

ACTION PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

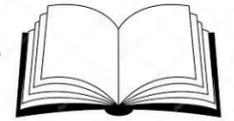
Introduction The City of New Bedford is an Entitlement Community that receives funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to invest in local solutions to address housing and community development needs. The funds include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME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

Funding The 2019 Action Plan represents a single application for federal funding incorporating three HUD formula programs for a total allocation of \$3,727,394 as follows:



OBJECTIVES in this ACTION PLAN

1. Increase the inventory of safe, affordable housing
2. Improve the condition of housing through rehabilitation
3. Increase homeownership through Homebuyer Assistance
4. Expand economic development opportunities through business assistance
5. Provide essential public services
6. Improve availability and access to public facilities and parks
7. Improve public infrastructure
8. Increase the quality of life through neighborhood stabilization efforts
9. Decrease the incidence of homelessness
10. Planning and administration

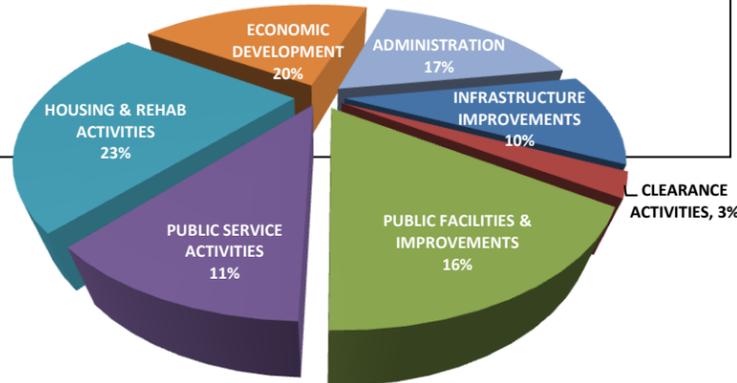


WHAT does an Action Plan do?

- ❑ **Prioritizes** housing and community development needs
- ❑ **Delineates** a one-year strategy to address those needs
- ❑ **Establishes** performance measures to measure progress
- ❑ **Describes** recommendations for specific projects and services identified through public meetings, needs assessments, consultations with community groups and proposals solicited through public meetings and an RFP process.
- ❑ **Outlines** activities to be funded using federal block grants from HUD for the CDBG, ESG and HOME programs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

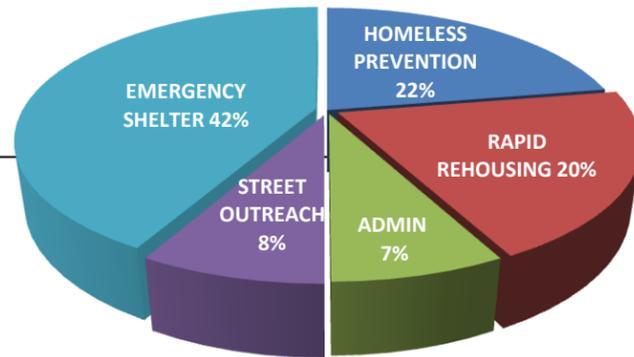
Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) created the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Re-authorized in 1990 as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, local communities are encouraged to use the resources of the CDBG Program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



TOTAL CDBG FUNDING AVAILABLE FY2019: \$2,993,424
(Includes carryover and program income)

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

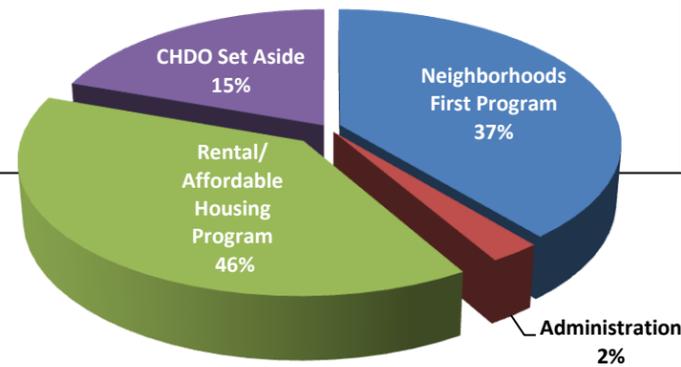
The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act) enacted into law in May 2009, amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and creates the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. ESG is designed to broaden existing emergency shelter and 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).



TOTAL ESG FUNDING AVAILABLE FY2019: \$223,377
(Includes carryover)

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. HOME funds include a set aside for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) and multiple housing programs.



TOTAL HOME FUNDING AVAILABLE FY2019: \$3,274,255
(Includes carryover and program income)

Citizen Participation. The City's Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development (DPHCD) Division, developed the 2019 Action Plan and the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan with consultation from a diverse group of individuals and organizations. In order to ensure maximum participation, the Action Plan process included public meetings, technical assistance workshops and distribution of information in a variety of media formats in multi-languages. In addition to these traditional notices, the DPHCD also sent out written and electronic notices to a diverse cross-section of neighborhood leaders, private interests, citizens and community stakeholders. The DPHCD then conducted two (2) public meetings in locations accessible to persons with disabilities in January of 2019. All meeting notices included info about how to request accommodation such as a translator or signing assistance and were translated into Spanish and Portuguese. Over fifty five, (55) community leaders, residents and representatives of local non-profits attended the public meetings, focus groups and forums. The Action Plan includes an appendix with the Action Plan Calendar/Citizen Participation Process, Public Meeting Notices, Public Meeting Minutes, and public comment.

A draft of the 2019 *Action Plan* was available for public review from March 22, 2019 through April 22, 2019 in the city libraries, City Hall and the Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development. A notice of the draft Action Plan's availability was published in the *Standard Times* on March 22, 2019 and posted on the City of New Bedford website.

Evaluation of Past Performance

The City of New Bedford has demonstrated tremendous progress in meeting the goals and objectives identified in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the most recently completed its Year Three Action Plan. The city's successful efforts focused on activities that have positively impacted the quality of life for low and moderate income residents. These efforts have included increasing the amount of decent, safe and affordable housing; expanding homeownership opportunities; promoting neighborhood-based business revitalization efforts; investment in public infrastructure, facilities, and parks; and providing essential public services.

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

The City of New Bedford remains confident that its demonstrated high level of performance will be replicated during the period covered by the FY19 Action Plan.

