

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

DIVISION OF HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SOCIAL SERVICES

2022 CAPER REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023

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.

For this past program year (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) Middlesex County has achieved many positive actions utilizing CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding, while also facing some challenges.

In the CDBG program, the county allocates almost all of the funding received directly to the participating municipalities in the Urban County. This allows local decision making on annual eligible CDBG projects that best serve each unique municipality. While cap limited, Public Services projects, especially those serving senior citizens, are popular initiatives every year. Many seniors in the county benefiting from programs that delivered meals to them; provided transportation for medical appointments, to senior meetings & activities, and to shopping venues; and provided a plethora of programs and activities geared towards their overall well being. Multiple municipalities also use CDBG funds to make sure the senior center buildings are in good physical condition by funding improvements, including by enhancing ADA access. Our municipalities also use CDBG funds to make park improvements in both Low/Mod eligible census tracts (LMA) and ADA accessibility improvements to parks in other locations. Another popular use of funding by municipalities is public infrastructure improvements, including street & sidewalk improvements and sewer improvements.

The HOME program mainly provides funding to both small and large scale projects that create affordable rental housing, mainly targeted to households at or below 50% area median income (AMI). This is done primarily by new construction or acquisition and rehabilitation of existing housing stock. Still coming out of the pandemic, construction costs remained high as materials uses were impacted by supply chains and caused project costs to increase. This put a damper on new construction as developers of affordable housing had to couple together multiple funding sources to make projects financial feasible to construct. Since the HOME program does not allow a commitment of HOME funds until all the other financing is secure, this greatly impacted the number of HOME projects that could execute an agreement for HOME funds. Projects by smaller developers (primarily non-profits) that usually revolve around purchasing smaller multi-family units and rehabilitation them were also negatively impacted. First, the housing acquisition costs were high for units in better physical conditions requiring less rehabilitation. Also, these same units were in high demand, making it difficult for developers to compete with buyers who could provide a cash offer and/or quicker closing. This led to less than the number of units planned being able to come to fruition during the past year.

Both CDBG and HOME accomplishments were also hampered by county staff capacity to complete funded activities in the IDIS reporting system

prior to the end of the 2022 program year. Some of this was due to delayed reporting of accomplishment data from municipalities for the CDBG program. The county has implemented a new quarterly reporting system for IDIS to better track accomplishments and is working to implement better internal practices to timely report and be able to close out projects in IDIS.

Some of the lack of reported progress on annual action outcome goals and also 5 year strategic plan goals relate to projects being finished, but not fully captured in IDIS reporting system for the report. Program year 2022 reflects the 3rd year of the strategies outlined in the five year Consolidated Plan (2020 - 2024). Some outcomes have already been fully achieved (based on expected outcome units of measure), but others have not been. The county will continue to work towards achieving and reaching the planned strategic outcomes.

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, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$495223	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	50	10	20.00%			
Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$495223	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	0		5	0	0.00%

Code Enforcement	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	500	12329	2,465.80%	500	10255	2,051.00%
ESG Administration	Homeless	ESG: \$	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%			
Fair Housing Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	250	0	0.00%	60	0	0.00%
Fair Housing Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%			
First Time Homebuyer Program	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	0			0	0	
First Time Homebuyer Program	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	75	13	17.33%	28	3	10.71%
General Administration CDBG	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%	1	1	100.00%
HOME Administration	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%	1	1	100.00%
Homelessness Prevention Assistance	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	20	1	5.00%			
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	40		0	28	

Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	60	43	71.67%	12	26	216.67%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Housing for Homeless added	Household Housing Unit	0	0		0	0	
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added	Household Housing Unit	0	0		0	0	
Parks/Recreational Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	5000	47634	952.68%	7000	37474	535.34%
Permanent Housing for the Homeless	Homeless	HOME: \$200000 / ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	15	12	80.00%	10	11	110.00%
Permanent Housing for the Homeless	Homeless	HOME: \$200000 / ESG: \$	Housing for Homeless added	Household Housing Unit	25	0	0.00%			
Public Facilities and Improvement	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2500	10290	411.60%	3000	1375	45.83%
Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	100	14	14.00%	40	0	0.00%

Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	50	0	0.00%			
Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	0	0				
Senior Centers	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1500	700	46.67%	5000	1693	33.86%
Senior Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2500	4945	197.80%	6500	16901	260.02%
Services for persons with Disabilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	200	143	71.50%	100	0	0.00%
Shelter & Transitional Housing	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	4000	729	18.23%			
Special Needs Housing	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	50	0	0.00%			
Special Needs Housing	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	20	0	0.00%			

Street Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	7500	13135	175.13%	2000	3440	172.00%
Tree Planting	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	0	0.00%			
Water/Sewer Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	8000	5620	70.25%	1500	11870	791.33%
Youth Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	150	540	360.00%	200	780	390.00%

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.

CDBG funds are 100% utilized for the benefit of low and moderate income populations and households. High priorities are public improvements like street and sewer improvements; park improvements in low income census tracts and/or that address the removal of architectural barriers; improvements to senior centers; and public services that benefit seniors and disabled persons. Multiple municipalities continued park improvements and senior center improvements. Several municipalities operate public senior services including meal/nutrition programs,

transportation, and senior center programs and activities.

Housing affordability is addressed with CDBG, HOME, and ESG. CDBG funds are used for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation; HOME funds are used primarily for the acquisition, new construction, and rehabilitation of low income rental housing and a smaller amount used for downpayment assistance to income eligible first time homebuyers. ESG funds are utilized to prevent homelessness and to make sure incidents of homelessness are short term and provide housing stability to make sure individuals and families don't re-enter the homeless system.

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	ESG
White	3,890	16	148
Black or African American	815	9	211
Asian	410	2	8
American Indian or American Native	0	1	7
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Total	5,115	28	374
Hispanic	602	9	132
Not Hispanic	4,513	19	242

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

Narrative

The racial and ethnic breakdown of households assisted by the CDBG and HOME programs is fairly consistent with the racial and ethnic breakdown of the Urban County and HOME Consortium. For the ESG program, both Black/African American and Hispanic (of any race) are over represented in the population.

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	1,678,822	1,624,888
HOME	public - federal	1,828,025	1,609,349
ESG	public - federal	0	152,512

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Countywide	100	100	Consortia Municipalities

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

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.

HOME match is traditionally met primarily through other public funds, such as the state Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, the Federal Home Loan Bank of NY, and municipal affordable housing trust funds; plus private funds such as mortgages and owner's equity. The county also provides funding through its Housing First Capital Fund for the creation of permanent housing for homeless households. Publicly owned land is often used to create affordable rental housing in HOME projects, with the donation or discounted land price enabling developers to keep rents low.

CDBG projects will almost always include a local municipal match. For non-profits that receive CDBG funds, they receive additional program funds through other public sources, like the State of NJ or Middlesex County HSAC funding, in addition to private foundations and individual donors. Many of the CDBG funded Public Services projects, especially for seniors and disabled, take place on municipally owned facilities. Other CDBG funded projects, help remove barriers or increase access to existing municipal facilities, including parks and senior centers.

ESG is matched with both non-federal public funding and private donations.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	6,417,042
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	6,417,042
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	6,417,042

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 \$
0	0	0	0	0

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	10	19
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	80	89
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	5	0
Total	95	108

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	10	20
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	40	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	15	82
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	30	6
Total	95	108

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

The main issue with reaching goals was there were less HOME units assisted new construction units this past year and there were also less First Time Homebuyer units than anticipated. The new construction of affordable rental housing was slowed by market conditions following the pandemic, which raised the costs of construction materials and forced developers who had thought they secured adequate funding to start projects to attempt to find additional funding to cover increased in construction costs. For the American Dream Downpayment program, higher housing costs impacted the ability of first time buyers

to enter the market and become homeowners. This is also exasperated by many lower priced single family homes being purchased in cash by investors, who then rent them out, thereby lessening the housing stock available for first time buyers.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

In developing future annual action plans and the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, the county will adjust the expectation of housign development to reflect current market conditions. There is hope that new programs initiated on the State level will aid in the ability to leverage CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to aid the county in facilitating additional affordable housing opportunities.

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	16	11
Low-income	16	13
Moderate-income	6	10
Total	38	34

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The CDBG funded housing rehab programs predominantly serve households at or below 50% AMI. HOME also focuses it rental housing development, whether new construction or acquisition and/or rehabilitation of existing units, to households at or below 50% AMI. The only program that primarily is targeted to persons between 50-80% AMI is the American Dream Downpayment program.

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

Within Middlesex County's Continuum of Care, there are several different outreach teams that work on identifying homeless individuals and families. Raritan Bay YMCA's The Center program (focused primarily in Perth Amboy area), Unity Square Expanded CE (primarily focused in New Brunswick), PATH programs operated by Catholic Charities and by Rutgers UBHC, and SSVF programs for homeless veterans operated by Community Hope and Soldier On. They all work collectively together with coordination done by the Coordinated Assessment team to ensure that all areas of the county receive outreach coverage and that unsheltered persons are continually engaged and offered housing services. There still continued to be an additional focus on engaging with unshelter homeless persons who were at risk of COVID due to age and/or disabilities. The outreach teams worked on connecting them with not only the previously existing services, but with services funded by ESG-CV or other COVID funded programs, including non-congregate sheltering. Street Outreach programs also made sure to provide access to PPE for homeless persons they encountered.

In addition, Middlesex County continues operation of its Coordinated Entry and Assessment program. Through the use of the county's homeless hotline at NJ 211, homeless or those at imminent risk of homelessness are screened for both shelter and eligibility for programs offered by Board of Social Services and other targeted providers, such as DV programs and veterans programs. In addition to this single point of entry, there is really a "no wrong door" policy in that all social service agencies have agreed to allow clients that show up at their door to use the agency phones to call NJ 211. The Coordinated Assessment tool used assesses their needs and prioritizes for shelter and ultimately, permanent housing on the basis of need as defined by length of homelessness, unsheltered status, and presence of disabilities. Unsheltered persons, especially chronically homeless persons, move to the top of the prioritization list for both shelter and for permanent housing opportunities. Two physical sites also helped supplement the work done by 211. This included Raritan Bay Area YMCA's The Center program and Unity Square in New Brunswick. Additional Coordinated Entry physical sites for screening will be implemented in PY2023.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

As stated above, Middlesex County's use of the Coordinated Entry and Assessment system, which was implemented in November, 2015, has prioritized homeless individuals and families for emergency shelter based on need, with chronically homeless, unsheltered and disabling conditions documenting a higher need. This system has replaced individually maintained waiting lists of the different shelters. This has also eliminated the need for clients to constantly check back with multiple shelter

providers and helps ensure that those most in need of shelter are prioritized higher for beds as they come available. All shelter programs put in place protections to address COVID, including plans for clients who needed to quarantine or isolate because of exposure, enhanced cleaning & disinfection, and making PPE available and with a partnership through the local Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), COVID vaccines were offered to clients and staff.

ESG-CV provided the opportunity to create non-congregate sheltering opportunities, which helped encourage some unsheltered persons, who may not have engaged with or wanted placement in a traditional emergency shelter, to be placed in a non-congregate setting. This helped expand our shelter capacity in PY2020 and PY2021 and continued through part of this program year (PY2022.)

Middlesex County has seen a decrease in transitional housing programs within the county as the continuum has been focusing on Housing First. The Housing First principle looks to minimize the amount of time a homeless household spends in shelter or unsheltered homeless and working to move them to permanent supportive housing as quickly as possible. Transitional housing only remains for special populations, like formerly incarcerated and homeless youth. Once housed, services that were provided as part of transitional housing program, are instead linked to the individuals while they are housed.

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

There are multiple Homelessness Prevention programs funded within the county. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen (CCDOM) received funding from many different state and local sources to operate its Multi-Services program, which provides rental arrears, security deposits, utility assistance, and short term rental assistance to help keep households from becoming homeless. Other agencies such as PRAHD and PRAB also have prevention programs. Through the 2-1-1 coordinated entry system, households that are at risk of homelessness are diverted from entering the system and are offered case management services through Coming Home to help them stabilize their housing situation and avoid shelter placement. The federal ERAP funding, which became available towards the end of PY2020 was used by the county and the State of NJ to offer rental assistance to those at risk of eviction due to COVID. These programs continued through a portion of PY2022. Both Catholic Charities and Garden State Home also received grants from the State of NJ for a Diversion program to help provide households at risk of becoming homeless with problem solving and access to some funding to help stabilize them so they don't enter the homeless system.

The CoC, through Coming Home, has engaged with the two largest hospitals in our county on an initiative to identify the most frequent users of those hospitals' Emergency Departments (ED), who are

also homeless for referral into a new program that will provide housing vouchers and case management assistance to provide permanent supportive housing and minimize the need to for ED utilization. While originally a 2 year pilot program, this program has been renewed and continues to serve at least 25 persons with 2 case managers.

DCP&P (state foster care) participates with our CoC and coordinates, as needed, with discharge planning on its clients. The CoC is working on expanding opportunities available to homeless youth and in addition to the Homeless Youth Task Force, has established a Homeless Youth Board, made up of currently or formerly homeless youth.

Many CoC participating agencies focus on serving clients with mental health issues. They are all aware of our prevention programs and work with state mental health facilities when clients are discharged.

The CoC continues to work with a local service provided in our county jail on discharge planning. They are aware of available services. Bail reform has likely helped decrease the number of people who would be incarcerated in the county jail before trial, but there continues to be the issue with incarcerated persons being released by the judge without advance warning, which makes discharge planning very difficult. The CoC also works with NJAC, which operates a transitional housing program in our county for persons released from correctional facilities and offers 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 CoC has within its membership or regularly attending meetings, representation from health care facilities, mental health facilities, the state child protection agency (overseeing foster care), a homeless youth provider, and the local jail. These agencies work with the CoC to establish policies & procedures on discharges to minimize/eliminate discharges into homelessness. The CoC also implemented specific initiatives, such as a partnership with local Workforce Development to aid homeless clients with access to employment trainers. Another initiative is a partnership with a local Medicaid health insurance company so clients can access all available health services offered. The CoC also offers training to its membership and partners on the available mainstream and other resources that are available to clients in the areas of housing, health, social services, employment, education and youth needs. Agencies are also advised that they can also reach out to 2-1-1, which besides providing homeless hotline services, is also a 24/7 information and referral source for all of the previous mentioned needs.

The Coordinated Entry and Assessment system prioritizes chronically homeless individuals and families for both shelter and then for permanent housing opportunities. The three year round shelters operating within the county (Ozanam Men's Shelter, Ozanam Women's Shelter and Women Aware (DV women &

families) all work with their clients to minimize the length of shelter stay and to identify appropriate permanent housing solutions, which may include permanent supportive housing, vouchers, other dedicated homeless permanent units, rapid re-housing financial assistance, or just housing search assistance. The CoC, through Coming Home, has a Landlord Initiative, to educate landlords about homelessness and getting commitments to offer units to homeless individuals and families, with reduced barriers, such as disregarding evictions on credit checks. The Landlord Initiative works with all homeless sub-populations.

The CoC was also able to lease up homeless households utilizing Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) awarded to the Perth Amboy PHA (31) and the NJ Dept. of Community Affairs (over 100).

The County also operates a Veterans Housing Assistance Program (VHAP) that provides homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance to veterans and their families. This program works in conjunction with two SSFV programs operated by Community Hope and Soldier On. The Homeless Youth Task Force works with agency providers on addressing the needs of unaccompanied youth and is currently identifying any gaps in the system.

The CoC through participating in the Built for Zero initiative is more closely monitoring returns to homelessness and identifying any trends to see if its certain populations or certain types of placement that are becoming homeless again. Overall, the CoC recidivism rate is very low and formerly homeless person who stop engaging in services and find themselves at risk of homelessness mostly know to contact the homeless hotline to access prevention services referrals to help maintain their housing. Through a Built for Zero targeted approach, the numbers of chronically homeless individuals and families has drastically declined from the for this program year.

While these services continued operations, the pandemic has greatly affected these efforts. The length of time someone remained homeless has unfortunately increased as there is difficulty in locating affordable housing for homeless persons. The CoC will be working on some new initiatives, using CDBG-CV funding to enhance some services for homeless individuals and families in the area of housing navigation, housing search, and connection to other mainstream resources.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Middlesex County itself does not own or operate any public housing, although its Public Housing Agency provides Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Rental Assistance to over 600 households living in private market rental units, including over 250 Section 8 “portable” clients who have moved in from other jurisdictions.

For the PHA's that do own public housing, the regularly perform routine maintenance to ensure their units meet housing quality standards.

Different PHAs have already taken advantage of or plan to apply for HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. Woodbridge has used RAD to transform their former public housing units into project based units with a public/private partnership. The Edison PHA is also looking at doing a RAD development of its Holmes property.

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

Although Middlesex County doesn't own any public housing, clients participating in the Housing Choice Program, are encouraged to participate in programs for first time homebuyers, including the HOME funded Middlesex County American Dream Downpayment program, State of New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency's first time homebuyer program, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York's first time homebuyer program (formerly known as "First Home Club").

Some PHA's within the county, such as the Housing Authority of Perth Amboy and the NJ Department of Community Affairs, offer the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership program, which provide mortgage assistance instead of rental assistance.

All PHA's within the county have a Rental Advisory Board, which provide input at least on an annual basis, plus also have representation from the PHA residents on their boards.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

There are nine PHA's other than the County program and none to our knowledge were troubled, but if one were, we would offer assistance as needed.

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 county's Planning Board finalized a Master Plan, which is called "Destination 2040". D2040, as it is known, has both a Housing Plan Element and a Land Use Element and includes recommendations on how to address local public policies that serve as barriers to development. D2040 recommendations include creating some boiler plate policies that can be adopted, providing funding incentives and other strategies to have zoning and land use more friendly towards affordable housing development, including how to repurpose existing, but outdated, non-housing structures. Staff from the Division of Housing and Community Development was very active in all aspects of this process, including attending meetings, helping to identify appropriate stakeholders, and establishing goals and priorities. This process helped identify the above challenges very specifically and then proposed not only potential solutions, but also a time frame to accomplish specific objectives.

Some municipalities continue with their plans for what is known as COAH or Mt. Laurel affordable housing units, which can include an set-aside for affordable units for any new construction of multi-family development or the rehabilitation of existing units. Even if it is not mandated, some municipalities will continue to see value in the development of affordable housing or at least not be opposed to such development, while other communities are not as welcoming, or only want to see development of affordable housing for certain preferred populations, like veterans. There seems to be more discussion and more information nationwide about the need for "smarter" development and getting away from single family only zoning. This is part because of the need to develop affordable housing, but also the trend for city living and access to city amenities (restaurants, theaters, arts, museums, parks, etc.) more desirable. The jurisdiction helps to encourage the development of affordable housing, especially for the most vulnerable, by making some capital funding available to develop affordable housing for homeless populations. The county's Housing First Capital Fund (HFCF) has provided \$1M annually for the past 13 years. Projects funded with HFCF are reviewed to see that its housing in a desirable area and has access to amenities and services needed for the population targeted.

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

It is well established through national studies that the incomes of the lowest income households have not kept up with the increase in the cost of living and especially the cost of housing over the last thirty years. This is especially true in a state like New Jersey, with some of the highest housing costs in the nation. Consequently, even with subsidies from Federal and State governments, along with locally-generated resources such as municipal affordable housing trust funds (generated only in growing municipalities), little progress has been made in creating additional housing units affordable to

households below 50% of median income. As Census statistics indicate, many needy households including many elderly, have incomes well below the 50% mark. Large numbers of these very low income households are paying disproportionate amounts of income to sustain their housing, whether they rent or own. Data indicating current levels of need are more fully described in the Middlesex County 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, available at the County Division of Housing and Community Development.

In the face of these obstacles, most of Middlesex County's HOME funding since the program began in 1992 has been dedicated to increasing the supply of housing affordable to renters making 50% or less of the area median income, with some HOME projects committed to rents affordable at incomes of 40% of median. The only HOME funding not committed to very low income renters has been used to assist first-time homebuyers and occasionally for low income owner-occupied rehabilitation

As stated above, the county has for the past 13 years, made \$1M available in capital funding for the development of housing specifically for homeless individuals and families. The county also makes available approximately \$900,000 in annual support grants to local non-profit agencies to assist in the operation of programs serving those most vulnerable in our jurisdiction. Agencies receiving funding include for project serving basic needs, childcare, special needs, and other vulnerable populations. This is in addition to annual CDBG, HOME, ESG and CoC funding.

The county's receipt of funding through the CARES Act, the December 2020 congressional reconciliation, and the American Rescue Plan created an influx of available spending that in addition to immediate pandemic needs, can also be used to assist those populations most impacted or would have the most difficult in recovering from negative economic impacts from the pandemic. Funds were used to assist small businesses, food insecurity programs, and those homeless or at risk of homelessness. More CDBG-CV funds will be spent in future program years assisting those who are homeless more rapidly exit the system through landlord navigation efforts, coupled with increased housing supportive services.

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

At the local level, the Urban County staff Housing Inspectors work closely with municipal officials and landlords to insure the quality of the approximately 600 units of low income housing receiving subsidized rents from the County Public Housing Agency. The Public Housing Agency provides Section 8 Rental Assistance to very low income families, with priority given to families from the sixteen municipalities in the county which do not have their own housing authorities. Each landlord and tenant are given a brochure and paper to sign with information on lead based paint hazards.

Projects funded by HUD funding also have inspections to make sure households aren't placed in units that have lead-paint hazards.

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

To help reduce the number of poverty-level families, care is given that households at or below the poverty level are accessing mainstream and other resources that can help lift them out of poverty, including food stamps, GA & TANF assistance, applying for SSI, accessing Workforce Development programs and Vocational Rehab, access to CoC/ESG and other homeless funding, and for health care and insurance.

The Middlesex County PHA prioritizes its Housing Choice Voucher waiting list for elderly, disabled, and families with minor children and are extremely low income to provide housing stability to poverty-level families. The PHA has also implemented a Moving On program to prioritize some units for homeless households who received a housing voucher or rental assistance connected with services (usually CoC funded), but no longer require supportive services.

The CDBG funds used for social service programs are also mainly targeted to families at, near or below the poverty level. This includes programs for seniors, disabled adults, and children and youth in low income households.

The biggest actions are around programs that prioritize funding for homeless individuals and families at those at risk of homelessness. For at risk households, there are ESG prioritizations around providing rental assistance/homelessness prevention funds to those at most imminent risk of homelessness. A newly funded Diversion program (State DCA funding) has also helped families that don't meet the HUD definition of homeless don't enter the homeless system by providing targeted assistance. The county has also worked with its various advisory boards, like the CoC, Human Services Advisory Council, Mental Health & Addictions Board and various subcommittees of same, to publicize available programs and resources and information on resources is cross-shared through various email lists and by reporting and sharing through the various committees. The county has established the newly named REPLENISH agency (formerly MCFOODS) that is the county's coordinating entity and main provider of food assistance to households with food insecurity. It has used this system to provide information and connections to resources, such as rental assistance programs and other mainstream resources to help families in poverty.

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

The Urban County and HOME consortium staff continued to have much discussion with staff and policy-makers at other governmental levels, with non-profit agencies involved with housing and with homeless housing and service providers. The Urban County's Housing and Community Development Committee provides an active forum for municipal-County contacts on a range of housing and community development issues. Since 1975, the Urban County of eighteen (formerly nineteen) municipalities plus the County has been joined together by intergovernmental cooperation agreements to receive Community Development Block Grant funds. The same holds true for the HOME Investment Partnerships program since 1992. In 1976, Old Bridge joined the Urban County to create a consortium, and in Spring 1998, Edison, Sayreville and Woodbridge signed agreements with the County to join the HOME consortium for FY 1999 and Piscataway joined the HOME consortium in 2021 (after being part of

the Urban County). Only two Middlesex County municipalities - New Brunswick and Perth Amboy - are not part of the consortium; these municipalities receive their HOME funds directly from HUD. Ongoing communication and coordination helps drive policy decisions and provides the opportunity to share information and data with the community.

The jurisdiction works diligently on increasing collaboration among not only different county divisions and departments, but with creating partnerships with our non-profit agencies and private industry. The CoC has done this very well and some of their tools for increased collaboration are being shared and emulated by other divisions or boards in the county. The county has also in the past few years established a new Public and Government Affairs office that works on increased coordination between municipalities, the county, and state officials and agencies. This already established format was very helpful during the recent pandemic response and sharing pertinent information and resources.

As stated above, the county's new Master Plan "Destination 2040" has many concrete objectives to address not only barriers to affordable housing development, but other quality of life elements, including access to transportation, availability of quality jobs & businesses, access to healthcare, and community amenities. Some have time frames for completion over the next 1-3 years, and others that are more substantial have a longer time frame.

The county CoC has begun exploring racial equity and examining if there are racial disparities in access to and provision of services targeting homeless and at risk populations. This work will continue through the next program years.

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

The Middlesex County Housing Continuum of Care Committee (MCHC3) brings together all the homeless housing and service providers in the County to ensure that the Continuum of Care for the homeless or potentially homeless neither has gaps nor is wastefully duplicative. The MCHC3 Committee met monthly during PY2022 and is working actively on reducing homelessness, with Coming Home (the non-profit entity responsible for implementation of the plan to end homelessness.) MCHC3 has continued to encourage collaboration and greater emphasis on performance standards and outcome measures, including in which agencies receive and retain funding. MCHC3 has been operating a Coordinated Entry/Assessment system since PY2015 and an enhanced HMIS system, where agencies are being held more responsible on data quality, completeness, and performance. Additional data is gained through the annual Point in Time Survey. State representatives attend most MCHC3 Committee meetings. Coming Home of Middlesex Inc. continues its work on landlord engagement, to develop more landlords willing to rent to homeless and low income households who would not normally pass their credit checks.

At the local level, the Urban County staff Housing Inspector work closely with municipal officials and landlords to insure the quality of the over 750 units of low income housing receiving subsidized rents

from the County Public Housing Agency. The Public Housing Agency provides Section 8 Rental Assistance to very low income families, with priority given to families from the sixteen municipalities in the County which do not have their own housing authorities.

Urban County staff also participate in the county's Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), which is a committee of both social services providers, government representatives, and community stakeholders. The HSAC evaluates needs for the most vulnerable in our county and also makes recommendations on funding social service agencies through the county's Support Grant program

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

Middlesex County has taken to following actions to address these impediments. First, all rental housing projects provided with HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds are required to serve households with incomes at or below 50% of median. Many of these funded activities also serve senior citizens and special needs populations, which are particularly vulnerable to high housing costs. Per HOME regulations, projects with more than 5 units must have an affirmative marketing plan.

Middlesex County provides CDBG funding to the Puerto Rican Action Board (PRAB) to be the Urban County/HOME Consortium fair housing agency. This non-profit, a HUD certified housing counseling agency, pursues Fair Housing cases which complainants bring to it, seeking to resolve them without recourse to the Federal government if possible. Each Year PRAB conducts numerous outreach workshops to educate the public on fair housing and housing rights in addition to investigate complaints.

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

Middlesex County has monitored program activities to ensure compliance with applicable HUD regulations and requirements, as follows:

Planning: All proposed activities were reviewed for eligibility under statutory and regulatory requirements, and for meeting a need identified in the Consolidated Plan. Activities were assessed as needed to ensure that there was no negative impact on the environment.

Implementation: Fiscal monitoring included review and approval of budgets, compliance with executed grant agreements and contracts, review and approval of vouchers, monthly review of financial reports from the County Comptroller's office, and review of subrecipient audits as required. Inspections were carried out on construction and rehabilitation projects before payment of vouchers. All files were maintained with required documentation.

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.

Each municipality holds a public hearing to obtain citizens comments and then hold another public hearing at their Council meetings. The notices are posted in the newspaper and also send to local organizations and community partners through email distribution lists. This directly leads to which projects are annually funded.

The County then holds at least one and usually two public meetings that are posted in the newspaper. In addition, the county will also post the CAPER reports on the county website. The county website is capable of being translated to several different languages to assist non-English speaking persons. The county will also have a notice about reasonable accommodation for anyone who may need assistance.

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.

There were no changes in the program objectives for the past year. Municipalities submit projects based on their jurisdictions particular need, but a large focus continues to be on services and activities that benefit senior citizens or other populations that are low income, including disabled adults.

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 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.

Projects inspections during this year include The Place at Sayreville, RCHP-AHC properties and Reinhard Manor. No issues were identified in these projects.

No projects due for inspection were not inspected.

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

Middlesex County undertakes the following to ensure compliance with fair housing regulations. Each HOME written agreement contains the affirmative marketing requirements for HOME assisted units, so developers are fully aware of their affirmative marketing obligations. For larger projects (5+ units), an affirmative marketing plan is developed that details outreach and marketing efforts. All marketing materials, whether by PJ or subrecipient contain the Fair Housing logo and are advertised broadly in local newspapers and also on websites. The county's updated website allows for the translation of printed text into approximately 20 different languages. The county continues to look for ways like this to affirmatively further fair housing.

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 only source of HOME program income is for returned funds from the American Dream Downpayment homebuyer program. These funds are used to assist other participants to the American Dream Downpayment program. The majority of the participants usually are moderate income

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)

In an effort to foster and maintain affordable housing, the county prioritizes HOME funding for projects that will create new affordable rental housing or through rehabilitation, extend the term of affordability

of that housing, specifically for household at or below 50% area median income. Middlesex County is a high cost area to live and many households are cost burdened with 34% of the county paying over 50% in income towards housing costs, so the addition or maintenance of low-income rental housing is much needed. Large developers are encouraged to apply for HOME funds to provide an overall small amount of gap financing in large projects, many of which are 100% affordable for people between 30-80% area median income (AMI). So while the HOME assisted units are specifically for those at or below 50% AMI, having HOME funds in the project help create affordable rental housing for moderate income households as well. The county almost always funds at least one Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) project a program year, since many LIHTC projects request HOME funds to address gap financing. The competitive nature of the LIHTC application process usually means that not all those developers who are interested in using HOME funds for a LIHTC project receive awards and we've had some developers have to modify their applications and apply in future years.

The county also funded a Housing First Capital Fund, which is specifically for the creation of dedicated homeless units. Some projects have been able to utilize both HOME and Housing First funds to create units specifically for homeless individuals and families.

CR-58 – Section 3

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

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	0	0	0		
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0		
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0		

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	0	0		
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0	0		
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	0	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	0	0	0		
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	0	0	0		
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents with finding child care.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	0	0	0		
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	0	0	0		
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	0	0	0		
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0	0		

Other.	0	0	0		
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

CDBG and ESG activities fall under the Seciton 3 threshold. Some HOME projects annually do fall under the Section 3 threshold. Staff has begun to implemented additional training to HOME recipients with Section 3 requirements to ensure they are properly complying with Section 3 and documenting same for future reporting.

CR-60 - ESG 91.520(g) (ESG Recipients only)

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

Recipient Name MIDDLESEX COUNTY
Organizational DUNS Number 073133100
UEI
EIN/TIN Number 226002454
Identify the Field Office NEWARK
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance New Brunswick/Middlesex County CoC

ESG Contact Name

Prefix Ms
First Name Melissa
Middle Name
Last Name Bellamy
Suffix
Title Division Head

ESG Contact Address

Street Address 1 County Administration Building
Street Address 2 75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor
City New Brunswick
State NJ
ZIP Code -
Phone Number 7327453025

Extension
Fax Number
Email Address

melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us

ESG Secondary Contact

Prefix
First Name
Last Name
Suffix
Title
Phone Number
Extension
Email Address

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date 07/01/2022
Program Year End Date 06/30/2023

3a. Subrecipient Form – Complete one form for each subrecipient

Subrecipient or Contractor Name
City
State
Zip Code
DUNS Number
UEI
Is subrecipient a victim services provider
Subrecipient Organization Type
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount

CR-65 - Persons Assisted

4. Persons Served

4a. Complete for Homelessness Prevention Activities

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	2
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	2

Table 16 – Household Information for Homeless Prevention Activities

4b. Complete for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	24
Children	24
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	48

Table 17 – Household Information for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

4c. Complete for Shelter

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	261
Children	113
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	374

Table 18 – Shelter Information

4d. Street Outreach

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	0
Children	0
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	0

Table 19 – Household Information for Street Outreach

4e. Totals for all Persons Served with ESG

Number of Persons in Households	Total
Adults	287
Children	137
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	424

Table 20 – Household Information for Persons Served with ESG

5. Gender—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Male	242
Female	181
Transgender	1
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	424

Table 21 – Gender Information

6. Age—Complete for All Activities

	Total
Under 18	137
18-24	36
25 and over	251
Don't Know/Refused/Other	0
Missing Information	0
Total	424

Table 22 – Age Information

7. Special Populations Served—Complete for All Activities

Number of Persons in Households

Subpopulation	Total	Total Persons Served – Prevention	Total Persons Served – RRH	Total Persons Served in Emergency Shelters
Veterans	7	0	1	6
Victims of Domestic Violence	25	0	1	24
Elderly	11	0	1	10
HIV/AIDS	5	0	0	5
Chronically Homeless	239	0	11	228
Persons with Disabilities:				
Severely Mentally Ill	146	0	8	138
Chronic Substance Abuse	39	0	1	38
Other Disability	34	0	11	23
Total (Unduplicated if possible)	267	0	23	244

Table 23 – Special Population Served

CR-70 – ESG 91.520(g) - Assistance Provided and Outcomes

10. Shelter Utilization

Number of New Units - Rehabbed	0
Number of New Units - Conversion	0
Total Number of bed-nights available	41,245
Total Number of bed-nights provided	39,180
Capacity Utilization	94.99%

Table 24 – Shelter Capacity

11. Project Outcomes Data measured under the performance standards developed in consultation with the CoC(s)

Bed utilization for shelter program was higher than the past few years.

Performance goals were general met. HP & RRH clients did not have recidivism. The length of time homeless for shelter clients was longer than the performance standard, but that is to be expected based on the current lack of affordable housing, very low vacancy rate, and also that the ESG funded shelter agency, Catholic Charities, does prioritize chronic homeless persons for shelter placement. Because of the myriad of needs, this makes it difficult to exit quickly into permanent housing. When clients do exit the shelter into permanent housing (with and without a subsidy) they remain successfully housed and very few re-enter the homeless system within 1 year.

CR-75 – Expenditures

11. Expenditures

11a. ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2020	2021	2022
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Prevention under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	0	0	0
Subtotal Homelessness Prevention	0	0	0

Table 25 – ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

11b. ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2020	2021	2022
Expenditures for Rental Assistance	63,751	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance	0	0	0
Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services	0	0	0
Expenditures for Homeless Assistance under Emergency Shelter Grants Program	0	0	0
Subtotal Rapid Re-Housing	63,751	0	0

Table 26 – ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

11c. ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2020	2021	2022
Essential Services	0	0	0
Operations	71,000	0	0
Renovation	0	0	0

Major Rehab	0	0	0
Conversion	0	0	0
Subtotal	71,000	0	0

Table 27 – ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

11d. Other Grant Expenditures

	Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year		
	2020	2021	2022
Street Outreach	0	0	0
HMIS	0	0	0
Administration	17,761	0	0

Table 28 - Other Grant Expenditures

11e. Total ESG Grant Funds

Total ESG Funds Expended	2020	2021	2022
	152,512	0	0

Table 29 - Total ESG Funds Expended

11f. Match Source

	2020	2021	2022
Other Non-ESG HUD Funds	0	0	0
Other Federal Funds	17,939	0	0
State Government	118,000	0	0
Local Government	0	0	0

Private Funds	16,574	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0
Total Match Amount	152,513	0	0

Table 30 - Other Funds Expended on Eligible ESG Activities

11g. Total

Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities	2020	2021	2022
	305,025	0	0

Table 31 - Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities

Attachment

Public Notice ü Affidavits of Publication

PUBLIC NOTICE

Middlesex County (Urban County and HOME Consortium) 2022 CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report)

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires each jurisdiction receiving certain HUD funds complete and submit an annual performance report called the CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report).

The 2022 CAPER covering the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 has been prepared and the has opened up a public comment period on this report through Thursday, October 26, 2023 and will be submitted to HUD with any received comments on or after October 27, 2023..

The 2022 CAPER delineates used of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program for this time period. Residents of and agencies serving the 18 Urban County municipalities (CDBG and HOME) and Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge (HOME only) are encouraged to review the report. The cities of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy are not part of either the Urban County or HOME Consortium because they received their own direct allocation from HUD, but are included in ESG only.

To review the CAPER report, interested parties can find a link at the county's website for the Division of Housing and Community Development at:

<http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Pages/Housing/Housing%20and%20Social%20Services.aspx>

or by going to www.middlesexcountynj.gov and searching for "Housing and Community Development".

Interested parties can also receive a copy of the report by emailing
melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us

Comments or questions on the CAPER report can be submitted to
mellissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us through Thursday, October 26, 2023.
(\$66.20)

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Brown County

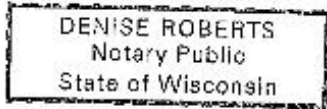
Personally appeared A Kokott at County of Brown, State of Wisconsin.

Of the Home News Tribune, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in East Brunswick, in State of New Jersey and Middlesex County, and of general circulation in Middlesex County, who being duly sworn, depose and say that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in said newspaper in the issue:

10/11/2023

Denise Roberts
Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of Brown
4-6-21

My commission expires




 New York/New Jersey
 GANNETT

Agency:
 G MR. GUIKOFF MIDDLESEX CTY HOUSIN
 Middlesex Cty Housing
 1 John F Kennedy SQ
 New Brunswick NJ 08901-2149
 Acct: 1120455

Client:
 G MR. GUIKOFF MIDDLESEX CTY
 HOUSIN
 Middlesex Cty Housing
 1 John F Kennedy SQ
 New Brunswick NJ 08901-2149
 Acct: 1120455

This is not an invoice

Order #	Advertisement / Description	Columns x Lines x Insertions	Rate per Lines	Cost
8382185	PUBLIC NOTICE Middlesex County (Urban County and HOME Consortium) 2022 CAPER (2 x 40.00 x 1	\$0.39	\$66.20
		Net Total Due:		\$66.20

Check #: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION BY RECEIVING AGENCY
 I, HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS, CERTIFY AND
 DECLARE THAT THE GOODS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED OR THE
 SERVICES RENDERED AND ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
 SPECIFICATIONS OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS, AND SAID
 CERTIFICATION IS BASED ON SIGNED DELIVERY SLIPS OR
 OTHER REASONABLE PROCEDURES OR VERIFIABLE
 INFORMATION.

SIGNATURE: *M. Re*

TITLE: Division Head DATE: 10/13/23

CERTIFICATION BY APPROVAL OFFICIAL
 I CERTIFY AND DECLARE THAT THIS ORDER CONFIRMATION IS
 CORRECT, AND THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO
 SATISFY THIS CLAIM. THE PAYMENT SHALL BE CHARGEABLE
 TO:

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT(S) AND AMOUNTS CHARGED: P.O.# _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

CLAIMANT'S CERTIFICATION AND DECLARATION
 I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND CERTIFY UNDER THE PENALTIES OF THE LAW THAT THIS ORDER CONFIRMATION IS CORRECT IN
 ALL ITS PARTICULARS, THAT THE GOODS HAVE BEEN FURNISHED OR SERVICES HAVE BEEN RENDERED AS STATED HEREIN; THAT
 NO BONUS HAS BEEN GIVEN OR RECEIVED BY ANY PERSON OR PERSONS WITHIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CLAIMANT IN
 CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE CLAIM; THAT THE AMOUNT HEREIN STATED IS JUSTLY DUE AND OWING; AND THAT THE AMOUNT
 CHARGED IS A REASONABLE ONE.

Date: 10/13/2023

Signature: *Amy Kolcott*

Federal ID #: 061032273
Official Position: Clerk

Kindly return a copy of this order confirmation with your payment so that we can assure you proper credit.

Home News Tribune
 New Jersey Press Media Solutions
 P. O. Box 677599 Dallas, TX 75267-7599

AVISO PÚBLICO
Condado de Middlesex (Condado Urbano y Consorcio HOME)
CAPER 2022 (Informe Anual Consolidado de Evaluación del Desempeño)

El Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés) requiere que cada jurisdicción que recibe ciertos fondos de HUD complete y presente un informe anual de desempeño llamado CAPER (Informe Consolidado de Evaluación de Desempeño Anual).

Se ha preparado el CAPER 2022 que cubre el período del 1 de julio de 2022 al 30 de junio de 2023 y se ha abierto un período de comentarios públicos sobre este informe hasta el jueves 26 de octubre de 2023 y se enviará a HUD con cualquier comentario recibido a partir del 27 de octubre de 2023.

El CAPER 2022 delinea el uso de la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG), el Programa de Asociaciones de Inversión (HOME) y el programa de Subvención para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG) para este período de tiempo. Se anima a los residentes y agencias que prestan servicios en los 18 municipios urbanos del condado (CDBG y HOME) y Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge (solo HOME) a revisar el informe. Las ciudades de New Brunswick y Perth Amboy no forman parte del Consorcio del Condado Urbano ni del Consorcio HOME porque recibieron su propia asignación directa de HUD, pero solo están incluidas en ESG.

Para revisar el informe de CAPER, las partes interesadas pueden encontrar un enlace en el sitio web del condado para la División de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario en:

<http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Pages/Housing/Housing%20and%20Social%20Services.aspx>

o yendo a www.middlesexcountynj.gov y buscando "Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario".

Las partes interesadas también pueden recibir una copia del informe enviando un correo electrónico a melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us

Los comentarios o preguntas sobre el informe CAPER se pueden enviar a melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us hasta el jueves 26 de octubre de 2023.
(\$70.10)

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Brown County

Personally appeared A Kokott of County of Brown, State of Wisconsin.

Of the Home News Tribune, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in East Brunswick, in State of New Jersey and Middlesex County, and of general circulation in Middlesex County, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in said newspaper in the issue:

10/11/2023

Denise Roberts

Notary Public, State of Wisconsin, County of Brown

4-6-27

My commission expires:

DENISE ROBERTS
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

Agency:
 G MR. GUIKOFF MIDDLESEX CTY HOUSIN
 Middlesex Cty Housing
 1 John F Kennedy SQ
 New Brunswick NJ 08901-2149
 Acct: 1120455

Client:
 G MR. GUIKOFF MIDDLESEX CTY
 HOUSIN
 Middlesex Cty Housing
 1 John F Kennedy SQ
 New Brunswick NJ 08901-2149
 Acct: 1120455

This is not an Invoice

Order #	Advertisement / Description	Columns x Lines x Insertions	Rate per Lines	Cost
9382264	AVISO PÚBLICO Condado de Middlesex (Condado Urbano y Consorcio HOME) CAPER 202	2 x 46.00 x 1	\$0.39	\$70.10
		Net Total Due:		\$70.10

Check #: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION BY RECEIVING AGENCY
 I, HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS, CERTIFY AND
 DECLARE THAT THE GOODS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED OR THE
 SERVICES RENDERED AND ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
 SPECIFICATIONS OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS, AND SAID
 CERTIFICATION IS BASED ON SIGNED DELIVERY SLIPS OR
 OTHER REASONABLE PROCEDURES OR VERIFIABLE
 INFORMATION.

SIGNATURE: *M. Dely*

TITLE: Division Head DATE: 10/26/23

CERTIFICATION BY APPROVAL OFFICIAL
 I CERTIFY AND DECLARE THAT THIS ORDER CONFIRMATION IS
 CORRECT, AND THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO
 SATISFY THIS CLAIM. THE PAYMENT SHALL BE CHARGEABLE
 TO:

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT(S) AND AMOUNTS CHARGED: P.O.#

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

CLAIMANT'S CERTIFICATION AND DECLARATION:
 I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND CERTIFY UNDER THE PENALTIES OF THE LAW THAT THIS ORDER CONFIRMATION IS CORRECT IN
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Date: 10/13/2023 Federal ID #: 061032273

Signature: *Angie Kolcott* Official Position: Clerk

Kindly return a copy of this order confirmation with your payment so that we can assure you proper credit.

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Citizen Participation Comments

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

2022 CAPER

The public comment period was from October 12, 2023 through October 26, 2023. A Public Notice, in both English and Spanish, was in the Home News Tribune on October 11, 2023 and the county's website also published the comment period next to the 2022 draft CAPER report.

No comments were received by email or mail.

2022 ESG CAPER Report



Submission Overview: ESG: CAPER

Report: CAPER

Period: 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023

Your user level here: Data Entry and Account Admin

Step 1: Dates

7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023

Step 2: Contact Information

First Name **Melissa**
Middle Name **A**
Last Name **Bellamy**
Suffix
Title
Street Address 1 **75 Bayard Street**
Street Address 2
City **New Brunswick**
State **New Jersey**
ZIP Code **08901**
E-mail Address **melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us**
Phone Number **(732)745-3025**
Extension
Fax Number **(732)745-4117**

Step 4: Grant Information

Emergency Shelter Rehab/Conversion

Did you create additional shelter beds/units through an ESG-funded rehab project

No

Did you create additional shelter beds/units through an ESG-funded conversion project

No

Data Participation Information

Are there any funded projects, except HMIS or Admin, which are not listed on the Project Links and Uploads form? This includes projects in the HMIS and from VSP No



Step 5: Project Outcomes

Project outcomes are required for all CAPERS where the program year start date is 1-1-2021 or later. This form replaces the narrative in CR-7D of the eCon Planning Suite.

From the Action Plan that covered ESG for this reporting period copy and paste or retype the information in Question 5 on screen AP-90: "Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG."

There are separate performance standards for the Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing activities funded by ESG.

For Emergency Shelter activities:

>30% will move to permanent housing.
< 20% remain homeless or are discharged to 'unknown'
Average length of stay is < 60 days=
At least 54% will maintain or increase income by program exit
At least 56% will maintain or obtain non-cash benefits by program exit
At least 18% will have employment income by program exit (for all staying at least 30 days)

For Prevention activities:

>50% will maintain or obtain permanent housing

For Rapid Re-housing activities:

>85% will remain housed for 6 months or obtain other permanent housing
< 10% exiting rapid re-housing return to homelessness
85% will maintain or increase income at program exit or annually
40% of non-SSI/D adults will be employed at program exit or annually

The ESG programs are being evaluated based on performance standards adopted by the local Continuum of Care. The ESG program is operated in great consultation with the continuum and is integrated in the homeless system.

Based on the information from the Action Plan response previously provided to HUD:

1. Briefly describe how you met the performance standards identified in A-90 this program year. If they are not measurable as written type in N/A as the answer.

The performance standards for the ESG program represent the ideal goals for a program, but in monitoring and evaluating the subrecipients performance, the County factors in other influences or factors impacting performance.

For Shelter the agency consistently meets the standards around moves to permanent housing, "unknown" discharges, maintain or increase income and non-cash benefits, and having employment income.

For Prevention, the maintaining permanent housing goal is consistently met each program year.

For Rapid Re-housing, the standards are also consistency met.

2. Briefly describe what you did not meet and why. If they are not measurable as written type in N/A as the answer.

The only standard not successfully met this past program year was the Shelter standard for average length of stay to be less than 60 days. This standard has not regularly met and was not met during these past year or previous several years.

While the less than 60 days represents the desired performance standard, both the County and the CoC recognize that the subrecipient's failure on meeting this standard goes beyond their own performance and is impacted by system gaps, mainly the lack of affordable housing for homeless persons with extremely low, low, and even moderate income.

The County and the CoC will continue to work on growing permanent housing opportunities for homeless individuals and families and is working on providing some supports to clients in having successful housing placements.

OR

3. If your standards were not written as measurable, provide a sample of what you will change them to in the future? If they were measurable and you answered above type in N/A as the answer.

N/A

Step 6: Financial Information

ESG Information from IDIS

As of 3/22/2024

FY	Grant Number	Current Authorized Amount	Funds Committed By Recipient	Funds Drawn	Balance Remaining	Obligation Date	Expenditure Deadline
2023	E23UC340103	\$147,551.00	\$0	\$0	\$147,551.00	8/8/2023	8/8/2025
2022							
2021	E21UC340103	\$166,757.00	\$166,757.00	\$115,845.73	\$50,911.27	11/12/2021	11/12/2023
2020	E20UC340103	\$170,997.00	\$168,270.49	\$150,778.88	\$20,218.12	1/19/2021	1/19/2023
2019	E19UC340103	\$157,532.00	\$157,532.00	\$157,532.00	\$0	8/22/2019	8/22/2021
2018	E18UC340103	\$146,399.00	\$133,088.45	\$133,088.45	\$13,310.55	10/3/2018	10/3/2020
2017	E17UC340103	\$145,915.00	\$104,819.47	\$104,819.47	\$41,095.53	10/19/2017	10/19/2019
2016	E16UC340103	\$146,045.00	\$100,510.00	\$100,510.00	\$45,535.00	8/3/2016	8/3/2018
2015	E15UC340103	\$141,811.00	\$81,945.78	\$81,945.78	\$59,865.22	9/30/2015	9/30/2017
Total		\$1,453,870.00	\$1,143,786.19	\$1,075,383.31	\$378,486.69		

Expenditures	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
							FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for					
							Non-COVID COVID		Non-COVID COVID					
Homelessness Prevention														
Rental Assistance														
Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance														
Relocation and Stabilization Services - Services														
Hazard Pay (unique activity)														
Landlord Incentives (unique activity)														
Volunteer Incentives (unique activity)														
Training (unique activity)														
Homeless Prevention Expenses							0.00 0.00		0.00 0.00					
							FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for					
							Non-COVID COVID		Non-COVID COVID					
Rapid Re-Housing														
Rental Assistance							30,000.00		33,751.28					
Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance														
Relocation and Stabilization Services - Services														
Hazard Pay (unique activity)														
Landlord Incentives (unique activity)														
Volunteer Incentives (unique activity)														
Training (unique activity)														
RRH Expenses							30,000.00 0.00		33,751.28 0.00					
							FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for					
							Non-COVID COVID		Non-COVID COVID					
Emergency Shelter														
Essential Services														
Operations							25,500.00		45,500.00					
Renovation														
Major Rehab														
Conversion														
Hazard Pay (unique activity)														
Volunteer Incentives (unique activity)														
Training (unique activity)														
Emergency Shelter Expenses							25,500.00 0.00		45,500.00 0.00					
							FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for					
							Non-COVID COVID		Non-COVID COVID					
Temporary Emergency Shelter														

Essential Services				
Operations				
Leasing existing real property or temporary structures				
Acquisition				
Renovation				
Hazard Pay (unique activity)				
Volunteer Incentives (unique activity)				
Training (unique activity)				
Other Shelter Costs				
Temporary Emergency Shelter Expenses		0.00		0.00
		FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for
		Non-COVID	COVID	Non-COVID
				COVID
Street Outreach				
Essential Services				
Hazard Pay (unique activity)				
Volunteer Incentives (unique activity)				
Training (unique activity)				
Handwashing Stations/Portable Bathrooms (unique activity)				
Street Outreach Expenses		0.00	0.00	0.00
		FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for
		Non-COVID	COVID	Non-COVID
				COVID
Other ESG Expenditures				
Cell Phones - for persons in CoC/YHDP funded projects (unique activity)				
Coordinated Entry COVID Enhancements (unique activity)				
Training (unique activity)				
Vaccine Incentives (unique activity)				
HMIS				
Administration		10,073.49		7,687.49
Other Expenses		10,073.49	0.00	7,687.49
		FY2020 Annual ESG Funds for		FY2019 Annual ESG Funds for
		Non-COVID	COVID	Non-COVID
				COVID
Total Expenditures		65,573.49	0.00	86,938.77
Match		65,574.00		86,939.00
Total ESG expenditures plus match		131,147.49		173,877.77

Total expenditures plus match for all years

Step 7: Sources of Match

	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	FY2018	FY2017	FY2016	FY2015
Total regular ESG plus COVID expenditures brought forward	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,573.49	\$86,938.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total ESG used for COVID brought forward	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total ESG used for regular expenses which requires a match	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,573.49	\$86,938.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Match numbers from financial form	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,574.00	\$86,939.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Match Percentage	0%	0%	0%	100.00%	100.00%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Match Source	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	FY2018	FY2017	FY2016	FY2015
Other Non-ESG HUD Funds									
Other Federal Funds					17,939.00				
State Government				59,000.00	59,000.00				
Local Government									
Private Funds				6,574.00	10,000.00				
Other									
Fees									
Program Income									
Total Cash Match	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="65,574.00"/>	<input type="text" value="86,939.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Non Cash Match									
Total Match	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="65,574.00"/>	<input type="text" value="86,939.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>

Step 8: Program Income

Program income is the income received by the recipient or subrecipient directly generated by a grant supported activity. Program income is defined in 2 CFR §200.307. More information is also available in the ESG CAPER Guidebook in the resources tab above.

Did the recipient earn program income from any ESG project during the program year? No