
**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: 2008-2009 CDBG, HOME, AND ESG Funding Recommendations and 30-Day Public Comment Period

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

DIVISION: Community Assistance

AUTHORIZED BY: David Medley

CONTACT: Buddy Balagia

EXT: 2389

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Community Development Office (CD Office) staff to publish the list of recommended funded activities for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, American Dream Downpayment Initiatives (ADDI) Program and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program. These activities, proposed to be funded under the 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan of the 2005-2009 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, require a 30-day public comment period prior to final approval by the Board in July 2008.

County-wide

Buddy Balagia

BACKGROUND:

On February 24, 2008 the Community Development Office published a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), soliciting applications for funding under the 2008-2009 Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program. Proposals were due by March 17, 2008, and two (2) proposals were received.

The Application Review Team (ART), consisting of two (2) Community Assistance staff members, the executive director of the Sharing Center, Inc., and the executive director of the Homeless Services Network of Central Florida, Inc. met on April 9, 2008 to discuss the proposals and to develop a recommendation of proposed activity funding for submittal to the Board for approval.

CDBG funding recommendation proposals from Community Assistance staff are a result of previously approved funding by the Board for the City of Sanford Westside Recreational Facility Expansion, continuation of funding for Lockhart's Subdivision Potable Water Installation, continued funding for public service activities for medical assistance and childcare assistance, and proposals for two (2) new public services activities for rental assistance and utility assistance.

The County is required by Federal regulation to publish its proposed list and to solicit public comment for a 30-day period. Upon Board approval for publication, staff will establish the 30-day period from May 26 through June 25, 2007. Staff will return to the Board on July 22, 2008 for final approval of the 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan and to obtain approval to submit the Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) no later than August 15, 2008.

Attached is the list of activities recommended for 2008-2009 funding. Total funding of \$4,028,807 includes the 2008-2009 CDBG allocation of \$2,386,570, and reallocated funds

from previous years totaling \$441,463 for total CDBG funding of \$2,828,033, the HOME allocation of \$1,085,290, the ADDI allocation of \$8,959, and the ESG allocation of \$106,525.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Community Development Office (CD Office) staff to publish the list of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program, American Dream Downpayment Initiatives (ADDI) Program and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program activities proposed to be funded under the 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan of the 2005-2009 Five-Year Consolidated Plan for a 30-day public comment period, prior to final approval by the Board in July 2008.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Activities for Funding
2. May 25 2008 ad

Additionally Reviewed By:

County Attorney Review (Arnold Schneider)

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FUNDING
2005-2009 CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2008-2009 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN**

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Total Allocation: \$2,828,033 (2008-2009 allocated funds of \$2,386,570 and previous years reallocated funds of-\$441,463)

City of Sanford: Westside Recreation Facility Expansion - \$300,000

On July 24, 2007 the Board approved funding in the amount of \$700,000 for 2007-2008 and pre-approved 2008-2009 funding in the amount of \$300,000 for total CDBG funding in the amount of \$1,000,000. There is \$2,500,000 committed leveraging from the City and the Boys and Girls Club, and approximately \$200,000 from CPH Engineers for in-kind pro-bono services. The City has begun performance of this as required by the existing Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Sanford and the County.

Lockhart's Subdivision Potable Water Installation– \$1,692,734

This will fund the construction of the installation of the potable water system for the Lockhart's Subdivision CDBG service area. This activity will involve the installation of approximately 27,050 feet of pressurized potable water lines. If additional funding is necessary to complete this project in 2008-2009, available CDBG funding remaining from completed projects shall be reallocated to this project.

Planning & Administration - \$477,314

A total of \$477,314 is recommended for planning and administrative activities of the CD Office, which includes staff and operating expenses, and professional and consulting services for the implementation of projects and activities.

Public Services – \$357,985

The following activities are recommended for public services:

Child Care Assistance - \$117,765

The Community Assistance Division will continue to provide this service to income-eligible households with subsidized child care assistance. Some of the CDBG funding for this activity will be used in conjunction with the Seminole County Community Development Office's HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Self-sufficiency Program.

Medical Assistance - \$132,845

The Community Assistance Division will continue to provide this service to provide medical assistance to income-eligible persons on a County-wide basis.

Rental Assistance - \$84,655

This service will be provided by the Community Assistance division, to income eligible households who have fallen behind on rental payments and have received notice of eviction for non-payment of rent. The household must be able to display its ability to resume timely rental payments as a result of receiving assistance.

Utility Assistance - \$22,720

This service will be provided by the Community Assistance division, to income eligible households who have fallen behind on utility payments and are in peril of losing vital utilities such as electric, water, sewer, etc. The household must be able to display its ability to resume timely utility payments as a result of receiving assistance.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program - Total Allocation: \$1,085,290

CHDO Homeownership or Rental Housing - \$676,762

HOME funds are statutorily required to be awarded to a County-certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). The funds will be granted to a CHDO that will provide affordable homeownership or rental opportunities to income eligible households.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) - \$300,000

It is recommended that the TBRA Program continue to be funded to provide rental assistance to extremely low and very low income households. Assistance will continue to be targeted for the County's Self-Sufficiency Program, or for elderly or disabled households.

Administration - \$108,528

A total of \$108,528 is recommended for planning and administrative activities of the CD Office, which includes staff and operating expenses, and professional and consulting services for the implementation of projects and activities.

American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) Program-Total Allocation: \$8,959

Down Payment Assistance - \$8,959

As required by Federal regulation, this program assists first time homebuyers with down payment assistance. ADDI will be used in conjunction with SHIP down payment assistance funds to assist in providing subsidies for lower income households.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program Total Allocation: \$106,525

[NOTE: according to the ESG regulations, grantees are allowed to use up to 30% of their annual ESG allocation for homelessness prevention, and the remainder is to be used for operating and maintenance expenses for emergency shelters. The CD Office allocates ESG funds accordingly.]

Homeless Prevention - \$31,957

The Community Assistance Division will continue to provide homeless prevention services for households under threat of eviction or foreclosure, to provide utility assistance to prevent the disruption of utilities, and/or for security deposit assistance for rental housing. The statutory dollar-for-dollar match will be provided by in-kind services and costs of the Community Assistance Division.

Rescue Outreach Mission: Homeless Assistance - \$59,568

It is recommended that the Mission be funded for operating and maintenance expenses. The Mission provides meals and emergency homeless shelter services to homeless persons. The grant is matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by various grants, financial donations, and professional services.

SafeHouse of Seminole: Homeless Assistance - \$15,000

It is recommended that SafeHouse be funded for operating and maintenance expenses. SafeHouse provides emergency homeless shelter services and provides shelter to victims of spousal abuse. The grant is matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by various grants, financial donations, and professional services.

**2005-2009 FIVE-YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN
PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS FOR THE 2008-2009 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Notice to Citizens:

Seminole County is a recipient of federal grant funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These grant funds include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, the Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program, and the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) Program. These programs assist the County's lower income and homeless residents. HUD has consolidated all of the local planning and citizen participation requirements for these federal programs into a single administrative process called "The Consolidated Plan."

Consolidated Plan Summary:

The Proposed Consolidated Plan represents the combined efforts and solicitation of ideas from County staff, County residents, local organizations, social service providers and a public hearing. The County also used the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (Plan) approved by the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners and HUD to design activities and projects in conformance with the goals established in the Plan. Based on this information and analysis, the County developed the following 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan.

The proposed use of funds for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2008 is:

CDBG Program:

Sanford: Westside Recreation Facility Expansion	\$ 300,000
Lockhart's Subdivision Potable Water Installation	\$1,692,734
Child Care Assistance	\$ 117,765
Medical Assistance	\$ 132,845
Rental Assistance	\$ 84,655
Utility Assistance	\$ 22,720
Planning & Administration	<u>\$ 477,314</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$2,828,033</u>

This total includes the 2008-2009 CDBG allocation of \$2,386,570, plus an additional \$441,463 in unexpended funds from cancelled previous years CDBG projects (Seminole Work Opportunity Program New Building \$100,000, Grove Counseling Building Rehabilitation \$100,000, and Bookertown Community/Education Center \$241,463). This publication also constitutes a Consolidated Plan amendment to reallocate those CDBG funds accordingly to the proposed CDBG 2008-2009 use of funds.

HOME Program:

CHDO Homeownership or Rental Housing	\$ 676,762
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 300,000
Planning and Administration	<u>\$ 108,528</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$1,085,290</u>

ESG Program:

Homelessness Prevention	\$ 31,957
SafeHouse of Seminole: Homeless Shelter Assistance	\$ 15,000
Rescue Outreach Mission: Homeless Shelter Assistance	<u>\$ 59,568</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 106,525</u>

ADDI Program:

Down Payment Assistance	\$ 8,959
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Thirty-Day Public Comment Period:

There will be a 30-day public comment period regarding the County's 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan. Public comments will be received at the Seminole County Community Development Office until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 25, 2008. During this period, the One-Year Action Plan will be in draft form and will be available for public review at the Community Development Office, Reflections Plaza, 534 W. Lake Mary Boulevard, Sanford, Florida 32773, and at all branch libraries. Public comments will be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners prior to their July 22, 2008 meeting.

Final Action:

Final approval of the One-Year Action Plan will be made on July 22, 2008 at the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Contact Information:

Contact: Buddy Balagia, CD Project Manager at 665-2389 (fax: 407-665-2399), or address e-mails to: bbalagia@seminolecountyfl.gov. Mailing address is above. The County will respond within fifteen days, in writing, to all public comments received.