



2023-2024 CAPER

Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation and Report

Program Year 2023-2024

STRONGER COMMUNITY | STRONGER ECONOMY | STRONGER FAYETTEVILLE

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan.

91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

The 2023-2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) evaluates the City of Fayetteville's performance for its 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan, which is the fourth annual plan of the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. This CAPER is for the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. The City made progress toward meeting the goals identified in the annual action plan through its programming and coordination with community partners.

The City of Fayetteville addressed its goals and objectives through the implementation of programs and projects designed to meet its priorities identified under:

- **Housing Strategy Goal:** Improve, preserve, and expand the inventory of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income persons and families.
- **Community Development Strategy Goal:** Improve, preserve, and create new public and community facilities, infrastructure, and public services to ensure the quality of life for all residents.
- **Public Services Strategy Goal:** Improve and increase public service programs for the youth, the elderly, developmentally delayed, disabled, and target income population, including nutrition programs and social/welfare programs throughout the City.
- **Economic Development Strategy Goal:** Increase and promote job creation, job retention, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents.
- **Homeless Strategy Goal:** Improve the living conditions and services and increase the availability of housing for homeless persons and families.
- **Special Needs Strategy Goal:** Improve, preserve, and expand opportunities and services for persons with special needs.
- **Planning & Administration:** Continue to provide sound and professional planning, program management, and oversight for the successful administration of federal programs.

The programs offered positively impacted the lives of homeowners, homebuyers, renters, people experiencing homelessness, small businesses, and those assisted by non-profit partners. The City continued using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for homeowner emergency home repairs, down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers, direct financial assistance for small businesses, workforce development, youth and family mentoring services, blight removal, homeless services and operations, and public service grants to non-profits.

HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) funds were available for affordable housing developers

and single family housing construction in partnership with a local Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity.

The City received its second allocation of Housing Opportunities for People with Aids (HOPWA) funds to assist people living with HIV/AIDS with securing safe and affordable housing. The City contracted with a project sponsor, Robeson County Health Department to provide tenant based rental assistance (TBRA), short-term rent, mortgage, and utilities assistance (STRMU), permanent housing placement (PHP), case management and other supportive services.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Expected (Program Year)</u>	<u>Actual (Program Year)</u>
Management	Administration	Other	3	3
Planning	Administration	Other	3	3
Clearance	Non-Housing Community Development	Buildings Demolished	3	17
Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	Low/Moderate Income Public Services (Persons Assisted)	999	5477
Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	Homelessness Prevention (Persons Assisted)	120	3908
Revitalization	Non-Housing Community Development	Other	3	1
Financial Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	Façade/building rehabilitation (Businesses Assisted)	5	1
Financial Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	Jobs created/retained	15	7
Financial Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	Businesses Assisted	15	1
Small Business Assistance	Non-Housing Community Development	Businesses Assisted	39	69

Operations/Support	Homeless	Low/Moderate Income Public Services (Persons Assisted)	475	697
Operations/Support	Homeless	Overnight Shelter (Persons Assisted)	0	281
Homeless Prevention	Homeless	Homelessness Prevention (Persons Assisted)	120	3908
Homeownership Assistance	Affordable Housing	Homebuyers Assisted	2	1
Housing Construction	Rental Units Constructed	Household Housing Units	20	0
Housing Construction	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Units	3	1
Housing Construction	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Units	75	51
Fair Housing	Affordable Housing	Other	12	2740
Housing	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/Rapid Re-housing (Households Assisted)	75	149
Housing	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Homelessness Prevention (Persons Assisted)	50	91
Housing	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HIV/AIDS Housing Operations (Household Housing Units)	125	240

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The City of Fayetteville administered and funded projects and activities in partnership with local nonprofit organizations using CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds to meet priorities and objectives identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the PY 2023 Annual Action Plan.

The City continued to partner with local developers to increase the supply of affordable housing by contracting with Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity, a certified CHDO to construct single-family homes. One (1) house was completed and four (4) others underway and 50% complete at the end of the program year. To improve the current housing stock, the City continued its funding of the emergency

repair program with 51 homes repaired in total by Fayetteville Urban Ministry and Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity with their emergency repair programs. The City's Blight Removal program provided funding to remove 17 dilapidated structures throughout the city. One (1) first-time low- and moderate-income homebuyer was assisted with down payment assistance to purchase a home in the city limits. The City's HOPWA allocation supported 91 households with short-term rent, mortgage, and utility (STRMU) payments, 52 households with permanent housing placement (PHP), and 97 with tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA). All of these clients received case management and other supportive services.

The small business community was supported through technical assistance for 69 small businesses and direct financial assistance to one (1) small business resulting in seven (7) jobs retained for low- and moderate-income persons. The City supported two (2) workforce development programs, Veterans Bridge Home and Fayetteville Urban Ministries Career Readiness Program to provide employment training, mentoring and job placement services for 578 job seekers resulting in 25 jobs created and 59 jobs retained. In addition, another nonprofit, Millers Crew was supported that provided vocational training opportunities for 39 special needs adults resulting in 14 part-time job hours created and 2,045 part-time jobs hours retained.

One (1) neighborhood enhancement project was completed by installing a fence along the Oakridge Estates neighborhood that the City partnered previously with Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity to build 47 single family homes. Our Neighborhood Engagement team was active in the community at over 100 various events, meetings, and other outreach activities that benefited our low- and moderate-income citizens.

Homeless prevention is certainly a high priority and with the help of Connections of Cumberland County a total of 1,388 female headed households consisting of 3,908 people were assisted with utility deposits and rental payments. Operational support was provided Salvation Army housed 281 homeless persons in overnight shelter during White Flag and fed 697 people. The City's Family Reunification and Direct Services Program reunited 11 homeless persons with their families.

Our partners Cumberland HealthNet assisted 659 and Better Health of Cumberland County assisted 108 uninsured or under-insured low- and moderate-income persons with medical care. Greater Life of Fayetteville and United Ministries in Christ provided youth mentoring services to a total of 101 city residents. Combined Unified Services, Cumberland HealthNet, Myrover Reese Fellowship Homes, and Marius Maximus provided homeless services to 4,523 low- and moderate-income persons. Vision Resource Center received support to 128 visually impaired residents with We Walk Canes and hearing technology/accessories.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME	HOPWA
Race:			
White	1742	0	32
Black or African American	7178	1	184
Asian	59	0	0
American Indian or American Native	109	0	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	35	0	0
Total	9123	1	218
Ethnicity:			
Hispanic	361	0	0
Not Hispanic	9419	1	240

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

As shown in the table, the majority of program beneficiaries were members of racial minority groups. The largest group served was “Black or African-American.” A much smaller, but growing percentage of those assisted were of Hispanic ethnicity.

The total number for CDBG is 9,780 and not all race categories are identified in the table. In addition to the races identified in the table, there were three (3) in the "Asian and White" category; 49 in the "American Indian/American Native/White" category; 314 in the "Black or African America/White" category, 34 in the "American Indian/American Native/Black or African American" category, and 257 in "Other/Multi-racial" that is not reflected in the table.

The total number for HOPWA is 240 with 21 in the "Other/Multi-racial" category and one (1) in the American Indian or American Native and White" category.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	2,099,768	1,658,199
HOME	public - federal	4,725,359	2,272,133
HOPWA	public - federal	1,060,712	817,732
General Fund	public - local	280,322	0

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The CDBG expenditures during the program year included final drawn amounts for 2022-2023 activities that were drawn past the 90 days following the end of the program year. This includes \$20,889.44 of program income that was received during 2022-2023 and not receipted in until after the 90-day receipt deadline. The PR26 reports have been adjusted for both the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 program years to reflect this along with the adjustments for the public service and administration costs for these program years. All expenditures were under the maximum spending caps for CDBG.

The City of Fayetteville was blocked from drawing HOME funds for several years and was given permission to draw funds during the program year for those activities that are not currently blocked in IDIS. This allowed the City to catch up on HOME administration draws for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 programs years in addition to the current program year. All administration expenditures for each year were under the maximum spending cap for the HOME program. A total of \$259,581.64 entitlement funds were drawn for the three years of administration with the remaining \$2,012,551.79 of program income receipted in. Additional HOME funds were expended during the program year for program delivery costs and are pending to be drawn due to the requirement of a written signed agreement before the funds can be drawn in IDIS.

\$817,732.24 was expended in HOPWA funds for the program year with \$17,898.90 expended for City staff administration costs. The project sponsor expended \$17,148.14 for administration costs. All administration costs for the program year were under the maximum spending caps for the HOPWA program.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation
Citywide-Other	40	68
Low- and Moderate-Income Areas	40	27
Murchison Road Corridor	20	5

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The activities and projects for PY 2023 were made available in areas of the City with the highest percentages of low- and moderate-income persons and also citywide in order to reach the highest percentage of those in need. The percent of low- and moderate-income benefit for the year is 100%. The geographic locations and the public benefit for the PY 2023 CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA Activities/Projects are as follows:

- **Homebuyers Assistance** – Citywide
- **Single Family Housing Dev-CHDO** – Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
- **Emergency Rehab** – Citywide; Low- and Moderate-Income Areas; Murchison Road Corridor
- **Blight Removal** – Low- and Moderate-Income Areas; Murchison Road Corridor
- **Beautification** - Low- and Moderate-Income Areas
- **Salvation Army** – Citywide
- **Better Health of Cumberland County** - Citywide
- **Connections of Cumberland County** – Citywide
- **Cumberland HealthNet** - Citywide
- **Veterans Bridge Home** - Citywide
- **Marius Maximum** - Citywide
- **Vision Resource Center**- Citywide
- **Greater Life of Fayetteville**- Citywide
- **Direct Financial Assistance for Small Businesses** – Citywide; Low- and Moderate-Income Areas; Murchison Road Corridor
- **Small Business Technical Assistance**- Citywide; Low- and Moderate-Income Areas; Murchison Road Corridor
- **Millers Crew** – Citywide
- **United Ministries in Christ Church** – Citywide
- **Fayetteville Urban Ministry ESL Career Readiness Program** - Citywide
- **Myrover Reese Fellowship Homes, Inc.** - Citywide
- **HOPWA Housing and Supportive Services** - Citywide
- **Combined Unified Services** - Citywide
- **Family Reunification and Direct Services Program** - Citywide

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City of Fayetteville partnered with local non-profit organizations and developers to meet goals and objectives identified in the annual action plan during the program year. The City leveraged the funds it received from HUD with other public and private resources. The City leveraged CDBG dollars to provide gap financing support to small businesses that created and retained jobs for low- and moderate-income persons. HOME funds leveraged affordable housing construction for both single family and multi-family development projects. The Economic & Community Development Department's activities are also funded in part by the City's general fund mainly for general administration and support.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	604,178
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	604,178
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	604,178

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
2,446,382	245,448	2,012,552	0	679,278

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
Number	0	0	0			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired		0		0		
Businesses Displaced		0		0		
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0		0		
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0		0		
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	98	52
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	125	240
Total	223	292

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	125	240
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	23	1
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	75	51
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	223	292

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City established goals and outcomes for each of the following affordable housing projects/activities with CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds:

- Single Family Housing Development-CHDO** –Goal: three (3) single family houses constructed/Outcome: One (1) house completed and four (4) under construction and at more than 50% completion at the end of program year

- **Emergency Home Repair**- Goal: 60 housing units/ Outcome: 51 housing units repaired
- **New Affordable Housing Production** - Goal: 20 households/ Outcome: No units constructed
- **HOPWA Rental Assistance Programs**- Goal: 50 households/ Outcome: 240 households

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

In the prior program year, the City partnered with Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity (FAHFH), a certified CHDO, to construct five (5) affordable single-family houses on Maloney Avenue in a qualified census tract. One (1) of the houses was completed during the program year with the other four (4) under construction and at more than 50% completion at the end of the program year. The construction completion of the remaining four (4) single-family homes should be completed during the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan year and reported in the 2024-2025 CAPER.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	20	0
Low-income	11	0
Moderate-income	20	1
Total	51	1

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Affordable housing remains to be a constant priority for the City of Fayetteville and this is demonstrated in the various housing programs offered during the program year. The City will continue to work with its housing partners to find opportunities to meet common goals of affordable housing for our low- and moderate-income residents.

To foster and maintain affordable housing, the City of Fayetteville administered CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funded programs that met one of the following Five-Year Goals and Strategies:

- **HSS-1 Homeownership Assistance** - Promote and assist in developing homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons & families.
- **HSS-2 Housing Construction** - Promote and assist in the development of new affordable housing inventory, both rental and sales housing.

- **HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation** - Promote and assist in the preservation of existing owner and renter occupied housing inventory in the City of Fayetteville.
- **HSS-4 Fair Housing** - Affirmatively further fair housing by promoting fair housing choice throughout the City of Fayetteville.
- **HSS-5 Housing Education** - Promote and assist in educating homeowners, tenants, landlords, and new homebuyers in best practices for purchase and maintenance of affordable housing rentals, including foreclosure and eviction prevention.

The City of Fayetteville will continue to work with the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Human Relations Commission to provide fair housing, education and outreach.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The lead agency for the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Continuum of Care is Cumberland County. Membership in the CoC is open to any stakeholder in the community, and membership is ultimately determined by the CoC Board. The Board sets priorities and strategies and is organized into work groups to provide feedback on the goals and strategies of the CoC. The Board encourages individuals who are homeless or formerly homeless to provide input at public CoC meetings that are held quarterly. The CoC has adopted Coordinated Entry, which is administered by Cumberland HealthNET, and has required all ESG recipients to adopt a Housing First model.

In 2023, 474 people were without permanent shelter in Cumberland County, according to local data gathered during a count held yearly across the nation. The City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, partner agencies and volunteers conducted the annual Point in Time (PIT) count during a 24-hour period from January 25, 2024 to January 26, 2024. The preliminary report of the homeless population during the 24-hour period provides a snapshot of both the sheltered and unsheltered homeless population in particular areas and not considered an exact count of homeless individuals. The 2024 PIT count identified 374 homeless persons that includes a combination of those without shelter, in an emergency shelter or in transitional housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In PY 2023 the City allocated CDBG funds to support homeless shelter, homeless service providers, and other homeless support programs, which resulted in the following:

- **Family Reunification and Direct Services Program:** The City partnered with Cumberland HealthNet to connect people experiencing homelessness with their families by assisting with transportation to make that connection. Eleven people were reunified with their families during the program year.
- **Salvation Army:** The Salvation Army Homeless Shelter (The Haven) provides a minimum of 54 emergency shelter beds for individuals and families with children up to 90 days. During this time, they can focus on increasing their income and finding suitable housing. In addition, during extreme weather conditions additional beds are added to their cafeteria with 281 clients sheltered during "White Flag" nights. Case management is tailored to household needs and connects them with community-based services. The Salvation Army, along with operating the shelter, served meals to approximately 697 homeless and others in need.
- **Manna Dream Center:** The City leases a building to Manna Church, which currently operates as

an overnight shelter. Volunteers and paid staff operate the center seven (7) days a week. It is open daily to homeless persons that need a shower, to wash clothes, receive lunch and other services during the day. The center has the capacity to house 20 male clients for overnight shelter. Overnight guests receive counseling that includes mental health services, veteran services, employment, and housing.

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

The City allocated funding to Connections of Cumberland County, a local nonprofit, that assisted 1,388 female-headed households consisting of 3,908 women and children with referrals, counseling, utility deposits and rental payments to prevent homelessness.

The City of Fayetteville allocated \$100,000 of its General Fund to jointly employ a Data and Evaluation Analyst with Cumberland County to fully implement the Homeless Management Information System. A portion of the funds were made available to provide homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services.

The Salvation Army operates The North Carolina Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), a Federally-funded program that provides a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills. Additionally, the Salvation Army operates the CIP Program (Crisis Intervention Program) pays for past due utility bills. The fund serves as a homeless prevention activity by offering up to \$600 a year to low income citizens who have a critical need for heating and cooling due to family health issues. The Salvation Army manages the programs for the Department of Social Services.

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

The Fayetteville-Cumberland County CoC has not yet included the housing first model in its written standards, though this change is being discussed. The CoC has implemented Coordinated Entry, with Cumberland HealthNet acting as the lead entity. The Coordinated Entry process evaluates individuals when they present themselves, and they are directed toward the emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing facilities that will best meet their needs. There is a need for

more rapid rehousing in the area, as care providers calculate that approximately 80% of the homeless population needs only to be rehoused and can quickly stabilize after being placed in housing.

The City opened a Day Resource Center on August 21, 2023 that is intended to help people in Fayetteville experiencing homelessness with a place to stay during the day and support services to help them in their next steps. The center includes shower and laundry facilities, as well as a warming kitchen and offices. There are computers for use and areas for the homeless to charge their devices. The facility will also operate as a shelter after emergencies like hurricanes or flooding. The City partnered with Cumberland HealthNet to manage the day-to day operations of the Day Resource Center for this first year of operations and on July 1, 2024 Manna Church will assume management of the center.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority partnered with the City of Fayetteville in 2020 and successfully received a \$450,000 Choice Neighborhoods Initiative Planning Grant for the Murchison Road Corridor. The final plan was completed and submitted to HUD on 3/31/23. The City of Fayetteville partnered once again to submit a Choice Implementation Grant application in February 2024.

Award announcements were made in July 2024 and the City of Fayetteville's application was not approved. The City of Fayetteville and Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority intend to submit an application next year for the next available round of Choice Implementation Grant funds.

The Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority has determined the needs for its properties through interviews with its Resident Advisory Board. The FMHA maintains a Five Year Plan for its PY 2019 through PY 2023 Public Housing Capital Fund Program Grant.

Actions taken to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

According to the Five Year and Annual Plan for 2019-2023, FMHA's progress in meeting their mission and goals states that FMHA set the goal of cooperating with the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, and other neighborhood partners to promote neighborhood revitalization and economic development in designated areas of the City. FMHA has an active resident council that expresses need for all public housing communities under the Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority. The Resident Advisory Board has actively contributed to the FMHA's 2019-2023 Five Year and Annual Plans.

Section 8 Voucher Holders have the opportunity to plan and reach goals that they set for themselves and their families, as well as save a significant amount of money. This opportunity is available to Section 8 holders who choose to become participants in Section 8's Family Self-Sufficiency Program. There are two parts to the program. The first part of the program is the Self-Sufficiency program where participants have the opportunity to work toward meeting its goals that they set for their families, as well as save money that will become theirs when they have completed their goals. The second part of the program is the Homeownership Program. In this part of the program, a Section 8 participant can choose to use his or her Section 8 voucher to assist with the purchase and payment of a home. Each part of the Self-Sufficiency program is detailed below.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) is a voluntary HUD program that encourages and assists families to become self-sufficient. Anyone currently on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program is eligible for this program. FSS offers a financial incentive to families through an escrow account, which is based on an increase in a families earned income. An example of an increase in earned income would be when a family member has a pay raise, obtains employment or has an increase in his or her working hours that results in an increase in the portion of rent that the family pays each month. For example, if a family

member begins working 40 hours per week, and the families rent increase \$25.00 dollars per month, that \$25.00 dollars goes into an escrow account that the Housing Authority establishes for the family. This account becomes available to the family when the family successfully completes their FSS Contract of Participation. Depending upon each participant's situation, the FSS Program can connect tenants with job training, resource planning, credit repair resources, basic skills education, high school equivalency (GED) programs, post-secondary education, and assistance with securing meaningful employment. Advisors provide emotional support, case management, and personalized assistance.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority is not designated as a troubled housing authority. FMHA is continuing to meet its goals by securing funding through RAD conversion, development of Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Developments, and revitalization of its existing units.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

In PY 2023, the City continued to improve and increase outreach efforts to low- and moderate-income residents with additional Neighborhood Engagement staff participating with community events, meetings, and other outreach opportunities.

- 13 computer skills training classes and three (3) hands-only CPR classes were held at the recreation centers and other locations during the program year.
- Staff attended numerous events throughout the program year and engaged with the citizens of Fayetteville. The Neighborhood Engagement Team was present at seven (7) community watch meetings and over 30 community engagement events to present and discuss available resources and programs that improve the quality of life for City of Fayetteville residents.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City's housing strategy is designed to improve, preserve, and expand the affordable housing inventory for low- and moderate-income persons and families living in the City of Fayetteville. The City provides financing to developers for the acquisition, rehabilitation, and new construction of single and multifamily housing for low and moderate-income families. Both rental and homeownership projects are eligible. To be considered, all sponsoring entities and proposals must meet the regulations prescribed in the HOME Investment Partnership Program at 24 CFR Part 92. Private developers, not-for-profit organizations, Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), and Community Based Development Organizations are eligible to apply. The City is required to set aside 15% of its annual HOME funds for CHDO activities.

The City's economic development strategy is designed to increase and promote job creation, job retention, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Fayetteville. Loan and matching grants are available to eligible small businesses.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

For any housing rehabilitation program using Federal funds, the City of Fayetteville ensures that:

- Applicants for rehabilitation funding receive the required lead-based paint information and understand their responsibilities.

- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead-based paint requirements.
- The level of federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.
- Properly qualified personnel perform risk management, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance services when required.
- Required lead hazard reduction work and protective measures are incorporated into project rehabilitation specifications.
- Risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work are performed in accordance with the applicable standards established in 24 CFR Part 35.
- Required notices regarding lead-based paint evaluation, presumption, and hazard reduction are provided to occupants and documented.
- Program documents establish the rental property owner's responsibility to perform and document ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- The contractor handbook includes guidelines prohibiting the use of lead-based paints in new construction and citing safety regulation 40 CFR Part 745 for housing rehabilitation.

Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City's anti-poverty strategy is based on attracting a range of businesses and supporting workforce development, including job-training services for low-income residents. The City allocates a large portion of CDBG funding to economic development activities to provide programs that lift families out of poverty and support small business development. In addition, the City continues to partner with local social service organizations that target low-income residents:

- Youth development and mentoring activities with local nonprofits to include Greater Life of Fayetteville and United Ministries in Christ
- Career development, employment training, mentoring, and job placement in partnership with local nonprofits to include Veterans Bridge Home, Millers Crew, and Fayetteville Urban Ministry
- Economic development activities along the Murchison Road Corridor and lower income areas within the City limits
- Homeless prevention services with Connections of Cumberland County and Robeson County Health Department
- Medical services made available to under- and uninsured low- and moderate-income persons by partnering with Better Health of Cumberland County and Cumberland HealthNet
- Community outreach to promote available programs and resources by the City's neighborhood engagement staff throughout the City of Fayetteville

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City of Fayetteville works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **City of Fayetteville – Economic & Community Development** - oversees the CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA programs.
- **Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority** - oversees the improvements to public housing communities, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, and the FMHA Empowerment Institute that provides self-sufficiency and training to public housing tenants.
- **United Management II and Halcon Companies**- oversees development of affordable housing through Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC).
- **Social Services Agencies** - the City provides funds to address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - the City provides funds to rehabilitate and develop affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.
- **Cumberland County Department of Social Services** - provides mainstream social services to individuals and families in the City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County.
- **Cumberland County** - oversees the Continuum of Care for Fayetteville-Cumberland County.
- **Robeson County Health Department**- a partner with administering HOPWA funds and direct program services.

As part of the CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA application planning process, local agencies, and organization are invited to submit proposals for CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA funds for eligible activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings, informational meetings, and completing survey forms.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Public Institutions: The City acts as a clearinghouse and facilitator for many of the activities described in the annual action plan. As the local unit of government, the City is empowered to apply for and administer certain types of grants. Support from the City, expressed as a certification of consistency or some other instrument, may be all that is required for some activities. Other activities will involve the more direct participation of the City for funding, acquisition of land or buildings, or in convening meetings of various agencies to iron out differences or strategies on how to seize opportunities. The City will continue to administer the CDBG, HOME, and HOPWA programs.

The Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority administers public housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher programs throughout the City. This Authority is responsible for the management and maintenance of public housing units. The Housing Authority continues its efforts to modernize these

public housing units in order to provide decent, affordable housing in the City.

Non-Profit Organizations: Non-profit housing agencies play a role in the implementation of the City's annual action plan. Through the construction of new housing and the rehabilitation of existing units, these agencies access financing sources such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, Golden LEAF funding, and charitable contributions that increase the supply of affordable housing. While some groups focus on the rehabilitation of single units for resale to first time homebuyers, others have attempted to create assisted rental developments. In the future, the union of such groups with social service agencies that serve specific special needs populations will address the Five Year Consolidated Plan strategy for creation of supportive housing and affordable housing opportunities.

Non-profit educational institutions provide an important partnership for the City. The City is pursuing a partnership with Fayetteville State University to provide job training for residents of the Murchison Road Corridor. This partnership will form a key linkage in the development of a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area, and laid the groundwork for a Choice Neighborhoods Initiative grant that was received in the amount of \$450,000.

Social service agencies are a link between the provision of housing and the population it is intended to serve. The agencies work directly with providers of services to persons with special needs including: mental health, intellectual disability, elderly, drug and alcohol addiction and families that are at-risk of becoming homeless. Although these agencies cannot provide housing, they can direct housing efforts where needed and are integral in the planning of housing and services for target populations. The Salvation Army, which is an emergency shelter and Family Endeavors, which is transitional housing, will continue to provide shelter for the homeless.

Private Industry: The City has multiple programs to assist in job development and retention that are targeted toward private businesses. Small business consulting, loans, and grants are designed to assist entrepreneurs in areas with high low- and moderate-income populations. Additionally, larger financial incentive programs are implemented by the City to recruit businesses that provide jobs that pay decent wages for residents of the City.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

During PY 2023 the City of Fayetteville funded activities/projects that affirmatively further fair housing. This included:

- Funds for emergency housing rehabilitation for lower income homeowners
- Funds for down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers
- Funds for education and community outreach for housing opportunities
- Funds for the prevention of homelessness and provision of resources to at-risk populations
- Funds for project financing and related costs for affordable housing developments

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The CAPER draft is made available for a minimum 15-day review and comment period. The comment period for the PY 2023 CAPER was from September 10, 2024 ending September 26, 2024. No comments were received.

The City of Fayetteville provides opportunity for the public to comment on its reports consistent with the City's Citizen Participation Plan. Notices of the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report, Consolidated Plan, One Year Action Plan and any amendments are advertised in the Fayetteville Observer (local newspaper) and on the department's website. These reports and plans are available for review during the review and comment period in the department, on the City's website and in strategic locations throughout the City. These strategic locations for this CAPER includes the Cumberland County Courthouse, Headquarters Library, Cliffdale Recreation Center, Cliffdale Library, and six other recreation centers throughout the City. The City considers all comments received.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

As needs arise the City is prepared to amend its plan to meet an urgent need and/or repurpose funds to meet an objective. The City assesses beneficiary needs regularly and its current programs to make any changes to meet current needs of the beneficiaries of the programs.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 program year, the City will begin funding its down payment assistance program with HOME funds instead of CDBG funds as done in prior years. CDBG funds can be used for down payment assistance up to 50% of the lender required down payment. HOME funds do not require a match from the homebuyer.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

The City of Fayetteville conducted on-site rental property inspections for the 2023-2024 program year in June of 2024. Eighteen (18) HOME-funded multi-family housing development projects were monitored and six (6) developments received on-site inspections. HOME Monitoring Checklist 6-C and 6-D were submitted for all developments and random units at each apartment complex were selected for physical inspection.

As a result of the reviews, it was determined that all developments are in compliance with HOME affordability and project requirements.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

The City requires developers providing housing using HOME funds to agree to develop and conduct an approved Affirmative Marketing plan whereby it can demonstrate that steps are being taken to provide information and otherwise attract eligible persons from all racial, ethnic and gender groups in the housing market to the available housing. As the HOME program units in this area remain occupied and are seldom vacant, the City's Affirmative Fair Marketing plan has been very effective.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

The City of Fayetteville received a total of \$ 245,448.02 in HOME program income for housing activities during the 2023-2024 program year. \$2,446,382.04 was the balance on hand of program income at the beginning of the program year with \$2,012,551.79 expended during the program year.

A City certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity, completed construction on the first of five (5) single family houses on Maloney Ave. The completed house was purchased by a minority, low- and moderate-income, first-time homebuyer.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k)

(STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

The City continues to explore opportunities for providing additional affordable housing to its low- and moderate-income citizens. Funding assistance to developers is provided in low interest loans that not only generate program income annually, but all of which have scheduled end-of-term lump sum principal balloon payments due as an additional source of program income.

Construction of the Cliffmore Park multi-family apartment project pending start in the spring of 2025 will add 72 housing units with ten (10) of the units identified as HOME-assisted affordable rental units. The City will provide a gap financing loan in the amount of \$683,968 HOME funds for this senior apartment complex.

The Eutaw Landing multi-family project is expected to close in spring 2025 and construction to follow. HOME funds in the amount of \$800,000 has been requested for a gap loan for this iproposed 54-unit apartment complex for 55+ that will result in five (5) HOME-assisted affordable rental units.

Another potential housing development project in 2025 is Aubrey Hills that will produce 32 new rental units with eleven (11) HOME-assisted rental units. The City may provide a HOME loan in the amount of \$2,145,000 for this project.

The City developed and implemented a Homebuyer Assistance Program to assist first-time homebuyers with down payment, closing costs and gap financing. This program provides up to \$20,000 in a 0% interest, deferred loan. The program officially launched in May 2022, with outreach and marketing to area lenders and Realtors. One (1) loan was approved and closed during the program year for a low- and moderate-income person.

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing through the use of HOPWA activities for: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	50	91
Tenant-based rental assistance	75	149
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0

Table 14 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

The City of Fayetteville received its second HOPWA allocation during the 2023-2024 program year. A contract was executed with a project sponsor, Robeson County Health Department that operates the Dogwood Health Care Program that assists HOPWA- eligible households with securing safe and affordable housing. Of the 149 households served above, 52 of these households received permanent housing placement and these numbers were reported along with the 97 TBRA households. Of the 91 households assisted with STRMU, 41 of the households received both rent and utility assistance. All of the households served with all housing services received case management supportive services.

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Narrative

There is no Section 3 activity to report.