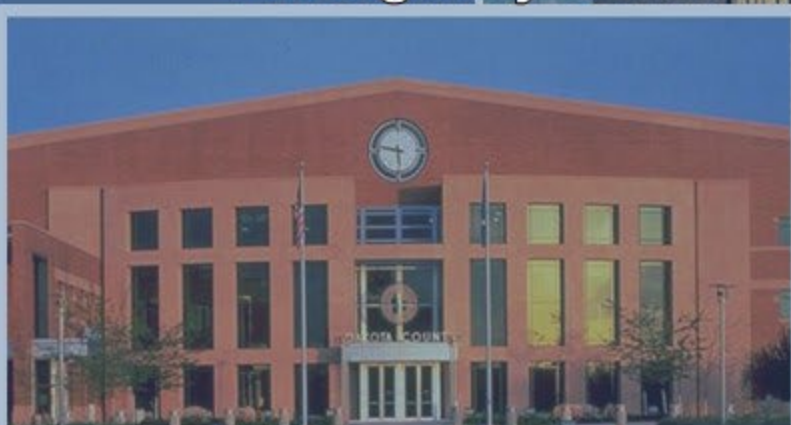


DAKOTA COUNTY ANNUAL ACTION PLAN Program Year 2023 Executive Summary

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)



Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

In order to receive federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Dakota County is required to prepare a Consolidated Plan, as well as subsequent Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs), for the following entitlement programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME); Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Currently, Dakota County does not receive any HOPWA funds.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Annual Action Plan (Action Plan) is the fourth year of Dakota County's Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024 (Con Plan) as ratified by the Dakota County Board of Commissioners and approved by HUD.

The Con Plan lays out the objectives, priority goals and outcomes Dakota County has established to provide decent affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expand economic opportunities principally for low-and moderate-income households over the next five-year period. In the Action Plan, Dakota County identifies the proposed programs and projects to be undertaken during the 2023 program year to achieve the objectives and outcomes established in the Con Plan.

The CDA has administered the federal funds on behalf of Dakota County since the County became an entitlement jurisdiction in 1984. Each of the three entitlement programs has eligible activities in which the funds can be utilized. The CDA is charged with ensuring the requirements are met and will continue to provide the administrative guardianship of all three programs through its agreement with the County.

Dakota County is designated as the lead agency for the Dakota County HOME Consortium and assumes the role of monitoring and oversight of the HOME funds for the Consortium, which includes the counties of Anoka, Dakota, Ramsey, and Washington, and the city of Woodbury. As the grantee of CDBG funds, Dakota County directly works with the various municipalities (municipal subrecipients) within the County to provide access to this funding stream. The CDA provides the managerial oversight of the numerous activities implemented with HOME, CDBG, and ESG resources.

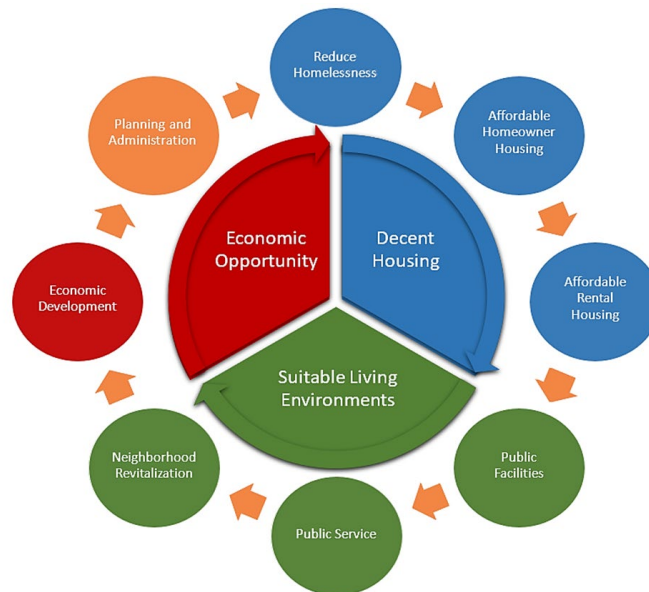
2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

With the outcomes established by Congress in mind and guided by the mission statements of Dakota County and Dakota County CDA, the following objectives were identified to achieve the housing and community development needs of Dakota County communities and its residents.

1. Increase the affordable housing choices for low-and moderate-income households.
2. Preserve and improve existing housing to maintain affordability.
3. Increase access and quality of living by providing public services and supporting public facilities.
4. Support community development that revitalizes neighborhoods and removes safety and blight hazards.
5. Support economic development that enhances the workforce and businesses.
6. Support planning efforts that address the housing, community and economic development needs of Dakota County and continue to foster partnerships with community stakeholders.

The priority goals and the strategies to achieve the desired outcomes of decent housing, suitable living environments and economic opportunity were then formulated to serve the broad range of households, and to provide benefit to as many persons possible given the parameters of the funding programs.



The following chart details the strategies from the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

2020-2024 Consolidated Plan - Dakota County							
Objective		Priority	Strategy		Outcome		
6	Support planning efforts that address the housing, community and economic development needs of Dakota County and continue to foster partnerships with community stakeholders.	1	Increase the affordable housing choices for low-and moderate-income households.	Reduce Homelessness	a. Support the implementation and operation of coordinated access entry sites for families, youth and singles b. Support housing stabilization initiatives for homeless populations c. Support the operation of emergency shelter facilities	Planning and Administration a. Support all of the goals and strategies with planning and administration	• 200 Households provided Rapid Re-housing Assistance • 100 People assisted with Homeless Prevention initiatives
				Affordable Rental Housing	a. Assist households to secure housing through new construction b. Improve energy efficiency of rental units c. Rehabilitate and preserve affordability in multifamily units d. Support fair housing activities		• 360 Rental Units constructed • 20 Rental Units rehabilitated
		2	Preserve and improve existing housing to maintain affordability.	Affordable Homeowner Housing	a. Increase supply of affordable homeowner housing b. Improve energy efficiency of owner-occupied housing units c. Rehabilitate and preserve affordability in single family units d. Support fair housing activities		• 300 Homeowner Units rehabilitated • 6 Homeowner Units (re)constructed
				Public Facilities	a. Assist in the development of centers and recreational parks b. Assist LMI homeowners with street assessments c. Improve accessibility for Public Facilities in compliance with ADA d. Improve sidewalk accessibility and safety in compliance with ADA		• 13,000 Persons benefited from public facility or infrastructure improvement
		3	Increase access and quality of living by providing public services and supporting public facilities.	Public Services	a. Support programs that fulfill basic needs (food and shelter) for people who are low-income and/or homeless b. Support programs for youth c. Support programs for seniors d. Support transportation services		• 15,000 Persons benefited from public services
				Neighborhood Revitalization	a. Address vacant or substandard properties that may or may not be suitable for rehab b. Address water and sanitation hazards c. Address contamination clean up issues		• 150 Households assisted • 3 Buildings demolished
		4	Support community development that revitalizes neighborhoods and removes safety and blight hazards.	Economic Development	a. Support work initiatives that assist residents to access living wage jobs b. Support initiatives that help low-income people gain work skills, jobs and employment history c. Provide financial assistance to businesses to address building deficiencies (exterior façade improvements)		• 20 Workforce Trainees

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

Dakota County and the Dakota County HOME Consortium consistently perform well in the administration of the three grant programs discussed in this Plan. In the CDBG program, one regulatory measure used by HUD to evaluate performance is the timeliness ratio test. This formula measures the amount of an entitlement community's unexpended funds 60 days prior to the start of the next program year in relation to the amount of funding it receives; the ratio cannot exceed 1.5. Dakota County's timeliness ratio is measured on May 2nd each year. On March 17, 2023, the Dakota County ratio was 1.47.

The HOME program uses commitment and expenditure deadlines to measure performance. Dakota County has met all deadlines.

The ESG program uses drawdown requirements to measure performance. Dakota County has made consistent drawdowns of ESG funds.

While these financial tests are required and are measurements of performance, it is also important that projects and programs carried out with these funds meet outcome expectations and benefit eligible persons. Reporting on outcomes and beneficiaries is made available each year in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). Dakota County and the CDA recognize that the evaluation of past performance is critical to ensuring the County and its subrecipients are implementing activities effectively and that those activities align with the overall strategies and goals listed in the Con Plan. The performance of programs and systems are evaluated on a regular basis.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The development timeline and process of the Action Plan was discussed at the annual CDBG workshops held on November 17, 2022. These workshops are for municipalities and townships to help them with the CDBG application process and to better understand the rules of the CDBG program. Each municipality is required to formally apply for CDBG funding and request funding for activities that would best serve their community needs. Applications were provided to city and township staff on November 17, 2022 and were required to be submitted to the CDA by January 20, 2023.

CDA staff regularly attend the monthly meetings held by the Affordable Housing Coalition and consulted the members of the coalition regarding the Annual Action Plan. The discussion and feedback were helpful to determine the actions needed to meet the

goals of the Con Plan. Members of the Affordable Housing Coalition also reviewed and made comments on the ESG Written Standards. These comments were incorporated into the Written Standards prior to the Action Plan public hearing on April 25, 2023.

CDA staff consulted with following Dakota County departments and divisions: Community Services, Physical Development, Workforce Development, Environmental Resources, and the Office of Planning specific to the activities that could be potentially funded with CDBG funds. An internal e-mail was sent to various County Departments to apply for 2023 funding with the same application deadline as the municipalities. The Physical Development Committee of the Whole reviewed the staff-recommended 2023 Countywide activities on February 21, 2023.

To continue the community engagement process once the proposed objectives and outcomes had been identified, CDA staff presented the plan to the community and its stakeholders in the following manner:

1. Presentations (February 2023-May 2023) – The Dakota County CDA presented a draft of the priorities and the established goals at the following venues:
 - A Consortium-wide presentation to the public (February 22). No members of the public attended.
 - The Affordable Housing Coalition reviewed the ESG activities at a regularly scheduled meeting (February 9).
 - The Physical Development Committee of the Whole reviewed the Action Plan at a regularly scheduled meeting (March 21).
2. Public Hearing and Comment Period (March 2023 – April 2023) – A 36-day public comment period was opened on March 16, 2023 and ran through April 21, 2023. Public notices were published in the *Dakota Tribune* and the *Star Tribune*, as well as on the websites of Dakota County, the Dakota County CDA, and the cities in Dakota County (only the public hearing notice was posted on cities' websites). A public hearing was held on April 25, 2023 at the Dakota County Board of Commissioners meeting. The Dakota County HOME Consortium members each held their own public hearings.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

A public meeting that included all HOME Consortium members was held on February 22, 2023. No members of the public attended. The public hearing for the Dakota County Action Plan was April 25, 2023. No comments were received. The public comment period was open for a period of 36 days. No comments were received.

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

No comments were received from the public meeting on February 22, at the public hearing on April 25, or during the public comment period that was open from March 16 to April 21 for 36 days.

7. Summary

Dakota County and the HOME Consortium members were allocated approximately \$4.76 million between CDBG, HOME and ESG for FY 2023. Dakota County will receive a little over \$3 million in grant allocations, with the largest being CDBG.

The other members of the Dakota County HOME Consortium will work with their respective elected Boards for approval of the non-HOME funds.

For the 2023 program year, Dakota County has set funding for 40 activities to take place either within a specified city or on a Countywide basis. The breakout is 31 activities are funded with CDBG, five activities are funded with ESG, and four activities are funded with HOME including program administration. The following activity statement and graphs detail the intended uses (activities) of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds for FY 2023. Also included in the activity statement is the reallocation of older HOME funds from Anoka and Ramsey counties to new and existing activities; the reallocation of funds are substantial amendments to the 2020, 2021 and 2022 Action Plans. However, the reallocation of funds does not affect the FY 2023 funding levels.

Dakota County FY 2023 CDBG/HOME/ESG Activity Statements

Final CDBG Budget with 2.77% (\$52,962) increase from FY 2022

Final HOME Budget with 2.38% (\$62,715) decrease from FY 2022

Final ESG Budget with 2.86% (\$4,797) increase from FY 2022

FY 2023 Dakota County CDBG Activity Statement

Small Cities and Townships:

City/Township	Project	2023 Budget
Empire	Planning & Admin – Parks Master Plan	\$ 20,000
New Trier	Planning & Admin – Update City Ordinances	\$ 20,000
Vermillion Twp	Planning & Admin – Subdivision Ordinance	\$ 15,000
	Total	\$ 70,000

Large Cities:

City	Project	2023 Budget
Apple Valley	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 139,492
	Public Service - DARTS Senior Chore Service	\$ 21,000
	Total	\$ 160,492

City	Project	2023 Budget
Burnsville	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 183,335
	Public Service - Burnsville Youth Collaborative	\$ 53,000
	Total	\$ 236,335

City	Project	2023 Budget
Eagan	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 131,841
	Public Service - Pre-School Program	\$ 10,000
	Public Service - Youth After School Programs	\$ 15,000
	Public Service - DARTS Senior Chore Services	\$ 5,000
	Public Service - Senior Services	\$ 10,000
	Total	\$ 171,841

City	Project	2023 Budget
Farmington	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 42,130
	Public Service - Senior Services	\$ 5,000
	Total	\$ 47,130

Dakota County 2023 CDBG Activity Statement Cont'd.

City	Project	2023 Budget
Hastings	Assessment & Abatement	\$ 61,029
	Total	\$ 61,029

City	Project	2023 Budget
Inver Grove Heights	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 117,077
	Total	\$ 117,077

City	Project	2023 Budget
Lakeville	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 88,272
	Planning & Admin – Economic Development Plan	\$ 15,000
	Public Service - Senior Transportation	\$ 25,000
	Public Service - Senior Services	\$ 20,000
	Total	\$ 148,272

City	Project	2023 Budget
Mendota Heights	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 20,675
	Total	\$ 20,675

City	Project	2023 Budget
Northfield	Public Service - Downpayment Assistance	\$ 21,000
	Housing Rehabilitation Program	\$ 31,720
	Total	\$ 52,720

City	Project	2023 Budget
Rosemount	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 37,534
	Total	\$ 37,534

City	Project	2023 Budget
South St. Paul	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 83,418
	Total	\$ 83,418

City	Project	2023 Budget
West St. Paul	Home Improvement Loan Program	\$ 115,494
	Total	\$ 115,494

Dakota County 2023 CDBG Activity Statement Cont'd

Countywide	Project	2023 Budget
Dakota County	Home Improvement Loan Estimated Revolving Loan	\$ 400,000
	Planning & Admin - CDA General Grant Administration	\$ 235,416
	Countywide Home Improvement Loan	\$ 234,367
	Countywide Well Sealing Grants	\$ 65,000
	Planning & Admin – Fair Housing (Landlord Training)	\$ 5,000
	Public Service - Housing Counseling	\$ 100,000
	FY2023 CDBG Total Final Budget	\$ 1,961,800
	FY2023 CDBG Small Cities/Townships	\$ 70,000
	FY2023 CDBG Countywide	\$ 404,367
	FY2023 CDBG Grant Administration	\$ 234,367
	FY2023 CDBG Final Budget w/ estimated RL	\$ 2,361,800

FY 2023 Dakota County HOME Consortium Activity Statement

Participating Jurisdiction	Project	2023 Budget
Anoka County 23.55% Share	Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 364,666.00
	Affordable Rental Housing (from Woodbury)	\$ 71,426.00
	Affordable Homeowner Housing	\$ 100,000.00
	Affordable Rental Housing Program Income (from Woodbury)	\$ 2,890.26
	Community Housing Development Organization - Rental	\$ 92,933.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 48,609.00
	Total	\$ 680,524.26

Participating Jurisdiction	Project	2023 Budget
Dakota County 36.81% Share	Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 626,300.00
	Affordable Homeowner Housing	\$ 100,000.00
	Rental Housing – Program Income	\$ 29,782.82
	Community Housing Development Organization - Rental	\$ 145,260.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 138,400.00
	Grant Administration – Program Income	\$ 3,372.73
Total	\$ 1,043,115.55	

Participating Jurisdiction	Project	2023 Budget
Ramsey County 23.15% Share	Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 456,774.00
	Affordable Rental Housing – Program Income	\$ 91,829.26
	Community Housing Development Organization - Rental	\$ 91,355.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 45,677.00
	Grant Administration – Program Income	\$ 7,652.43
	Total	\$ 693,287.69

Participating Jurisdiction	Project	2023 Budget
Washington County 12.87% Share	Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 253,939.00
	Community Housing Development Organization - Rental	\$ 50,788.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 25,394.00
Total	\$ 330,121.00	

Dakota County HOME Consortium 2023 Activity Statement (Cont'd)

Participating Jurisdiction	Project	2023 Budget
City of Woodbury 3.62% Share	Community Housing Development Organization - Rental	\$ 14,285.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 5,000.00
	Total	\$ 19,285.00

Consortium Totals	Project	2023 Budget
	Grant Administration	\$ 263,080.00
	HOME Projects	\$ 1,973,105.00
	Community Housing Development Organization	\$ 394,621.00
	Prior Year Program Income	\$ 135,527.50
	FY 2023 HOME Total Grant	\$ 2,630,806.00
	FY 2023 HOME Total Grant and Program Income	\$ 2,766,333.50

Dakota County HOME Consortium Budget Amendments	Budget
Anoka County Affordable Rental Housing - 2020	\$ 618,901.24
Anoka County Affordable Rental Housing - 2021	\$ 504,598.15
Anoka County Affordable Rental Housing - 2022	\$ 495,438.69
Anoka County Affordable Homeowner Housing - 2020	\$ 385,000.00
Anoka County Affordable Homeowner Housing - 2021	\$ 100,000.00
Anoka County Affordable Homeowner Housing - 2022	\$ 100,000.00
Ramsey County – Gladstone - Affordable Rental Housing - 2021	\$ 197,472.41

FY 2023 Dakota County ESG Activity Statement

Dakota County	Activity	2023 Budget
	Emergency Shelter Operations	\$ 98,167.00
	Rapid Re-Housing	\$ 20,000.00
	Homelessness Prevention	\$ 32,912.00
	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	\$ 4,105.00
	Grant Administration	\$ 12,583.00
	FY 2023 ESG Total Budget	\$ 167,767.00