



## City of Lake Charles

2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

**DRAFT for Public Comment**

## **Executive Summary**

In accordance with the federal regulations found in 24 CFR 570, the City of Lake Charles has prepared this Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER presents the City's progress in carrying out projects and activities pursuant to the Program Year (PY) 2019 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds it received from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to principally benefit low-to-moderate-income individuals in the City.

The 2019 CAPER describes and evaluates how the City invested formula funds from HUD to meet affordable housing, homeless, and community development needs. This annual report also provides a general assessment of the progress the County has made in addressing the priorities and objectives contained in its Five-Year 2015–2019 Consolidated Plan (Con Plan).

The City collaborated with non-profit organizations to ensure it could target their most vulnerable populations. These activities included a wide range of services and programs such as public services, infrastructure improvements, operational support for non-profits, and supportive services for the homeless.

During Program Year 2019, the City of Lake Charles expended \$564,768 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$116,998 in HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds that directly impacted 8,867 clients.

## **CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes**

### **Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)**

The City has successfully utilized CDBG and HOME funds by increasing housing assistance for low and moderate income persons and allocating funds to public infrastructure improvements, public services to local non-profit organizations to provide essential social services for the homeless, LMI persons, and non-homeless special needs population, affordable housing initiative and at-risk of homelessness activities.

The City of Lake Charles' Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the period FY 2015-2019, identified several strategies to address the City's affordable housing, community development, and homelessness needs. In order to address the highest priority needs, the City identified the following goals in the Strategic Plan: (1) provide public services, (2) improve public infrastructure, (3) affordable housing for homeownership, (4) affordable rental housing, (5) CHDO Set-Aside, (6) homeless prevention, (7) housing reconstruction, and (8) program administration.

For PY 19/20, the fifth year of the Consolidated Plan period. The City of Lake Charles made strides in meeting the strategic plan objectives but was negatively impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. The City of Lake Charles expended an estimated \$681,755.21, in CDBG and HOME funding on activities meeting its strategic plan goals and assisted approximately 170 persons through public services, 4 households (6 beneficiaries) with housing reconstruction, public infrastructure projects also had an area wide benefit of over 8,667 persons in the targeted areas.

The City has successfully utilized CDBG and HOME funds by increasing housing assistance for low and moderate income persons and allocating funds to public infrastructure improvements, public services to local non-profit organizations to provide essential social services for the homeless, LMI persons, and non-homeless special needs population, affordable housing initiative and at-risk of homelessness activities.

The City of Lake Charles' Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the period FY 2015-2019, identified several strategies to address the City's affordable housing, community development, and homelessness needs. In order to address the highest priority needs, the City identified the following goals in the Strategic Plan: (1) provide public services, (2) improve public infrastructure, (3) affordable housing for homeownership, (4) affordable rental housing, (5) CHDO Set-Aside, (6) homeless prevention, (7) housing reconstruction and (8) program administration.

### **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)**

| Goal                                       | Category  | Source / Amount | Indicator   | Unit of Measure        | Expected – Strategic Plan | Actual – Strategic Plan | Percent Complete |
|--|---|-----------------|---|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Affordable Housing CHDO Assistance         | Affordable Housing  | HOME: \$49543   | Other   | Other                  | 4                         | 0                       | 0.00%            |
| CDBG Administration                        |   | CDBG: \$130333  | Other   | Other                  | 2                         | 0                       | 0.00%            |
| Demolition and Clearance                   | Clearing or property  | CDBG: \$25000   | Buildings Demolished  | Buildings              | 4                         | 1                       | 25.00%           |
| Demolition and Clearance                   | Clearing or property  | CDBG: \$25000   | Other   | Other                  | 0                         | 0                       |                  |
| HOME Administration                        | Affordable Housing<br>Public Housing<br>Homeless<br>Non-Homeless<br>Special Needs<br>Non-Housing<br>Community Development | HOME: \$33029   | Other   | Other                  | 2                         | 0                       | 0.00%            |
| Homeless Prevention-Catholic Charities     | Affordable Housing  | CDBG: \$55000   | Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit                           | Households Assisted    | 300                       | 130                     | 43.33%           |
| Infrastructure                             | Non-Homeless Special Needs  | CDBG: \$358082  | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted       | 3330                      | 8667                    | 260.27%          |
| Legal Services-Elder Law (SWLA Law Center) | Legal Services for the Elderly  | CDBG: \$3000    | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit                    | Persons Assisted       | 10                        | 3                       | 30.00%           |
| Major Homeowner Rehabilitation             | Affordable Housing  | HOME: \$387874  | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated   | Household Housing Unit | 9                         | 4                       | 44.44%           |

|                                      |   |               |  |                        |    |   |        |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------|--|------------------------|----|---|--------|
| Minor Homeowner Rehabilitation       | Non-Homeless Special Needs                                      | CDBG: \$40500 | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated  | Household Housing Unit | 7  | 0 | 0.00%  |
| Minor Homeowner Rehabilitation       | Non-Homeless Special Needs                                      | CDBG: \$40500 | Other  | Other                  | 0  | 0 |        |
| PY17-Housing Reconstruction          | Affordable Housing  |               | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated  | Household Housing Unit | 0  | 0 |        |
| PY18-Housing Reconstruction          | Affordable Housing  |               | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated  | Household Housing Unit | 0  | 0 |        |
| Relocation                           | Non-Homeless Special Needs<br>Non-Housing Community Development | HOME: \$25000 | Other  | Other                  | 4  | 2 | 50.00% |
| Youth Services-CASA (Family & Youth) | Non-Homeless Special Needs                                      | CDBG: \$10000 | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted       | 35 | 0 | 0.00%  |
| Youth Services-ETC                   |   | CDBG: \$29750 | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted       | 18 | 0 | 0.00%  |

**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.**

Funds were allocated in alignment with the priorities identified in the City’s Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. These included public infrastructure improvements, public services, homeless prevention services, housing reconstruction, downpayment assistance and CHDO Set-Aside. CDBG and HOME funds were utilized in these projects to support our efforts to meet HUD’s mandate and improve housing accessibility and affordability, and the overall quality of life for the low-to-moderate income residents.

In PY 19/20, the City of Lake Charles was able to fund projects that directly addressed specific strategic

plan goals including:

### **Public Services**

#### **Rental Assistance (Homeless Prevention)**

- Catholic Charities received funding to prevent homelessness. This program provided rental and utility assistance to LMI individuals/families in an effort to prevent homelessness. A total of 130 individuals were assisted.

#### **Re-Entry (Homelessness)**

- Bethesda House received funding to house formerly incarcerated men, who are homeless. Funds were used to help pay the salary of the Housing Manager to provide services for the residents who are attempting to re-enter society. A total of 5 individuals were assisted.
- The Open Door received funding to house formerly incarcerated women. Funds were used to help pay the salary of the Administrator to provide services for the residents who are attempting to re-enter society. A total of 17 individuals were assisted.

#### **Legal Services (Homeless Prevention)**

- Southwest Louisiana Law Center (SWLA) received funding to provide education and legal services to senior citizens to help secure ownership of their property (i.e. successions, estate planning, power-of-attorney, etc) and prevent homelessness. A total of 3 individuals were assisted.

#### **Youth Services (Non-Homeless Special Needs)**

- The Family and Youth Counseling Agency received funding to provide services for court-appointed special advocate services. These advocates speak in court on behalf of children care. Funds were used to pay a portion of the salary for one counselor. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic the advocates were not able to provide services.

#### **Community Garden (Non-Homeless Community Needs)**

- Southwest Louisiana Center for Health Services received funding to provide a community garden in North Lake Charles, a food desert community. Funds were used to pay a stipend to a master gardener and to pay for supplies to help create and maintain the garden. A total of 39

individuals were assisted.

### Infrastructure Improvements

#### South Roosevelt Drainage

Drainage improvements on South Roosevelt Street east to East Roosevelt Street and north approximately 100 feet on Monroe Street. Block Group 1 that envelopes this project had a population of 1,080 people while the surrounding Census Tract (12.02) had a population of 3,335.

#### Asphalt Overlays

Asphalt overlays were done on Woodring, Channel, Adams, N. Cherry, N. Adams, and Booker Streets. Block Group 3 and 5 that envelopes this project had a population of 410 people while the surrounding Census Tract (14) had a population of 5,332.

### Housing Reconstruction

The City's home reconstruction program assisted 4 households with the demolition and subsequent reconstruction of their homes. The City also assisted 2 families with relocation assistance.

## 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     |
|---|------------|----------|
| White                                     | 23         | 0        |
| Black or African American                 | 142        | 6        |
| Asian                                     | 1          | 0        |
| American Indian or American Native        | 0          | 0        |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 4          | 0        |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>170</b> | <b>6</b> |
| Hispanic                                  | 0          | 0        |
| Not Hispanic                              | 0          | 6        |

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

### Narrative

- The table above lists the numbers of beneficiaries by race and ethnicity assisted with HUD-Funded programs in 2019. The numbers reported for ethnicity do not reflect the same count as the total number reported by race. The variances could be attributed to refusal of information, errors at intake, or unwillingness to share information about ethnicity and/or race.

## 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 | 651,664                  | 564,768                             |
| HOME            | public - federal | 495,446                  | 116,987                             |

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

### Narrative

#### Summary of Resources

- Going into PY 19/20, the City of Lake Charles had available a cumulative total of \$394,383.00 of entitlement resources (CDBG and HOME), including available program income and uncommitted carry forward from previous program years. PY 19/20 funds available totaled \$981,953.00, of which \$651,664.00 were CDBG funds and \$330,289.00 were HOME funds. This CAPER reports on all projects that expended funds in the program year, including prior year projects.
- The amounts in Table 3 reflects the amount of funding available in 2019.
- Expenditure of Program Funds**
- \$564,768.00 in CDBG funds was expended in 2019.
- \$116,987.88 in HOME funds was expended in 2019.

### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

| Target Area       | Planned Percentage of Allocation | Actual Percentage of Allocation | Narrative Description                              |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| CDBG Area Benefit | 30                               | 49                              | Street overlays and S. Roosevelt Drainage projects |
| Citywide          | 70                               | 51                              | Public Services, Admin, Home Reconstruction        |

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

### Narrative

### Narrative

The City allocated 70% in available resources for citywide projects. The remaining 30% of funding was allocated for CDBG activities in low-income census tracts, as detailed in Table 4. However, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, several citywide projects were delayed causing our percentages to differ. The City expended 49% on its targeted projects and 51% on its citywide projects.

## 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.

CDBG and HOME funds were used to fund direct assistance programs and did not involve leveraging of funds. Per HOME regulations, HOME grant recipients are required to provide a 12.5% match from nonfederal funds as a permanent contribution to affordable housing activities. The FY 2019 match requirement was \$41,287.00.

| <b>Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match</b>  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year                                 | 6,079  |
| 2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year                        | 41,287 |
| 3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)  | 47,366 |
| 4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year                             | 10,495 |
| 5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4) | 36,871 |

**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 |
| 791  | 10/09/2019           | 308                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 795  | 10/09/2019           | 528                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 797  | 10/09/2019           | 791                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 806  | 10/09/2019           | 1,834                      | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 807  | 10/09/2019           | 734                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 808  | 10/09/2019           | 1,050                      | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 809  | 10/09/2019           | 479                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 810  | 10/09/2019           | 871                        | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 811  | 10/24/2019           | 1,784                      | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |
| 813  | 02/05/2020           | 2,116                      | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       | 0   | 0              | 0           |

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<br>\$             | Amount received during reporting period<br>\$ | Total amount expended during reporting period<br>\$ | Amount expended for TBRA<br>\$ | Balance on hand at end of reporting period<br>\$ |
| 0   | 0   | 0   | 0                              | 0  |

Table 7 – Program Income

| <b>Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period</b> |         |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
|---|---------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|   | Total   | Minority Business Enterprises     |                           |                    |          | White Non-Hispanic |
|   |         | Alaskan Native or American Indian | Asian or Pacific Islander | Black Non-Hispanic | Hispanic |                    |
| <b>Contracts</b>  |         |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
| Dollar Amount   | 168,000 | 0                                 | 0                         | 168,000            | 0        | 0                  |
| Number  | 4       | 0                                 | 0                         | 4                  | 0        | 0                  |
| <b>Sub-Contracts</b>  |         |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
| Number  | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
| Dollar Amount   | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         | 0                  | 0        | 0                  |
|   | Total   | Women Business Enterprises        | Male                      |                    |          |                    |
| <b>Contracts</b>  |         |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
| Dollar Amount   | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         |                    |          |                    |
| Number  | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         |                    |          |                    |
| <b>Sub-Contracts</b>  |         |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
| Number  | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         |                    |          |                    |
| Dollar Amount   | 0       | 0                                 | 0                         |                    |          |                    |

**Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises**

| <b>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</b> |       |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
|--|-------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|  | 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**

| <b>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</b> |       |                                   |                           |                    |          |                    |
|--|-------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 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.**

|  | <b>One-Year Goal</b> | <b>Actual</b> |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units      | 20                   | 151           |
| Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units  | 60                   | 39            |
| Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units | 0                    | 0             |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>80</b>            | <b>190</b>    |

**Table 11 – Number of Households**

|  | <b>One-Year Goal</b> | <b>Actual</b> |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| Number of households supported through Rental Assistance             | 40                   | 130           |
| Number of households supported through The Production of New Units   | 0                    | 0             |
| Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units       | 7                    | 4             |
| Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units | 0                    | 0             |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>47</b>            | <b>134</b>    |

**Table 12 – Number of Households Supported**

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

The lack of quality affordable housing choice can be an impediment to fair housing to foster decent, safe, and affordable housing. The City of Lake Charles will continue to collaborate and partner with local non-profit housing developers, for-profit builders, the Lake Charles Housing Authority, and the residents of the City to measure the needs, discuss the issues and find solutions to problems of the Lake Charles housing market. Through these programs, the City of Lake Charles will work to foster and maintain decent and affordable housing for low-income residents of the City through homeownership, rehabilitation programs,

and new construction projects. The City will promote the transition of low-income families to self-sufficiency through funding support of homeownership programs, which allow an eligible low-income household to choose a home that meets its needs throughout the City.

Some of the problems that have occurred in meeting goals includes: 1) the fact that the housing market has changed, whereby making it difficult to find affordable homes for purchase by first time homebuyers; 2) borrowers having a tougher time getting a mortgage loan and needing higher credit scores and less overall debt; and 3) the lack of housing available for purchase.

**Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.**

The outcomes of the annual goals, as stated in the Annual Action Plan/Consolidated Plan, are aimed at creating the opportunity for adequate, affordable housing for extremely low-to-moderate income persons, encouragement of homeownership, minor home repair, rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family housing, provision of rental assistance, new construction, and development of partnerships. Although the housing market has shifted a bit providing affordable housing opportunities is more difficult as of late. The City will look at our current affordable housing programs and Annual Action Plan goals and make any modifications, as necessary, so that we are able to continue our efforts to meet or exceed our anticipated goals.

**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        | 0           | 2           |
| Low-income                  | 0           | 1           |
| Moderate-income             | 0           | 1           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>0</b>    | <b>4</b>    |

**Table 13 – Number of Households Served**

**Narrative Information**

The City served 4 households through housing reconstruction. The housing reconstruction program was severely impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic. In turn, the Coronavirus Pandemic caused the expenditure of public service funds to be much higher than anticipated.

## **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 City of Lake Charles participates in the local Continuum of Care (CoC). A primary means by which the City assists Calcasieu Parish in reaching out to homeless persons, identifying individual needs, and understanding the landscape of homelessness in the region, is through efficient data collection and analysis through the HMIS system. The City works closely with Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, the lead agency of the CoC, to support operations and ensure accurate tracking and reporting. The CoC continued to recruit non-profit and faith-based organizations, health care agencies and appropriate government agencies into the CoC Network of Services. Most people in serious need do turn to someone or something for help at some point in time. It is essential at that point in time the CoC have as many sources of help engaged as possible in the intake system. The Calcasieu Parish Police Jury continues to work to increase the number of participating agencies in the HMIS system.

Another means of outreach is the 211 system. The 211 system helps the City to provide outreach and refer individuals to the appropriate service providers to meet their needs. The City continues to encourage every local agency to list their information with 211.

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

#### **Assessment of homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) needs**

The Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, as the lead of the CoC, is the primary agency addressing homeless needs in the region. The housing needs of homeless persons and families cannot be completely met by emergency shelters and transitional housing due to a lack of capacity. This has been exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic.

#### **Assessment of emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

Emergency shelters and transitional housing cannot completely meet the needs of homeless persons and families. This lack of capacity has been exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic. The Parish has attempted to address these needs by providing vouchers for emergency stays at local hotels or motels. The Parish supports increasing housing options and self-sufficiency for the homeless and at risk of homelessness by providing support for emergency housing and supportive services for homeless families and individuals, including those recently released from institutions. The Parish also supports the development of transitional housing to provide families with additional supports to regain stability in the community.

**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 primarily assists low-income individuals and families avoid facing homelessness by providing rental assistance through its homelessness prevention activity. Providing assistance to reduce housing costs in conjunction with providing supportive services allows at-risk individuals and families to stay in their homes longer and gives them the chance to regain economic independence. The City also continues to allocate funds towards the activities mentioned above including homeless youth facility renovations, domestic violence emergency shelter, and HMIS program support.

The City also supported low-income individuals and families to avoid becoming homeless by bolstering the supply of affordable housing through its HOME program including housing reconstruction. The Coronavirus pandemic delayed other programs the city funded as a part of its action plan such as homebuyer assistance and CHDO set-asides.

**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 Parish's Social Services/Seniors Section continued to provide prescription and medical assistance and referral services for citizens and seniors. Assistance helps reduce monthly expenditures making housing costs more affordable for individuals and seniors on fixed incomes and helping to reduce homelessness.

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

### **Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

The City continues to work with the Lake Charles Housing Authority (LCHA) to develop and maintain affordable housing. The City supports the goals of the LCHA to optimize services for its public housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs. During PY 19/20, CCHA continued to strive to meet the following goals:

- Expand the supply of assisted housing.
- Improve the quality of assisted housing.
- Increase assisted housing choices.
- Provide an improved living environment.
- Promote self-sufficiency and personal development of assisted households; and
- Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing.

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

The agency has a resident on the Board of Commissioners, actively promotes participation on resident councils, and maintains a Section 3 program that gives residents opportunities to participate in economic opportunities generated by agency development projects. The agency operates a Section 8 homeownership program and works with Project Build A Future to move residents into homeownership. Residents are encouraged to participate in homebuyer counseling classes, which are offered through Project Build A Future and the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury.

### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The Lake Charles Housing Authority is a part of the statewide association of housing authorities, the Louisiana Housing Council, which provides mentoring to new and troubled PHA's in our geographic area.

**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)**

The City of Lake Charles has not found any negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing.

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

The City of Lake Charles has not found any negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing.

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

1. Continue to meet HUD lead-based paint abatement standards in housing rehabilitation programs.
2. Identify additional funding to perform abatement on pre-1978 housing.
3. Seek funding as it becomes available to provide testing and abatement of lead-based paint hazards in single-family housing where young children are present.
4. Expand the stock of lead safe housing units through housing initiatives.

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

The City of Lake Charles provide funding to various programs to help reduce the poverty-level of families. **Catholic Charities** is a program created by the Diocese of Lake Charles that provides rental and utility assistance to low-moderate income citizens. **Down Payment Assistance Program** provides down payment and closing cost assistance to first time homebuyers. **CHDO (Project Build A Future)** Funding is given to this agency to help build homes and provided down payment assistance to those who qualify. **CHDO (Greater Southwest)-** is providing rental apartments for elderly senior citizens.

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

The City of Lake Charles has developed liaisons which local lending institutions, service providers, housing and other public agencies. The relationships have facilitated the development of strategies for providing affordable housing, addressing homeless, and meeting housing needs over the past several years. One of the relationships is continually developing between the City's Administration and the Housing Authority of Lake Charles. This was once considered a gap in structure but is no longer as the relationship continues.

The Lake Charles Housing Authority is the primary public housing provider in the City with the goal of

providing housing to low-income residents. The Lake Charles Housing Authority is a quasi-governmental agency that is organized under state law which mandates it to be independent. A five-member board is appointed by the Mayor of the City of Lake Charles. The Housing Authority hires, contracts, and procures services as an independent agency administered by an executive director who reports to the five-member board. The City and the Housing Authority continually explore areas of mutual benefit.

With input from the City's policies and projects initiated by the Housing Authority, The City participates with the Housing Authority in studies to determine needs and programs to meet those needs. The Housing Authority keep the City informed of its comprehensive development plans. The Housing Authority has on-going programs to include housing residents and programs to involve them in management.

The City of Lake Charles is constantly evaluating its role in community development efforts by addressing unmet needs within the community. Given the extent of the needs and limitations of funding available to address those needs, the identification of potential projects is not difficult. The difficulty lies in trying to prioritize between the competing needs.

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

The City of Lake Charles has partnered with these agencies to enhance the coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies:

**Housing Counseling-** Calcasieu Parish Conseling Agency and A Community Voice

**Education-**Calcasieu Parish School Board; Harbour House-ETC, Literacy Council SWLA

**Housing-** City of Lake Charles, Housing Authority of Lake Charles, Housing Authority of Sulphur, Project Build A Future and Calcasieu Parish Housing Department.

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

1. Disseminating fair housing information and making citizens aware of their rights to fair housing choice.
2. Informing the public of agencies that individuals can contact for assistance in the event that he or she feels they have been discriminated against.
3. The City and other partners will hold an annual fair housing event
4. The City of Lake Charles will continue to administer its programs in a manner which will affirmatively further fair housing.

## **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**

The City of Lake Charles Community Development Department, as the primary City department implementing the Consolidated Plan, conducted thorough financial and programmatic monitoring annually in addition to the annual OMB A-133 (Single Audit) as well as periodic Finance audits. The monitoring process used by the department varies based on the type of program administered; each of the Consolidated Plan grants have separate and distinct regulations and requirements. However, both systems are designed to incorporate a variety of monitoring techniques and approaches in a coordinated effort to assure that all funded activities receive an appropriate level of review, and that regulations specific to the Entitlement grants received are followed.

## **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 City has advertised the availability of the CAPER on the City's Website and the Lake Charles American Press as well as its public meeting as required by the Citizen Participation Plan.

**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.**

None

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

No

**[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.**

## **CR-50 - HOME 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 §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.

Whispering Hope Senior Complex was inspected and the results are noted below:

**Building Maintenance**- Checked the building exterior; in good shape and well maintained.

**Grounds Maintenance**-Checked the grounds; fence and gates were all in good working order and well maintained.

**Unit Maintenance**- Vistited several units and inspected the interior of the apartments; all were clean and well maintained.

**Comments of Client**- Spoke to a few tenants and all were pleased with the facility and staff.

**Staff**- Very friendly and helpful.

**Comments**- The facility has been well maintained and mowing and trimming of the grounds are well manicured. Rent roll was given on each client in the facility.

## **Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)**

The City of Lake Charles markets its affordable housing programs citywide. The city uses the following affirmative marketing procedures to advertise programs, programs funding availability, and to solicit bids and requests for proposals;

- Advertisements in the Lake Charles American Press with citywide circulation
- Newspapers with a targeted audience
- Community meetings
- newsletters
- Notices on the City's Website and Social Media

**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**

NA

**Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing).**

**91.320(j)**

NA