performance Outcome & Objective	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>HOUSING PROGRAMS</b>											
		N04D-644	Financial Assistance Program	100,000	CDBG - RLF	14A	Provide low interest and deferred payment loans, including a grant portion to homeowners to correct code violations.	DH-2	5 Housing Units		
		N04E-642	Emergency Repair Program	75,000	CDBG	14A	Provide grants to correct necessary and emergency repairs that enable homeowners to continue occupancy.	DH-2	9 Housing Units		
		N04J-643	Deleading Program	50,000	CDBG	14I	Provide grants to remove lead based paint hazards.	DH-2	15 Housing Units		
		N04B-641	Housing Accessibility Program	60,000	CDBG	14A	Provide grants to remove or modify architectural barriers in homes of low income disabled persons, including installation of handicap ramps.	SL-1	8 Housing Units		
			CHDO Set Aside	114,754	HOME	14A	Rehabilitation and/or acquisition of residential properties for affordable rental housing and home ownership opportunities for LMI first time homebuyers.	DH-2	3 Housing Units		
			Neighborhoods First	240,000	HOME	14A	Acquisition assistance for ownership opportunities for first time homebuyers.	DH-2	12 Housing Units		
			HOME Rental Housing Program	333,772	HOME	14B	Provide low interest loans to for profit and non-profit developers to renovate rental housing	DH-2	8 Housing Units		
		N04C-645	OHCD - Service Delivery	300,000	CDBG	14H	This program will provide services associated with the loans and grants issued via the various housing programs.	DH-1	N/A		

2013

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Performance Outcome & Objective	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS</b>											
2013		N67-692	New Bedford Economic Development Council [NBEDC] - Economic Development Program	484,700 100,000 (RLF)	CDBG	18A	Special Economic Dev, commercial and industrial improve carried out by NBEDC, grants, loans, loan guaranty programs, tech assistance to small/ micro-enterprise business.	EO-3	Provide financing for 6 micro enterprise loans and 11 small business loans (total of 17 loans) resulting in the creation/retention of 14 FTE jobs		
		N04A-640	Office of Housing & Community Development - Storefront Reimbursement	50,000	CDBG	14E	Grants & facade business easement purchases for businesses in eligible census tracts	EO-3	30 businesses		

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Performance Objective and Outcome	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>											
2013			Dept of Public Infrastructure – Tree Plantings	100,000	CDBG	03	Tree Plantings in LMI Neighborhoods	SL-3	1239 people		
<b>CLEARANCE</b>											
			Building Department – Demolitions	100,000	CDBG	04	Demolition of blighted properties	SL-3	4 Properties		
<b>PUBLIC FACILITIES &amp; IMPROVEMENTS</b>											
			Trustees of Reservations- Allen Haskell Project	100,000	CDBG	03	Acquisition of Allen Haskell Property	SL-3	1 Public Facility		
			KDC – 385 County St Acquisition	125,000	CDBG	03	Acquisition of property located at 385 County Street	SL-3	1 Public Facility		
		N10B-611	OHCD – Vacant Lot Mini Park Project	75,000	CDBG	03	Restoration of City owned vacant lots	SL-3	5 Public Facilities		
		N02-607	OHCD - Project Management	80,000	CDBG	03	Oversight of the properties funded and undertaken by the OHCD	SL-3	5 Public Facilities		
			OHCD – Dias Field	9,000	CDBG	03	Improvements at Dias Field	SL-3	1 Public Facility		
			OHCD- Brooklawn Park	15,000	CDBG	03	Improvements at Brooklawn Park	SL-3	1 Public Facility		
			Cape Verdean Assn	20,000	CDBG	03	Improvements at Cape Verdean Cultural Center	SL-3	1 Public Facility		
		M15B-628	CSS of Fall River Inc – Sister Rose Shelter	50,000	CDBG	03	Rehabilitation of the Sister Rose Homeless Shelter	SL-1	1 Public Facility		

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Performance Objective and Outcome	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
2013		N22G	New Bedford Art Museum- Art Mobile	5,000	CDBG	05D	Summer Art Program for LMI youth	SL-1	280 youths		
		N22D-668	Recreation Dept. - Youth Summer Jobs Program	27,000	CDBG	05D	Provides summer job opportunities at recreational sites for City youth	SL-1	26 people		
		N22C-662	Recreation Dept. - Kennedy Summer Day Program	31,000	CDBG	05D	City-run summer day camp for children ages 6-12.	SL-1	150 youths		
			Boys' & Girls' Club Youth Outreach	7,500	CDBG	05D	Provide youth transportation to and from the Boys & Girls Club	SL-1	375 youths		
			Dennison Memorial Community Center	15,000	CDBG	05D	Academic Excellence Program	SL-1	114 youth		
		N31A	Yoga Kids- Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds	5,000	CDBG	05D	Yoga program for youth in school	SL-1	150 youths		
			Recreation Dept. - Supportive Recreation	33,000	CDBG	05D	Staff for after-school programs, and special events for LMI youth	SL-1	850 youths		
			Artworks! Teen Reach Beyond	5,000	CDBG	05D	After School teen arts program	SL-1	10 youths		
		N22I-690	Dream Out Loud Program - Creative Careers Program	7,000	CDBG	05D	Improve youths self-confidence and knowledge through assistance in the creation of their own song, poem or theatrical piece	SL-1	37 youths		
		N22J-671	Team Builders -Family Performing Arts Center	7,000	CDBG	05D	Designed to unite at-risk youth and their families. To create a stronger bond between the youth and their parents.	SL-1	80 youths		
		N22K-679	Trips for Kids - Urban Explorers	5,000	CDBG	05D	Designed to foster environmental awareness and stewardship and to inspire inner-city youth to become responsible citizens	SL-1	50 youths		
		N22O-682	Old Dartmouth Historic Society - Youth Apprentice	8,900	CDBG	05D	Job Training program for LMI teens at the NB Whaling Museum	SL-1	20 youths		

**PUBLIC SERVICES: YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Performance Objective and Outcome	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
2013		N21D-685	Art is Therapy	7,000	CDBG	05A	Art Therapy for Seniors	SL-1	100 People		
		N21A-667	Community Services – Elder Services Project	120,150	CDBG	05A	Provides direct-service programs to LMI elderly and disabled population within the City of New Bedford	SL-1	413 People		
		N21C-675	Coastline Elderly - Community Mainstream Resources	10,000	CDBG	05A	Program to ensure seniors have access to mainstream resources	SL-1	120 People		
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: HANDICAP/SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS</b>											
		N23B-664	Easter Seals – Training & Technology Center	7,000	CDBG	05B	Provide computer assisted reading instruction for students with special needs including those with learning disabilities as well as ESL and bilingual students.	SL-1	92 youths		
		N23A-713	Access for Community Enhancement Services	2,000	CDBG	05B	Provides social activities (12 monthly dances) for individuals with developmental disabilities	SL-1	160 People		
		N23C-686	PSLL/Friends of SMEC Transportation Resources for Community Inclusion	5,000	CDBG	05B	Provide transportation resources to individuals with disabilities in the form of cab vouchers and provides weekend chaperoned outings.	SL-1	40 People		
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: HEALTH &amp; COUNSELING PROGRAMS</b>											
		N28D-681	North Star Farmer's Market at Clasky Common	5,000	CDBG	05	Promote healthy eating habits by providing LMI families with free vouchers for the purchase of fruits and vegetables at the Clasky Common farmers' market	SL-1	600 People		
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: BI-LINGUAL/CULTURAL PROGRAMS</b>											
2013		N26B-672	Immigrants' Assistance - Ombudsman Services Project	8,000	CDBG	05	Social services to non-English speaking City residents	SL-1	750 People		

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Proposed Outcomes and Objectives	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAM</b>											
		N30B-670	North Star Learning Centers, Inc. - Acushnet Heights Youth Club	8,000	CDBG	05D	Services to youth living in the Acushnet Heights neighborhood, including homework assistance, computer access, literacy enrichment and community service opportunities	SL-1	20 People		
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: HOMELESS PROGRAMS</b>											
		N29B-684	United Way - Hunger Relief Project	5,000	CDBG	05	Provision of Thanksgiving turkeys to needy families	SL-1	1500 Households (2400 people)		
		N27A-674	South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Inc. - Housing Law Project	10,000	CDBG	05C	Free legal services to LMI individuals who are homeless or facing imminent homelessness	SL-1	125 People		
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES: CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS</b>											
2013		N25A-660	New Bedford Police Department - Domestic Violence Intern Coordinator	25,000	CDBG	05G	Retention of an intern coordinator to handle the administrative workload of the Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit and to supervise and coordinate the activities of the interns.	SL-1	2500 People		

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Proposed Outcomes and Objectives	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAMS</b>											
2013		N33-M10-522	Catholic Social Services – Basic Needs & Emergency Services	59,471	ESG	03C	Rapid Rehousing & Homeless Prevention	SL-1	300 People		
		N33-M09-514	GNB Women's Center - Emergency Battered Women's Shelter	26,700	ESG	03C	Operational funding for the confidential women's shelter & Rapid Rehousing	SL-1	100 People		
		N33-M07-529	SRN Harbour House Family Shelter	15,000	ESG	03C	Operational support of the Harbour House emergency shelter	SL-1	150 People		
		N33-M05-519	CSS Sister Rose House	15,000	ESG	03C	Operational assistance to maintain the emergency shelter & Rapid Rehousing	SL-1	150 People		
		N33-M02-516	PACE – Homelessness Prevention Services	25,450	ESG	03C	Rapid Rehousing & Homeless Prevention	SL-1	38 People		
		N33-M08-515	SE MA Veteran's Housing Program, Inc - Veteran's Transition House	23,000	ESG	03C	Operating expenses associated with the operation of the Veteran's Housing Program – a shelter for homeless veterans.	SL-1	100 People		

Year	CPS #	Local ID	Project Name	Total Funding	Funding Source	Hud Matrix Code	Activity Description	Proposed Outcomes and Objectives	Outputs		% Variance
									Planned	Actual	
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAMS (Con't)</b>											
2013	N33-M11-523	Steppingstone - NB Women's Therapeutic Community	20,000	ESG	03C	Operational costs for Steppingstone's Women's Program, providing comprehensive rehabilitative services for 20 homeless, chemically dependent women and their infants in a residential, home-like setting.	SL-1	110 People			
	N33-M11-523	Steppingstone - Homeward Bound	12,550	ESG	03C	Operational costs for Steppingstone's Women's Program, providing comprehensive rehabilitative services for 20 homeless, chemically dependent women and their infants in a residential, home-like setting.	SL-1	6 People			
	N33-M06-512	SEMCOA - Women Recovering from Addiction Program (WRAP House)	23,000	ESG	03C	Operational assistance to maintain the emergency shelter providing a safe, warm environment a variety of social services including meals.	SL-1	30 People			
<b>PLANNING &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>											
	N01A-601	OHCD- Planning and Administration	500,000	CDBG	21A	CDBG Planning and Administration for staff, planning, monitoring, and citizen participation.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	N33-N12-529	OHCD- Administration	17,803	ESG	21A	Administration of all Emergency Shelter Grant programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		OHCD - Administration	76,502	HOME	21H	Administration of HOME Program for staff, monitoring and financial oversight	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

## V. Geographic Distribution

The City of New Bedford is the sixth largest city in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a population of 95,072 in 2010, which represents a slight increase from 93,726, which was the 2000 Census figure. Located on the Atlantic coast in the southeastern part of the state, it is a city with a rich industrial, social and cultural history derived from its advantageous access to the sea. The city also enjoys its unique location to other major metropolitan and destination areas such as Boston (54 miles), Providence, Rhode Island (33 miles) and Cape Cod (30 miles).

Roughly one out of every five persons living in the City of New Bedford is foreign born and almost 40 percent of its residents over the age of five speak a language other than English at home. Of the minority populations identified in the 2010 American Community Survey as compared with those in the 2000 Census, people identified with two or more races represented the highest percentage increase (48 percent) in New Bedford.

The Hispanic population represented nearly 17 percent of New Bedford's population in 2010, which reflected 66 percent increase over 2000. The growth in the Hispanic population accounted for most of the 1.6 percent population gain New Bedford over the 2000 Census.<sup>1</sup>

According to the 2010 American Community Survey, 21,651 people are living at or below the poverty level in New Bedford. This represents 23 percent of the population and an increase over the level in 2000.

Because the primary national objectives of the Consolidated Plan programs are to benefit low-income and moderate-income residents, New Bedford's federal block grant program funds will be targeted to low-income and moderate-income neighborhoods and activities that benefit the City as a whole, the majority of whose residents are low- or moderate-income. The attached maps illustrate the areas where Consolidated Plan activities will occur within the City of New Bedford during the 2013-2014 Program Year. Activities, such as housing rehabilitation or infrastructure improvements, which will involve scattered sites, are not shown.

By directing significant assistance to those areas found to be the most economically and physically distressed in the City<sup>2</sup>, New Bedford will greatly increase the measurable and effective impact of these federal dollars by enhancing the quality of life in its most blighted neighborhoods. Had the City distributed the funds without such consideration the impact of these funds would be reduced and the success of these programs would be negatively affected.

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<sup>1</sup> The attached maps do not reflect the new 2010 Census data. OHCD is still in the process of extracting and analyzing the new data to create updated maps and reports.

<sup>2</sup> As revealed by the 2000 U.S. Census and Neighborhood Analysis

## **Directory of Maps**

Mapping presented in the following section is relevant to the planning and activities set forth in this Action Plan. Those maps included within this section are as follows:

FY2013 CDBG & ESG Projects by Census Tract—

City of New Bedford, MA: Percent Hispanic by Census Tract

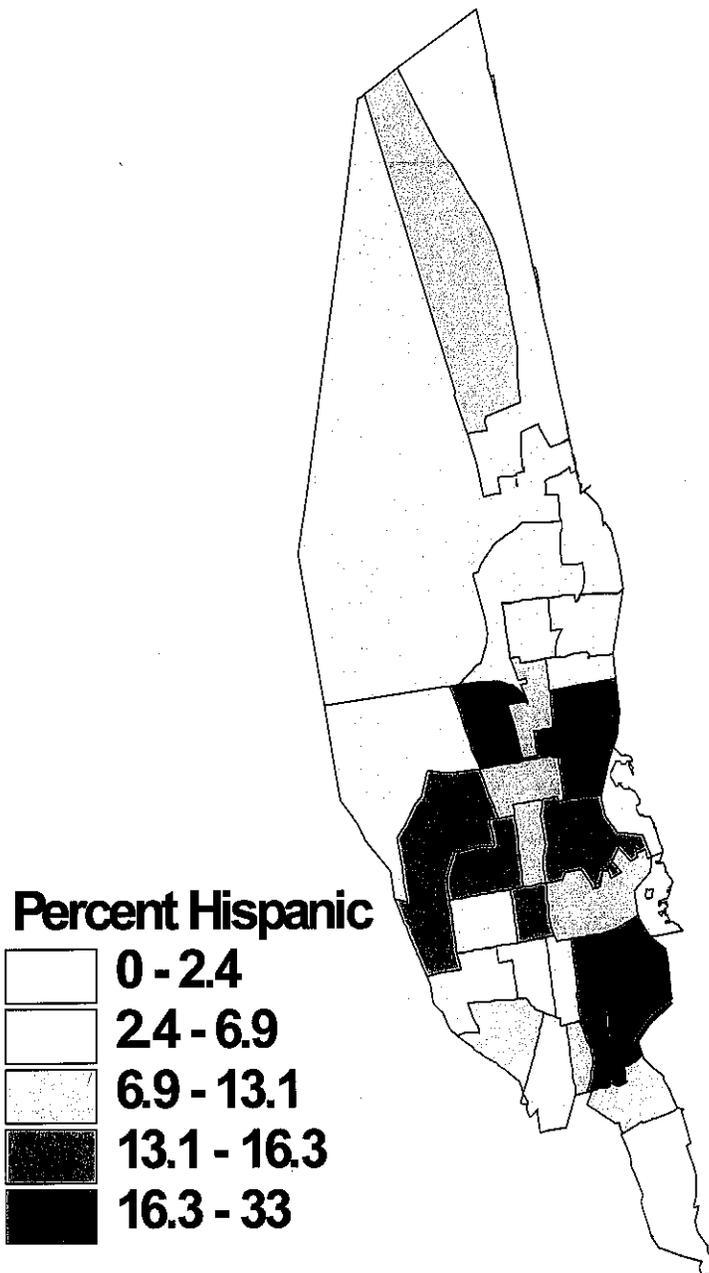
City of New Bedford, MA: Percent Native American by Census Tract

City of New Bedford, MA: Percent African American by Census Tract

City of New Bedford, MA: Percent Asian by Census Tract

# City of New Bedford, Massachusetts

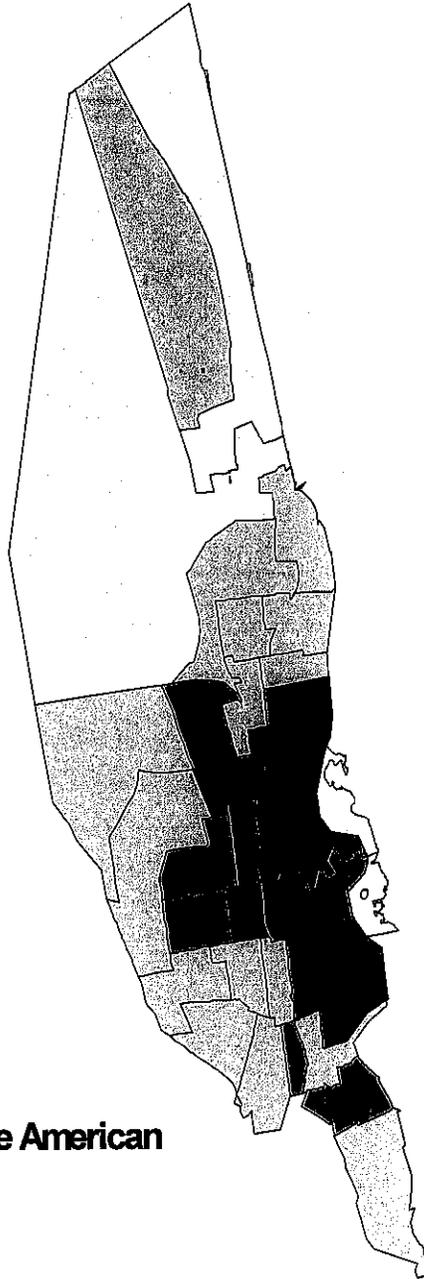
## Percent Hispanic by Census Tract



Source: U.S. Census 2000

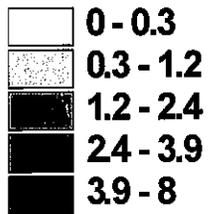
# City of New Bedford, Massachusetts

## Percent Native American by Census Tract



Source:

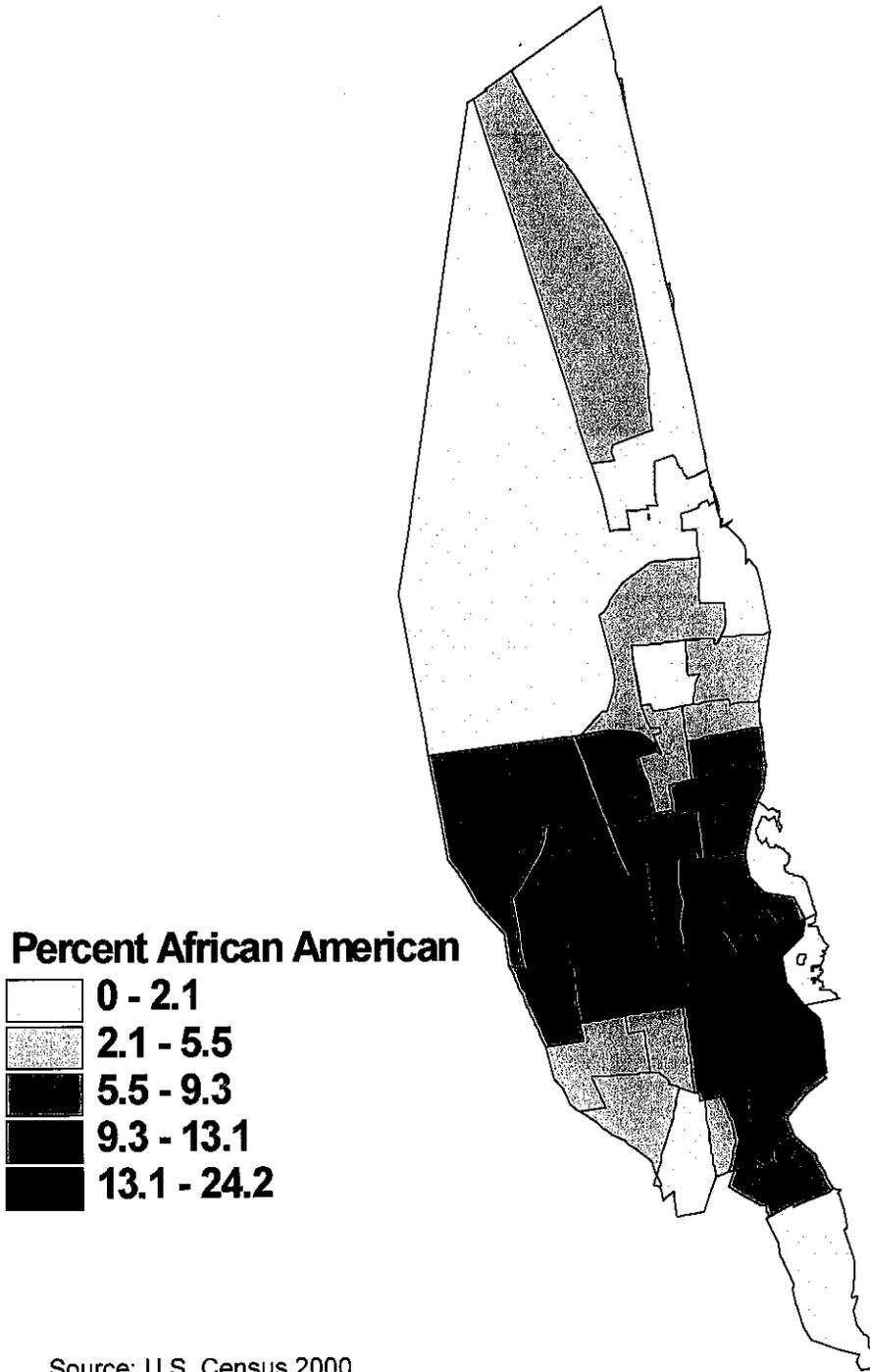
**Percent Native American**



U.S. Census 2000

# **City of New Bedford, Massachusetts**

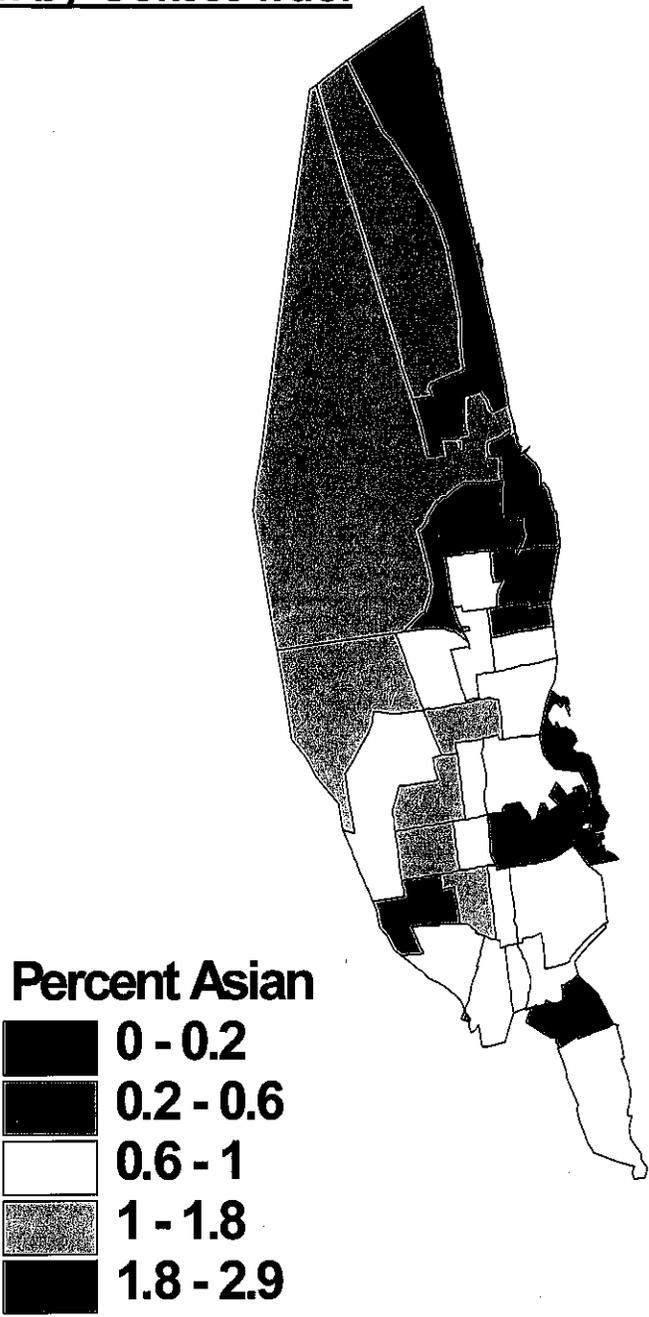
## **Percent African American by Census Tract**



Source: U.S. Census 2000

# City of New Bedford, Massachusetts

## Percent Asian by Census Tract



Source: U.S. Census 2000

## **VI. Listing of Proposed Projects**

Included in this section are the following materials:

- Funding Sources
- HUD Application for Federal Assistance [Form 424]
- Listing of Proposed Projects

## FUNDING SOURCES

<b>Entitlement Grant</b>	
CDBG	\$2,275,000
ESG	\$237,379
HOME	\$765,028
HOPWA	0
<b>Total Entitlement FY13</b>	<b>\$3,277,407</b>
<b>Prior Year's (FY12) Program Income</b> <i>(not previously programmed or reported)</i>	
CDBG	\$0
ESG	\$0
HOME	\$0
HOPWA	\$0
<b>Total FY13 Program Income</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Reprogrammed Prior Year Funding</b>	
CDBG	\$287,250
ESG	\$595
HOME	\$0
HOPWA	\$0
<b>Total Reprogrammed Funds</b>	<b>\$287,845</b>
<b>Total Estimated Program Income</b>	
CELF Revolving Loan Fund	\$100,000
HAND Revolving Loan Fund	\$100,000
<b>Total FY13 Estimated Program Income</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>Section 108 Loan Guarantee Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES</b>	<b>\$3,765,252</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Submitted Proposed Project Totals</b>	<b>\$3,765,252</b>
<b>Un-Submitted Proposed Projects Totals</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## **VII. Program Certifications**

The following pages in this section include prepared certifications executed in accordance with the applicable statutes and regulations governing the Consolidated Plan. Original signed certifications are on file at the Office of Housing & Community Development.

### *To be included in final Action Plan*

- *Please Note: Copies of executed program certifications are available through the Office of Housing and Community Development.*

## **VIII. Appendicies**

This section of the 2013 *Action Plan* includes public hearing minutes and public comments generated and submitted to the Office of Housing & Community Development during the 30-day review period ending May 22, 2013.

**PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS:**

**MINUTES**  
of  
**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

## FY2013 ACTION PLAN

### COMMUNITY FORUM

Office of Housing and Community Development

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

Registered Public Meeting Attendees: Mayor Jonathan Mitchell; Patrick Sullivan, Lori Moring, Sandy Perez, Eddie Bates, OHCD; Steve Montembault, Southeast Regional Network; Martha Reed, Catholic Social Services; Joanne Rego, ACCESS for Community Enhancement Services; Nora Andino, Pauline Macedo, City of New Bedford Department of Community Services; Sarah Ryan, New Bedford Art Museum; Bernadette Souza, Trips for Kids; Helena Marques, Immigrants Assistance Center; Emanuel Dias, Raquel Dias, Cape Verdean Association of New Bedford; Jeremiah Hernandez, Ugly Gallery; Ehab Kadura, Abdulah Ehiralli, Inner City Youth Foundation; Allen Ganeto; Peter Wilde

The meeting began at 6:15pm.

Patrick Sullivan, Director of the Office of Housing and Community Development Department (OHCD) conducted a presentation on the Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan. The presentation summarized the mission of OHCD and its federal funding sources, described eligible and ineligible activities, discussed projected budgets, and highlighted recent housing and community development projects funded with CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds.

Mr. Sullivan said that we do not know how much money we will receive and there has been uncertainty with the fiscal cliff, which we just averted. Funding levels have decreased but for one exception; the homeless program was increased by Congress as a response to the need.

Mayor Mitchell was introduced and thanked everyone who has enhanced the community through the many service providers. The Federal government has curtailed these programs. For example, our current budget is \$300 million and we may only get \$2.4 million dollars this year. We will closely evaluate the performance and how best this money would be best spent as we all try to do more with less.

Mr. Sullivan went over the important dates of the Action Plan process.

Mr. Sullivan asked for input as to how best to utilize the funds. Questions and comments were welcomed.

Steve Montembault said that they receive ESG funding and also receive Home funds and thanked the City for its support.

Peter Wilde said that Dennison Memorial is in desperate need of funds. They service after school children with both athletics and educational activities and CDBG funds would help.

Martha Reed said that her programs, CABA and CSS both use ESH, HOME, and CDBG funds and thanked the City for its support.

An unidentified intern at Inner City Youth said that they work with high school kids to obtain internships. They sell tee-shirts and donate the profits for the program to mentor and guide youth to college and financial aid options.

Helena Marques of the Immigrants Assistance Center said that they provide trilingual case management.

Allen Ganeto is from the South End community and is proposing to establish a basketball league at Ben Rose field as well as Monty Park. He said that children in the community have nothing constructive to do and have been lost in the shuffle and that 53 percent in the elementary school will not graduate. They are trying to bridge the youth neighborhood gaps as far as territorial issues are concerned and a league could help with this.

Joanne Rego said that the funds provide access to community enhancements for persons with developmental disabilities. They will apply again this year for a monthly dance activity held at the VFW post.

Emanuel Dias of the Cape Verdean Association said that they will try again to implement their cultural center, but their building needs repairs. They have applied three times but have been denied. The issues are the roof and repairs inside; they believe the work can be done in phases.

Mr. Sullivan spoke about our strong congressional support. For example, Barney Frank came to every CDBG event we had. Mr. Sullivan met with Congressman Keating and believes he will be supportive as well along with Senator-elect Warren.

Mr. Sullivan spoke of the CitiWorks grant program through OHCD for \$2000.00 to non-profits and those who work with non-profits for landscaping, beautification, trees, community gardens, and other neighborhood improvement projects. The grant process begins in March.

The RFP's are available at the OHCD office and on the website and technical assistance workshops are scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Sullivan thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

## FY2013 ACTION PLAN

### COMMUNITY FORUM

Office of Housing and Community Development

Thursday, January 10, 2013

Registered Public Meeting Attendees: Patrick Sullivan, Sandy Perez, OHCD; Henry G. Bousquet, Councillor Ward 3; Joseph P. Lopes, Councillor Ward 6; Cindy Ricard, Art Therapy for Seniors; Michelle DuBois, South Coastal Counties Legal Services; Pat Foster, Ann McCrillis, Kim Bryant, Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.; Maria Sullivan, Southeast Center for Independent Living, Inc.; Pamela MacLeod-Lima, Will Jacobson, The Women's Center; Nancy Bonell, YMCA South Coast; Deborah Bastoni, Team Builders, Inc.; Lise Reed, Carmen Viruet, Southeast Massachusetts Council on Addiction; Debra Lee, City of New Bedford Council on Aging; Tim Donohue, Yoga Kids, Inc.; Ross Moran, City of New Bedford Parks and Recreation; Gail Fortes, YWCA; Bethany Helme, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe; Russ Buckley, Boys and Girls Club; Michele Paul, City of New Bedford Environmental Stewardship; Cynthia Wallquist, City of New Bedford Community Services; Buddy Andrade, Old Bedford Village Development, Inc.; Ivan Brito; Paulo Baptiota; Allen Ganeto; Carl Simmons

The meeting began at 6:06pm.

Patrick Sullivan, Director and Sandy Perez, Community Development Coordinator, of the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) conducted a presentation on the Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan. The presentation summarized the mission of OHCD and its federal funding sources, described eligible and ineligible activities, discussed projected budgets, and highlighted recent housing and community development projects funded with CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Afterward, questions and comments were welcomed.

Cindy Ricard of Art Therapy for Seniors said that the program helps seniors, including those with terminal illness. They have introduced watercolors this year. She said CDBG funding was crucial to the continued operation of the program as other funding sources have been cut. She thanked the City for its support.

Michelle DuBois of South Coastal Counties Legal Services said they provide legal services, including help with foreclosures and unsanitary housing conditions. They were able to place a housing attorney at PACE, Inc. three times a week which helped 150 people avoid homelessness.

Kim Bryant of Coastline Elderly Services said that the new income category puts many more at risk in a poor economy.

Pamela MacLeod-Lima of the Women's Center said that new income guidelines where some make too much money to obtain needed services. Another concern-under ESG where HUD prefers the "Housing First" model, but people such as women escaping domestic violence situations can't succeed without the transitional support to an independent living situation. The shelter piece is important and is a necessary step for individuals and children. She asked if the minimum construction amount was \$75,000. No, Mr. Sullivan said it is now \$50,000. Pamela said that some basic needs for capital improvements are critical for a smaller to medium organizations, such as a heating system.

Tim Donohue of Yoga Kids said that he is working in the NB schools and hoping to obtain funds for his program to provide services to kids in the areas of health and prevention of substance abuse.

Paulo Baptiota said that parents are now operating the Portuguese school. The third floor needs renovations and they need more classrooms. The immigration center also needs more space. As it is a city building, how would CDBG funds relate? Mr. Sullivan said that one avenue could involve an earmark, but the first step would be to address the elevator issue; the money is already there and the Mayor is interested in finishing the third floor. OHCD will follow-up with the facilities department.

Nancy Bonell of the YMCA said that an old mill building is been utilized for a hydroponic garden in Fall River and that perhaps this could work somewhere in New Bedford as we have available mill buildings here.

Carl Simmons said that there is room for gardens at Brooklawn Park and perhaps some of the NB programs could utilize these gardens for clients as they work through their issues. We are also working on the overgrown trails.

Mr. Sullivan mentioned the Haskell property and the Trustees of Reservation's possible purchase of that property.

Deborah Bastoni of Team Builders said that their program provides food to kids in addition to the creative and artistic benefits. They will have a fund raiser in March at the Zeiterion Theatre where singers, dancers, and musicians (the program participants) will perform a tribute to Stevie Wonder.

Mr. Sullivan said that the Andrea McCoy Gym basement will be for community activities and meetings once construction is complete in 2013.

Ross Moran of the Parks Department said that the McCoy Gym recreation classes are doing very well and are popular with the community; for example, the Zumba class is full right now. Half of the 52 hours of programs at the gym are free to residents. To promote the programs, they send a brochure home with each child, utilize social media, and are doing outreach to young adults.

Kim Bryant of Coastline Elderly Services said that it is wonderful to see kids clearing the Chancery lot.

An unidentified man said that the Conservation Core does a great job in the City.

Allen Ganeto said that an athletics program in summer would keep kids focused and combat territorial issues. The Gomes School has 53 percent of kids that don't pass. Kids need adults as mentors.

Russ Buckley of the Boys and Girls Club said that they provide transportation for kids to after school program. They hope to build an extensive curriculum on neighborhood gardening and also getting families involved.

Mr. Sullivan spoke of the CitiWorks grant program through OHCD for \$2000.00 to non-profits and those who work with non-profits for landscaping, beautification, trees, community gardens, and other neighborhood improvement projects. The grant process begins in March.

The RFP's are available at the OHCD office and on the website and technical assistance workshops are scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Sullivan thanked the participants and adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.