

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.

In 2023-24 the City of Rochester completed its transition out of a period of pandemic recovery to normal operations, and executed the planned projects and programs as detailed in the 2023-24 Annual Action Plan. As illustrated below, the City met and exceeded its outcome targets for the vast majority of the goals outlined in the plan. This table does not capture the significant accomplishments the City achieved to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus with CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds awarded to the City via the CARES Act. However, accomplishments achieved through both the regular and HOPWA-CV program are reflected in the table below.

A separate attachment is included with a full account of the CARES act spending and 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.

Annual Action Plan Goal	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected 5-Year Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	2023-24 Expected	2023-24 Actual	Percent Complete
Demolish dilapidated structures	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	500	172	34%	80	72	90%
Housing and services for persons with HIV/AIDS and	HOPWA: \$	Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added	Household Housing Unit	675	459	68%	216	131	61%

Annual Action Plan Goal	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected 5-Year Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	2023-24 Expected	2023-24 Actual	Percent Complete
Improve Public Facilities	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	22445	100%	1	0	N/A
Improve Public Infrastructure	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	9680	100%	0	19,300	100%
Improve quality of housing stock	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	725	582	80%	135	121	90%
Improve quality of housing stock	CDBG: \$	Rental Housing Unit Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	19	160	842%	8	1	13%
Increase access to homeownership	HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	400	171	43%	50	37	74%
Increase supply of affordable housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	85	131	154%	16	164	31%
Increase supply of affordable housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	125	193	154%	11	336	3055%

Annual Action Plan Goal	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected 5-Year Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	2023-24 Expected	2023-24 Actual	Percent Complete
Increase supply of affordable housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	60	6	10%	5	5	100%
Increase supply of affordable housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	20	20	100%	13	1	8%
Program administration	CDBG: \$ / HOPWA: \$ / HOME: \$	Other	Other	15	9	60%	3	3	100%
Provide City planning	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	5	3	60%	1	1	100%
Provide Homelessness prevention and homeless housi	ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	550	511	93%	83	131	158%
Provide Homelessness prevention and homeless housi	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	7500	8070	108%	1000	1508	151%
Provide Homelessness prevention and homeless housi	ESG: \$	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added	Beds	0	251	100%	30	144	480%

Annual Action Plan Goal	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected 5-Year Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	2023-24 Expected	2023-24 Actual	Percent Complete
Provide Homelessness prevention and homeless housi	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	250	252	101%	60	67	112%
Provide Homelessness prevention and homeless housi	ESG: \$	Other	Other	375	4761	1270%	0	2537	N/A
Provide public services	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	320050	217461	68%	6250	102802	1645%
Provide public services	CDBG: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	10920	959	9%	2269	2152	95%
Revitalize business/commer cial areas	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	36	35	97%	7	9	129%
Provide economic and workforce development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	50	35	70%	7	7	100%
Provide economic and workforce development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	240	120	50%	90	20	22%

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

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

The City appropriates its CDBG funds to provide critical services and programs, including housing, public services for senior citizens and youth residents, economic development, slums and blight remediation, and public works. Each of these programs primarily impacts and benefits the City of Rochester’s low- and moderate-income population.

The City met or exceeded its 2023-24 outcomes targets for people benefiting from public infrastructure improvements, rental units constructed, rental units rehabilitated, homeowner units constructed, businesses assisted, people provided public services for topics other than housing, and people provided homelessness prevention and homeless housing services.

The City continually assesses program outcomes and works to further explore and address any areas where outcomes are not meeting stated goals. The City always works to ensure that these limited federal dollars are producing the maximum impact for the Rochester community.

Below, we highlight the many programs implemented by the Department of Recreation and Human Services (DRHS), who work tirelessly to innovate on our programs to meet the needs of city youth.

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds cont. 1

DRHS's current priorities for CDBG public services funding focus on programs and services that promote youth employment readiness, career development, positive youth development, and civic engagement. In the 2023-24 CDBG program year, DRHS employed 328 youth through the Summer of Opportunity Program, as well as through school-year jobs and internships. Additionally, DRHS provided youth employment training to 181 participants and placed them with 46 employers across 62 host sites during the summer of 2024. Some of these employers will continue to collaborate with DRHS to offer employment and internship opportunities to youth throughout the upcoming school year (September – June). DRHS was able to continue to provide youth entrepreneurship and arts education offerings through the ROC Paint Division mural arts crew. This project traditionally engages Rochester youth and local professional artists to create, develop and install both small and large scale, interior and exterior public arts projects. This year the team focused on the creation of large scale mural installation at Adams Street R-Center, Avenue D R-

Center, Frederick Douglass R-Center, and Phillis Wheatley Library as well as arts education activities for youth at these R-Centers.

DRHS continued to support science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) educational opportunities through the STEAM Engine allocation. The STEAM Engine consists of two separate program offerings, the Rec on the Move STEAM Engine and the ROCmusic program. Rec on the Move/STEAM Engine, which served 3,930 participants during the 2023-24 program year, is a free mobile recreation program that incorporates a STEM focus in everyday play in underutilized parks and green spaces in Rochester. ROCmusic is an after-school year-round community-based music enrichment program that provides free access to music instruction, instruments, ensemble experiences, and performance opportunities. The program focuses on classical, contemporary, and cultural music through instrumental music instruction on orchestral strings (violin, viola, cello, bass), brass (trumpet, trombone), and rhythm section (bass guitar, keyboard, drum set, studio production) instruments. ROCmusic also includes Gospel Choir and African Drumming electives. In addition to instruction, students have special access to guest artists and local cultural events, with transportation and meals arranged at no additional cost to the students or families. In the 2023-24 program year, ROCmusic served 147 youth ages 6 to 18. Generally, programs are offered at the David F. Gantt, Frederick Douglass, Edgerton, and Jackson R-Centers, with a few satellite opportunities at School 19/Lightfoot R-Center and East High School. DRHS also continued delivery of the Youth Voice One Vision youth leadership board, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Youth Voice One Vision provides youth-led civic engagement support to Rochester youth ages 12 to 25 participating in DRHS leadership training programs. CDBG funding was utilized to support staff to coordinate youth civic and community engagement opportunities such as: advising the Rochester Police Chief while being exposed to various sections of the Rochester Police Department (career pathways), working with the community to influence and make policy changes that impact Rochester's youth, creating youth mental health workshops (grant from the Wilson Foundation), developing a leadership curriculum for the youth leadership groups in the recreation centers and other leadership programs within the City, partnership with Nazareth University Community Youth Development Program (learning/creating leadership workshops for youth leaders), attending/planning various Summits hosted by the National League of Cities, Dale Carnegie of Rochester Training (public speaking and communication skills), partnership with the Project Management Institute at the University of Rochester (learning project management skills & and being exposed to summer internship opportunities), leadership skills development including social and interpersonal skills, conflict resolution, event planning, service learning, team building, and decision-making.

DRHS also expanded its environmental education program offerings through youth focused workshops at R-Centers and City park locations as well as family friendly programming including bike rides, nature hikes, and guided paddles on the Genesee River. A highlight of DRHS environmental programming was a new year-round series called the Flower City Feeling Good Series (FCFG) focused on getting youth and families outside and active. Activities in the series were inspired by the City's Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (COBOR), which outlines various experiences in nature that every child in the City should have access to, to gain more exposure to the natural world. To help achieve this goal,

DRHS staff offered free weekly bike rides, nature hikes, park stewardship events and guided paddles in City parks and greenspaces. During the 2023-24 program year, DRHS engaged 2,339 participants with environmental education focused programming.

The City of Rochester is dedicated to providing equitable access to high-quality parks and DRHS acts as a steward and champion of our City parks, playgrounds, and green spaces. In addition to investments in public services, DRHS also utilizes CDBG funds to make investments in parks infrastructure. During the 2023-24 program year, DRHS, in partnership with the City's Department of Environmental Services, breaking ground on a capital improvement project at Norton Village Playground, and continued development of projects at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park and Lower Maplewood Park. The Norton Village Playground project consists of the demolition and complete re-design of the playground and green space at the site. These upgrades include the installation of new, state of the art playground equipment and additional trees, benches and trash receptacles throughout the park.

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	HOPWA
White	2565	225	984	33
Black or African American	4465	280	2737	78
Asian	490	2	14	2
American Indian or American Native	3	5	21	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0	15	0
Total	7524	507	3771	113
Ethnicity:				
Hispanic	1621	187	702	30
Not Hispanic	5903	330	3890	101

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

Narrative

HOME race and ethnicity data is collected with the additional categories Other multi-racial, Black/African American & White, American Indian/Alaskan Native & White, Asian & White. However, these categories are not included in the top portion of the chart above, but 30 individuals identified themselves in these categories. As such, there were actually a total of 537 people served by HOME.

ESG data, as collected by the City's subrecipients, includes additional categories for Multiple Races, and Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused. As of 2023 it also now counts Hispanic status as if it were a equal to a race as opposed to an ethnicity overlay, which is different than how the rest of HUD's reporting counts Hispanic status. This makes the ESG reporting data somewhat incompatible with the categories in the top portion of the chart above. Not captured in the top portion of the chart above were 702 individuals identified themselves as Hispanic, 93 who identified themselves as Multiple Races, and 26 individuals identified themselves as Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused with our subrecipients. As such, there were actually a total of 4,592 people served by ESG.

HOPWA data is collected with Other - Multi-Racial as an option and this option is not provided in the

table above. Eighteen (18) individuals identified as Other - Multi-Racial. As a result, there are an additional 18 individuals served that are not included in the top portion of the above chart count, making a total of 131 individuals served under the HOPWA program.

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	\$8,532,502	\$9,431,556.80
HOME	public - federal	\$2,910,094	\$1,708,515.93
HOPWA	public - federal	\$1,125,914	\$1,189,047.56
ESG	public - federal	\$718,502	\$686,296.38
TOTAL		\$13,287,012	\$13,015,416.67

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The amount expended column data was determined by reviewing all IDIS vouchers for ESG, HOPWA, CDBG, and HOME funds expended between 7/1/2023 and 6/30/2024. In 2020-21, program expenditures for CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA were significantly impacted by the programs launched by the City through the CARES Act. These emergency programs assisted people who were impacted by COVID-19. Due to the emergency nature of the programs and needs of the community, these CARES Act programs were at times prioritized over the City's existing, non-emergency program operations and funding. In 2021-22, focus returned to the spending of regular HUD funds and the City caught up with the backlog. 2023-24 spending totals remained just slightly higher than normal, but overall the financial information shows that the City has returned to business as usual. Any source which shows spending more than available means that they City is doing a good job of spending down older funding balances from prior years.

Please note: CARES Act funding, expenses, and accomplishments are not reflected in the above chart or elsewhere in the main CAPER document, with the exception of HOPWA-CV. A separate attachment is included at the end of this CAPER with a full account of the CARES act spending and outcomes.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
CDBG Eligible	1	0	Other
City-wide	99	100	City-wide

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

N/A

Leveraging

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

The City’s HOME program typically leverages significant funding when used for affordable rental housing projects where the City’s HOME investment tends to be 3 – 5% of the project’s total development costs. Similarly, the City’s use of HOME funding to assist low-to-moderate income households to become homeowner’s, leverages purchase mortgages – whether they are funded/insured with the NYS SONYMA or FHA mortgage programs, or through local, regional or national financial institutions. The City of Rochester was exempted from the HOME Match requirement for the 2023-24 program year due to the City’s high poverty rate.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	11,476,096
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	1,648,504
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	13,124,504
 	
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	13,124,504

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
472 Tremont St	11/07/2023	\$6,000	0	0	0	0	0	\$6,000
32 Widman St	12/20/2023	\$6,000	0	0	0	0	0	\$6,000
42 Widman St	12/20/2023	\$6,000	0	0	0	0	0	\$6,000
619 Norton St	3/11/2024	\$6,000	0	0	0	0	0	\$6,000
270 on East Apts	9/23/2023	\$1,500,000	0	0	0	0	0	\$1,500,000
56 Thomas St	7/18/2023	\$59,270	0	0	0	0	0	\$59,270
14 Dudley St	4/19/2024	\$33,355	0	0	0	0	0	\$33,355
15 Dudley St	4/19/2024	\$31,879	0	0	0	0	0	\$31,879

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 beginning 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 \$
356,030.80	221,422.68	3000	0	574,453.48

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	\$89,218,632.00	0	0	0	0	\$89,218,632.00
Number	2	0	0	0	0	2

Sub-Contracts						
Number	88	0	0	15	1	72
Dollar Amount	\$89,218,632.00	\$-	\$-	\$14,372,195.74	\$3,320.00	\$74,843,116.26

	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male
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Contracts			
Dollar Amount	\$89,218,632.00	0	\$89,218,632.00
Number	2	0	2

Sub-Contracts			
Number	88	19	69
Dollar Amount	\$89,218,632.00	\$7,501,238.50	\$81,717,393.50

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	
Dollar Amount	\$89,218,632.00	0	0	0	0	\$89,218,632.00
Number	2	0	0	0	0	2

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	83	131
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	238	663
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	216	143
Total	537	937

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	299	274
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	27	168
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	72	458
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	50	37
Total		937

Table 11 – Number of Households Supported

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

HOME figures for households assisted include additional units in the supported development projects that were not directly supported by the City's HOME funds, but are still long-term regulated affordable housing units financed via Low Income Tax Credit or similar programs, with income limits up to 80% AMI.

The City of Rochester, along with its community and housing development partners, continues to experience a number of challenges stemming from the COVID – 19 pandemic that, along with staffing

changes and organizational changes, affected the number of HOME funded activities reported as completed during the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Pandemic related funding through the CARES act and related program administration work-loads continued to be affected. Issues experienced by partner agencies, such as supply chain issues, continued increasing costs for construction materials due to significant inflation. This added to the City's challenges, though production planned for the program year was achieved.

The City's Home ownership and rental projects that included either new construction of units, or rehabilitation of units, again continued to experience delays that have happened during the global pandemic, for multiple reasons, affecting many aspects of development projects. HOME Rochester, the City's primary CHDO activity and program, continued to struggle to find available appropriate single-family homes to rehabilitate for homeownership. While the national and NYS foreclosure moratoriums expired, the primary pipelines for this type of property did not substantially increase the number of homes suitable and available for the program. Additionally, the City of Rochester's property foreclosure auction for the 2022 year did not result in a substantial number of single-family houses to be acquired by the Rochester Land Bank or the City of Rochester for this type of home ownership program. The City of Rochester continued to experience extremely high levels of demand for tax-foreclosure properties, in addition to private market properties, which contributed to program partners' reduced success in acquiring properties for the program, while proving to be much more expensive for those that were able to be acquired.

Rental development projects have continued to experience some construction related delays, with general contractor challenges that tended to relate to ongoing challenges in finding workers to fill job positions, as well as inflation related cost increases in materials.

Rental projects: Two affordable rental housing projects are reported as completed for fiscal year 2023-24. The Edna Craven Estates project consists of 164 units of affordable rental housing, including 5 HOME assisted units and 40 units of supportive housing contained in seven buildings on three sites in northeast Rochester. There are eight (8) units affordable to households with income of up to 30%AMI, 38 units affordable up to 50% AMI, 58 units affordable up to 60% AMI and 20 units affordable up to 80% AMI. The project includes 37 one-bedroom, 96 two-bedroom, 24 three-bedroom, and five (5) four-bedroom apartments. The supportive housing units are set aside for individuals and families with mental illness, and survivors of domestic violence, and receive rental subsidies and support services funded through NYS agencies. Also included in this rental community are property management and support services offices, a business/computer center, exercise room, and a community center. Total development cost was \$49,308,270, with the City of Rochester contributing a HOME loan of \$1,000,000, a shelter-rent PILOT and sale of land for the project. The South East Tower Project undertook the rehabilitation of the former Manhattan Square rental development, including upgrades to all major mechanical systems and apartments. The 336 units were preserved as affordable rental housing in center city Rochester and provide 317 units that are affordable for households up to 50% AMI, and 19 units affordable for

households up to 60% AMI. Total Development cost was \$119,327,548 and includes a \$1.4 million HOME loan and a shelter rent PILOT from the City.

Home ownership program: The home purchase activities completed in 2023-24 were lower than planned. The local ongoing “sellers’ market” continues, with high levels of purchaser competition that contribute to another significant jump in median sales prices that has affected many city neighborhoods. While there is continued high demand, interest rates have increased and inflation is adding to purchasers’ financial challenges related to successful home purchase.

Rental Assistance - Many people who were served in the 2023-24 program year were still dealing with the economic impacts of COVID-19. Any individuals and families that were served through ESG CARES Act funding are not counted as beneficiaries in this report. Individuals and families served through HOPWA Cares Act funds are counted as beneficiaries in this report.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City of Rochester will continue to assess planned vs. actual numbers.

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	35	246
Low-income	47	47
Moderate-income	39	38
Total	121	536

Table 12 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The numbers in the above chart are numbers showing only affordable housing activities funded from CDBG and HOME. HOME figures include additional units in the supported development projects that were not directly supported by the City’s HOME funds, though are units that would not have been constructed or rehabilitated without the City’s HOME funding for construction and permanent financing, and all of the related projects’ units are designated as long-term regulated affordable housing units under LIHTC or similar programs.

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

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

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

The City supports outreach activities by participating in local initiatives and directly funding Street Outreach activities through ESG. For the past eight program years, the City has funded Person Centered Housing Options, Inc. (PCHO) for Street Outreach. They provide outreach, assessment, and intake/case management to unsheltered and sheltered homeless individuals. PCHO and the Rapid Engagement Demonstration (RED) Team identify and engage the unsheltered homeless in the City of Rochester, throughout the City and at known gathering locations. PCHO, the RED Team, the Veteran Administration (VA), The Center for Youth Services (CFY), and several other local homeless service providers regularly visit soup kitchens, libraries, and public places that unsheltered homeless adults frequent. They also visit places not meant for human habitation where the homeless are known to be, including parks, parking garages, vacant and abandoned structures, and encampments. Youth street outreach workers have a mobile outreach team and an RV, and continue to regularly engage homeless and at-risk youth on the street, at recreational centers, and at other locations that youth frequent. The objective of all of the aforementioned groups is to connect, assess, and link the unsheltered homeless person with housing, services, and other benefits.

Monroe County DHS conducts additional outreach during the "Code Blue" season, or when temperatures fall below 32 degrees. Under State Executive Order, Code Blue requires the DHS provide shelter to any person requesting emergency shelter.

PCHO has worked closely with the Rochester Police Department (RPD), and has provided training to RPD officers on best practices when engaging with homeless individuals. Additionally, the RPD has dedicated new staff to help address the needs of unsheltered homeless persons, and coordinates outreach with a number of non-profit service providers. That team works closely with service providers and all outreach providers, and stakeholders collaborate to ensure unhoused persons get the services and follow up they require. The RPD has been given information on the wide range of community resources available to them and to any homeless individuals they might encounter, and is using best practices to develop responsive, adequate, and appropriate protocol to help with encampments. In addition, an actual police protocol procedure document was developed collaboratively with PCHO, Monroe County, and City staff from the RPD, Security, the Neighborhood Service Centers (NSC) and the Division of Housing. While many of the protocols were in use informally, the document codified procedures and was distributed and used during training sessions.

Reaching out to homeless persons cont. `

The City of Rochester undertakes several actions to prevent homelessness. During the reporting period, specific preventive assistance included delinquent rent and utility payment assistance, security deposit payments, and legal services for low and low-mod income households facing eviction. Tenant

accountability training and eviction prevention services were also provided. The Housing Council at Pathstone provides foreclosure prevention services. The counseling and resolution service process includes household budget and income analysis as well as negotiation with mortgage lenders and other parties to arrive at appropriate resolutions. Resolutions include refinancing, negotiated repayments and sale. Legal services provided by the Empire Justice Center make mandated representation at settlement hearings and litigation possible. The Housing Council also attends settlement conferences with clients to assist with solutions as may be possible. In addition to the City ESG funding used for the outreach activities through PCHO, the City is committed to supporting collaborative efforts to address the sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. Coordination with service providers is crucial to engaging this population and to successfully moving them to permanent housing. The City participates with the Monroe County Department of Human Services (DHS), homeless service providers, the faith community and community volunteers on the Chronically Homeless Workgroup which meets monthly. The case conference portion of these meetings gives outreach teams, essential service providers, and emergency services an opportunity to discuss where the hardest to engage persons are currently living, and to develop strategies and work plans to move unhoused and chronically homeless persons towards more stable housing situations. This often includes helping the homeless person(s) secure documentation and identification, connecting them with essential services, and placing them on the prioritization list for permanent supportive housing programs. The second half of the meeting provides stakeholders with a forum to discuss current efforts of the outreach providers, identify current challenges faced by those who engage and attempt to house chronically homeless persons, and share information on community resources that are available to the unsheltered population.

City staff also works collaboratively with the RPD, DHS, the CoC, the faith-based community, and a number of local service providers to conduct weekly street outreach at predetermined locations around the City. The team collects information and progressively engages chronically homeless individuals and households, and works to connect each contact with appropriate and adequate services, including housing and healthcare. This outreach group also hosts informational outreach events and provides free food to engage with homeless persons and connect them with whichever resources they want and need. The weekly outreach started in 2022-23 and continued in 2023-24, and will remain in place for the next program year.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City takes several actions to address the needs of the homeless, specifically with respect to their emergency shelter and transitional housing needs. The primary funding sources are the federal Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) which are administered by the Department of Neighborhood and Business Development, Division of Housing. The City's funding allocations for 2023-24 addressed several eligible program components, but all of the components support emergency shelter or transitional housing needs of homeless persons in some fashion. The ESG Program provides homeless persons with basic shelter and essential supportive services, and connects unhoused persons to our continuum of services and emergency or transitional housing via the outreach component. Outreach programs also help prepare individuals for emergency

or transitional housing, for example by securing documentation or transporting unhoused persons to appointments and apartment viewings. ESG can be used to support emergency shelters by funding operational costs and services, including for staff such as case management. ESG can also fund homeless prevention and rapid rehousing programs, which provide assistance to persons at risk of homelessness and those who are literally homeless, often due to eviction, foreclosure, or unsafe or unaffordable living situations.

The ESG program components funded in 2023-24 include; Street Outreach (including Coordinated Entry), Emergency Shelter Operations, Rapid Re-Housing, and Homelessness Prevention. A maximum of 60% of the City's annual ESG allocation goes to Street Outreach/Coordinated Entry and Shelter Operations. Funding requests for shelter operations far exceed the 60% maximum and the funding requests for other program types on an annual basis, as the cost for these programs has increased while the other forms of financial support have largely remained flat. The City supports the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons in numerous ways; by providing direct funding for shelter operations including staffing, overhead, and essential services. The City funds the Coordinated Entry system, which helps ensure that those who are the most vulnerable are prioritized for permanent supportive and rapid re-housing programs. Coordinated Entry uses the VI-SPDAT to assess a person's current needs and degree of housing instability. The VI-SPDAT scoring gives housing providers, case managers, and prospective tenants a better understanding of what level of care and type of housing/supports are needed, and assists them in accessing the most appropriate housing available. Efficient implementation of the prioritization list and the coordinated entry system reduces the amount of time a person remains homeless while connecting the highest need persons with appropriate resources. The City also participates in the Coordinated Entry Oversight Committee, which continuously monitors the Coordinated Entry process to ensure high standards are being met, review and revise Coordinated Entry policies and procedures, provides Coordinated Entry training to providers and educates the community on the process. Its most recent efforts include the formation of a Landlord Engagement Workgroup that is working on recruiting landlords with available units to increase the inventory of units available to PSH and RRH programs, and the an evaluation of the prioritization list and VI-SPDAT with an equity lens, to identify shortcomings and address flaws or biases in the system.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons cont. 1

The City's funding and oversight of homelessness prevention and rapid-rehousing programs offers the homeless (or those at-risk of homelessness) population with resources to divert people from entering the homeless system, prevent or reduce the length of episodes of homelessness, and support housing stability. The City's Homelessness Prevention program provides short term case management and funding for rental arrears, security deposits, first month's rent, and utility arrears/deposits to eligible households to maintain or regain stability in their current housing. The prevention programming also

diverts households away from shelter stays, keeping shelter beds open for those who are not eligible for these same prevention resources. The Rapid Rehousing program utilizes Coordinated Entry and the prioritization list to help homeless households secure more stable, permanent housing and remain stably housed. This helps recently homeless households with their housing emergency, while reducing the length of stay in shelter, ultimately making homeless episodes as brief as possible.

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

Youth being discharged from foster care or other institutional settings typically return to their family of origin or another responsible family member or adult. When no such adult can be located, the youth is placed in a community program specifically designed to prepare youth for independent living, such as The Villa of Hope or Hillside Children's Center. It is rare that a youth enters the homeless system directly from foster care, something the community addresses maybe 1-2 times per year. Shelters have been instructed to immediately contact the Monroe County Department of Human Services to report the failed discharge plan if a youth is attempting to access homeless services directly from foster care. Youth entering the homeless system are directed first to the Center for Youth Services for assessment. The youth is then connected to a caseworker who attempts to reunite the youth with his/her family or other responsible adult and link him/her to appropriate services. If such a reuniting is not possible, the youth is referred again to a community program that prepares youth to transition to independent living.

Hospitals have been encouraged not to discharge people with no available housing after hours or weekends so that they can first go to Monroe County DHS for assessment and placement into a shelter that best meets their needs. When this is not possible or if a patient leaves against medical advice, hospital social workers and staff have been provided with information on local emergency shelters (e.g., physical layouts, staffing, hours open), and a referral is made to the shelter that can best meet the person's needs. Protocol is for hospital staff to call the shelter to confirm a bed is available, communicate any required follow-up care to shelter staff, and provide the patient with a sufficient supply of medication. A partnership between the YWCA and the University of Rochester Strong Health provides enhanced shelter services for persons being discharged from Strong Memorial Hospital. The goal is to prevent re-hospitalization, link to mainstream benefits, and access permanent housing as quickly as possible, while at the same time not overburdening shelters with individuals that need a higher level of care than they can provide.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless cont. 1

Inpatient facilities licensed or operated by the NYSOMH and NYSOASAS are encouraged to refer individuals to housing consistent with the level of care required by the patient and to not discharge patients until a comprehensive discharge plan is in place. Prior to discharge, individuals in need of supervised housing, and who agree to a referral, are referred to the Monroe County Single Point of Access (SPOA). The SPOA facilitates housing assistance for eligible individuals and connects persons to mental health care coordination services. Through HSN, the CoC will continue to educate stakeholders about the primary providers of licensed mental health residential beds (DePaul Community Services, East House, Housing Options Made Easy, Rochester Psychiatric Center), intensive case management programs (Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester General Health System, Unity Health System), and care coordination services (ACT Team, Project Link, MICA Net). Ex-offenders are most frequently discharged to their families or to independent living under the supervision of parole. New York State Parole has contracts with several community agencies to place ex-offenders when no other housing can be located (e.g., Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, and DuBois Residential Program). Spiritus Christi Prison Outreach (SCPO) utilizes ESG funding to provide emergency and transitional housing for the re-entry population. SCPO also provides PSH for the re-entry population and Delphi Rising provides RRH using CoC funding. The CoC Team and the Monroe County Re-Entry Task Force will continue to work closely together, utilizing common members, to assist ex-offenders to successfully transition back into the community. Linking ex-offenders to mainstream resources reduces the number of ex-offenders re-entering the homeless system and returning to the criminal justice system. The Veterans Administration (VA) and the Veterans Outreach Center (VOC) will continue to exclusively serve veterans in the CoC geography. The VA and RHA are partners for the HUD VASH program and have developed the local VASH referral/application process and coordinated support services. The VA also partners with two Salvation Army programs-Booth Haven and Safe Haven-that have beds for veterans through the Grant and Per Diem program. Soldier ON was awarded a SSVF grant to provide prevention and rapid re-housing services to veterans and their families in Monroe County, a program previously administrated by VOC. The VOC and the VA will continue to operate programs for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan to welcome them home and link them with employment and other mainstream resources to secure and stabilize their incomes and housing. The YWCA has an MOU with the VOC to provide services to female veterans.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless cont. 2

To reduce the time in ES or TH, the CoC has been following a Housing First approach, which has resulted in eliminating pre-conditions (e.g., sobriety, minimum income threshold, pending documentation) that were previously barriers to accessing housing. Adopting Harm Reduction strategies, part of the Housing First model, also reduces terminations from permanent housing due to relapse, non-compliance with medications, etc. In addition, ESG funds have been used for rapid rehousing efforts, especially for families, to move them quickly to PH and reduce length of stay in shelter and prevent future episodes of

homelessness. Data on the length of time that homeless individuals and families spend in CoC and ESG-funded ES, TH, and SH programs is collected in HMIS and is used to track changes over time. Over 78 community agencies in the HSN, where members are educated on best practices and tools that can be used to reduce the length of time individuals and households stay homeless. To reduce recidivism, or the extent to which individuals and families leaving homelessness experience additional homeless episodes, the CoC will utilize prevention, diversion, and short-term rental assistance, and arrears payments. Monroe County DHS provides diversion/prevention assistance to assist those at risk of homelessness with payments for rent arrears, back taxes, mortgage payments, auto repairs, and tools/uniforms for jobs. Returns to homelessness are also decreased as the result of less stringent compliance demands for participants, automatic renewals of leases, and ensuring that discharges are in accordance with fair housing requirements. Data in HMIS is used to determine if and when individuals and families leaving TH, RRH, and PSH experience another episode of homelessness in those cases where either they exit to homelessness or they exit to permanent housing, but subsequently re-enter the homeless system in the CoC geography. To improve the housing stability of persons in permanent supportive housing, the CoC will utilize the Coordinated Entry System to insure that households are directed to the housing and services that will best meet the needs of that household. Special attention is given to increasing access to mainstream supportive services and enhancing case/care management options to ensure effective integration of homeless housing & community-based services and supports.

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 is investing in rapid rehousing so that those who enter emergency shelters exit quickly. It is providing diversion assistance for those who have a viable alternative to a shelter but require some support. The CoC is currently utilizing a Moving On model that determines housing stability and case management needs of PSH participants. As households become stable in PSH participants that no longer need case management but still need the rent subsidy are supported to transition to other community affordable housing opportunities, including Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs), Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) programs and other privately subsidized housing. This frees up PSH units for homeless households that need the intensive case management provided in PSH.

Helping homeless persons cont. 1

The CoC will assist homeless households with children through RRH projects by working with TH projects

serving families to help them restructure using a RRH model and by soliciting housing organizations without such programs to create new RRH projects. ESG funding supports a new Rapid Rehousing Partnership (RRP). RRH responds quickly, secures appropriate PH, and uses an array of benefits/supports. The RRP is expanding to serve as a forum for broad implementation of a local RRH system. Training/published tool kits will help agencies to understand the RRH approach and best practices. Efforts to find other funding sources will continue. The average length of time that participants remain in Emergency Shelter (ES) is 39 days, Transitional Housing (TH) 137 days, and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) 1,625 days proving that PSH model is a best practice for housing stability. To reduce time, the CoC has encouraged PSH providers to adopt a Housing First approach, which has resulted in many eliminating preconditions (e.g., sobriety, minimum income threshold) that are barriers to housing entry. The current average time from entering the homeless system to housing is 39.3 days. ESG funds have been used for rapid rehousing efforts, especially for families, to prevent them from remaining homeless or lengthening an episode of homelessness. Data on length of time that homeless individuals/families spend in CoC and ESG-funded ES, TH, and SH programs are included in HMIS and will be used to track changes over time. Non-HUD funded projects are represented among the community agencies in the Housing Services Network, where members are educated on best practices and tools that can be used to reduce the length of time individuals stay homeless. To reduce additional homeless episodes, the CoC will utilize prevention, diversion, short-term rental assistance, and arrears payments. The Monroe County DHS Diversion Unit will continue to assist those at risk of homelessness with payment for such costs as back taxes, mortgage payments, auto repairs, and tools/uniforms for jobs. Returns to homelessness are also decreased as the result of less stringent compliance demands for participants, automatic renewals of leases, and ensuring that discharges are in accordance with fair housing requirements. Data in HMIS can be used to determine if and when individuals and families leaving TH, RRH, and PSH experience another episode of homelessness in those cases where either (1) they exit to homelessness or (2) they exit to permanent housing, but subsequently re-enter the homeless system in the CoC geography. The CoC will utilize the local Coordinated Access System to improve the likelihood of placing individuals and families in housing where they would either stay longer or move more quickly to self-sufficiency. Attention will be given to increasing access to mainstream supportive services and enhancing case/care management options to ensure effective integration of homeless housing and community-based services and supports. Agencies will be encouraged to adopt a housing first model, which would allow more participants to remain in their units and reduce the number exiting a project because of alcohol-or drug-related noncompliance.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City of Rochester has continued efforts to coordinate activities with those of the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA). These efforts involve planning and development of new public housing, new affordable and supportive housing, rehabilitation of existing public housing, resident and program participant self-sufficiency training, home ownership opportunities, financial education, and crime prevention and control. RHA continues to provide quality affordable housing and services for its residents. RHA meets regularly with the city, RHA resident councils, resident Board Commissioners, staff and neighborhood associations to address needs and discuss upcoming projects. All suggestions and recommendations from these sources are taken into consideration when preparing the Annual and five-year Capital Improvement plan which outlines capital projects for its Public Housing properties. This collaboration also helps RHA to prioritize its development and renovation projects. Due to ever changing conditions, items are prioritized, but can fluctuate within the plan from year to year as priorities change. RHA continues its planning efforts to preserve and increase the inventory of RHA-owned or controlled properties and grow their financial assets. One objective is to transform public housing properties, which have been identified through the HUD Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program and other means as practical, by developing RHA owned properties into mixed-income and multi-family housing, and to develop resources to improve the quality of existing housing stock. RHA plans on accomplishing these goals using property needs assessments, resident input, finalizing and submitting financial information to HUD and identifying and prioritizing additional qualifying properties for transition through RAD. Currently, RHA is working on three RAD projects, and one affordable housing new development project. RHA, along with its development partner, have applied for the NYS HCR Multifamily Finance 9% RFP and were awarded for the redevelopment of its Federal St site and/or rehabilitation of an additional 35 scattered site units. This project is under construction and is expected to be complete in late 2024. RHA's second RAD project, Parliament Arms-Fairfield Village is also under construction and expected to be completed in g 2025. RHA has created a "pipeline" of projects that will require LIHTC funding. RHA has completed property needs assessments on properties to identify needs to assist in the prioritization of capital improvement and preservation projects. Incorporating stakeholder input into strategies and actions to determine priorities will also be part of this process. This effort is well under way and both physical and environmental assessments are in progress currently with financing and resident engagement opportunities in the works.

RHA continues to utilize its Capital Fund Program awards to address capital needs at its public housing properties in alignment with its "Change the Face of Public Housing" initiative. RHA's Resident Advisory Board along with RHA staff meets annually to develop an annual and comprehensive 5-year plan for capital improvements that address the needs of their properties and the needs of the residents. Resident Advisory Board and staff meet on a regular basis to update and prioritize those needs. RHA meets with property management and maintenance staff quarterly to prioritize and address projects. RHA intends to apply for HUD's Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) Grants in partnership with the City as another means to preserve and improve the Public Housing stock. Currently, RHA has

identified three sites to be considered for CNI; Holland Townhouses, Lena Gantt estates and Harriett Tubman Estates located in the CONEA neighborhood. RHA will coordinate efforts with the City who will be the co-applicant.

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

RHA is committed to improving communication between management, RHA residents, and program participants, and continues to work with area partners to provide services and opportunities. RHA will continue to develop and promote RHA's Section 3 program, resident councils, and advisory board. RHA continues to encourage and support residents in organizing and participating in resident councils and assist them with trainings, events and budgeting. There are currently 10 sites that have active resident councils and one jurisdiction-wide resident council that represents all residents. The council presidents are members of the RHA Resident Advisory Board and work with management in developing and revising the 5-year agency plan, annual operating budget, capital fund budgets, and occupancy policies. RHA has two Resident Commissioners on its Board who bring a lot of value to the organization as they routinely go around to sites and speak to residents and bring their concerns and kudos to management and the Board. They are both included in many planning activities throughout the year. RHA has established a Resident Relations Committee that meets monthly to discuss resident concerns and management issues. This committee now includes all resident council presidents. Collaboration on resident safety initiatives, services available, and additional services needed are all part of discussions. RHA hosts multiple events though out the year to bring residents together and increase social activities.

The Rochester Housing Authority's Resident Services Department has partnered with the City of Rochester's Financial Empowerment Center to provide free financial counseling for residents to equip them with skills in budgeting, money management, and credit repair. This program is exhibiting success as many referrals have and are being made. RHA's collaboration with organizations such as; NACA, the Housing Council at PathStone, and Neighborworks to provide residents with homebuyer counseling, so they gain the tools and resources to make informed home buying decisions.

Resident Services staff provides families with on-going service coordination to help them achieve goals of self-sufficiency through its Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) and Resident Opportunity Self Sufficiency (ROSS) programs. Barriers to the achievement of those goals are identified and addressed through referrals to various community agencies that can help the family to improve or maintain their independence. RHA recognizes graduates of these programs each year.

RHA's Resident Services department continues to assist with resident needs and actively engage in homeownership opportunities and self-sufficiency program development. On September 12, 2000, HUD published the final rule for the Homeownership Voucher Program adding the homeownership option to the existing tenant-based voucher assistance program. The homeownership option allows public housing authorities to subsidize the family's mortgage instead of rent. The maximum length of assistance is 15 years if the initial mortgage of the home has a term of 20 years or longer. For a

mortgage term of fewer than 20 years, the maximum term of assistance is 10 years. There is no maximum assistance term for disabled and elderly families provided they maintain program eligibility. RHA has begun its Section 32 Homeownership program where Public Housing Residents can purchase a Public Housing home. Current residents will be given first option to purchase the home. RHA may use capital funds and/or operating reserves to renovate designated public homeownership plan that will include Section 32 Homeownership homes. Currently, RHA has 7 Public Housing residents who are eligible to purchase their home and RHA has prepared its application that will be submitted to the HUD Special Applications Center (SAC) very soon. RHA has another 33 residents in various stages of becoming eligible to purchase their Public Housing home.

RHA has developed a post homeownership program to assist families in maintaining their homes and ensuring homeowners that they have somewhere to go for assistance when they need it. RHA intends to increase utilization of homeownership vouchers and increase outreach efforts. RHA's first homeowner closed on their home in 2001. To date, 252 people have purchased their own home, with 12 this past year.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) is not a troubled housing authority.

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 evolution of the State “Uniform” Code with the adoption of the ICC Codes, has changed dramatically. The Existing Building Code takes into consideration the need to be reasonable when converting old buildings for housing units without compromising safety. We have had a number of old buildings converted to residential dwellings that provide new healthy and safe living environments for a variety of income levels. Some barriers with the redevelopment of older buildings do exist because of environmental abatement costs and other code driven regulations, but with the help of DHCR and other funding streams, we have seen a large uptick in large housing projects both new construction and renovations of existing buildings.

The City of Rochester released a draft update to the City’s Zoning Code in FY 2021-22 , developed via its Zoning Alignment Plan (ZAP). The ZAP reflects the community’s vision established in the Rochester 2034 Comprehensive Plan and aligns the zoning code with the zoning map. The structural changes to code and goals of the ZAP include less restrictive design standards, ensuring that the code does not pose a restrictive barrier to the reoccupation of vacant buildings, aligning land use patterns with the transit system to increase density along transit corridors, expanding and diversifying housing choices, increasing economic opportunity, fostering population growth needed to support local businesses, and reducing non-conformities with zoning code. The City continues to monitor the NYS Building Code and local zoning code for adverse effects to the development of affordable housing.

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

The City’s Housing team worked continuously with housing providers, partners, and members of the Continuum of Care to ensure that residents in need of housing assistance, support, shelter, and legal aid received services. Youth programming and services were adapted to be safe and socially distant in-person or to be deployed virtually, as needed, so that youth could continue to benefit from these programs. The City’s business development team continued to work with grassroots organizations and neighborhood leaders to conduct outreach to underserved business owners on the numerous services and products that are offered to support them. The City continued to work with businesses and the underserved to assist in any way possible to retain its current employees. Job creation during the COVID-19 crisis has been severely impacted during this time as business owners did not have sufficient incoming revenue to create new positions. Many businesses, through the City’s assistance, were able to retain positions and help the economy.

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

The City continued its efforts to combat childhood lead-poisoning through its Lead Hazard Control Program. The primary goal of the program is to reduce childhood lead poisoning by producing lead-safe affordable housing for families with children under age six. The strategy of the program is to employ primary prevention by addressing lead based paint hazards in housing before a child becomes lead-poisoned. This goal has been expanded to not only address lead hazards, but to also address other environmental health hazards which particularly affect children with asthma. The Lead Hazard Control Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control.

In 2023-24 a total of 50 units were produced at a cost of \$1,685,284. Of this amount, \$354,123 was CDBG and \$1,331,150 was OHHLHC and ARPA funding. Due to the pandemic, the construction industry did not recover. It was a tremendous struggle to keep pace with the program demands while at the same time, attempting to recruit new contractors to the program. Efforts have been ongoing to improve the contractor base to return productivity to pre-pandemic standards.

Participating Landlords were required to produce a 10% funding match and agree to maintain assisted units as affordable and lead-safe for a period of five years. Each unit that received lead hazard control assistance received a healthy homes supplemental award to address other environmental health hazards. A comprehensive assessment was completed which included an identification and evaluation of 29 health hazards.

Through a partnership with local lead-based paint evaluation firms, the City provided a combined lead-based paint inspection/risk assessment for each unit enrolled in the Lead Hazard Control Program. The risk assessment provides an evaluation of the housing unit and child play areas to determine the presence of lead-based paint and identifies existing lead hazards. The completed report summarizes these findings and includes a remediation plan if needed. A total of 73 lead based paint risk assessments were produced.

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

The City of Rochester, New York ranks #3 for poverty rate among metro area primary cities in the United States and #4 in for child poverty rate. The City is a partner organization of the Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative (RMAPI), which uses an approach known as Collective Impact whereby community members and stakeholders collectively define complex problems leading to poverty and create a shared vision to address the problems and bring about systemic changes. Non-profit organizations and community members have come together to collectively advocate for policies that will be more responsive to the needs of people impacted by poverty. RMAPI continues work at decreasing poverty rates in Rochester by addressing the root causes of poverty. Through Collective Impact, RMAPI breaks down structural racism, encourages employers to commit to wage enhancement and wage equity, promotes engagement among service providers to develop more streamlined processes and more accessible and affordable basic needs, and engages the community in the cause by providing toolkits for individuals to contact lawmakers or post on social media to promote the advancement of these priorities.

In addition to formally partnering with RMAPI to support data analysis, program design, and impact evaluation, the City of Rochester applies funding to other programs to reduce the burden of families living in poverty. Such programs addressed job retention and creation; decent, affordable housing, and education and training, particularly for youth. CDBG-CV funding was utilized to fund the Mayor's Office of Community Wealth Building (OCWB), since renamed as the Office of Financial Empowerment (OFE) initiative of financial empowerment counseling to families. Applying a racial equity lens to all of its activities, OFE is the lead partner on the City's Race, Equity, and Leadership (REAL) Initiative which aims to address inequities identified in regional workforce planning, grant making, community engagement, and media relations. Under the REAL initiative, OFE collaborates with critical partners including the Rochester City Council, Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and St. Joseph Neighborhood in full support and alignment with RMAPIs guiding principles. Collectively, these and other activities enjoin the creation of inclusive economic and community development through the democratic ownership of assets and opportunities to build intergenerational wealth within historically disenfranchised communities. These efforts transpire across individual, family, group, institutional, and regional levels. The City of Rochester also has many long running programs and services which are aimed at impacting issues of poverty, including housing programs aimed at ensuring access to quality affordable housing, neighborhood service centers which foster neighborhood community group activities and mitigate issues of vacancy and blight, and recreation centers and libraries that provide supplemental educational opportunities and safe healthy environments for families.

The (now) OFE launched the Financial Empowerment Centers program in 2019 focused on four key indicators of financial health: safe banking access, debt alleviation, access to credit, and savings among residents. CDBG funding began supporting this program in 2024-25. Additionally, the office's city accelerator initiative garnered insights from women and minority-owned small businesses via surveying and four focus groups to inform the establishment of a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem to connect new and existing ventures to regional services and track operational effectiveness across the network.

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

In order to provide greater clarity regarding planning functions and to emphasize the importance of long-range planning in Rochester, the City created a Office of City Planning in 2017. That office led the development of a new Citywide Housing Market Study in 2018, and a new comprehensive plan, *Rochester 2034*, which was adopted unanimously by City Council in November 2019. The plan was developed based on intensive community engagement and input from a wide variety of stakeholders. These documents, along with the City's longstanding Housing Policy, adopted in 2008, inform the city's housing programs, strategies, initiatives, and investments.

In early 2020, the Planning Office lead development of a new Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), which highlights issues and recommended actions to advance fair housing choices for city residents, and a new 5-Year Consolidated Plan to inform investment of the City's HUD allocation dollars (CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA) for the 2020-2024 program years.

The City also works closely with nonprofit housing and social service providers to implement and continuously improve its many housing and community development programs.

In 2023-24 the City continued to centralize the overarching HUD regulatory compliance functions in the Commissioner's Office of the Department of Neighborhood and Business Development. Additional staffing was allocated in 2021-22 after it was determined that the prior 1 staff position was not sufficient. This included adding a full-time management level position to work with the program coordinator position, and bringing on a part-time individual with extensive prior experience working with the HUD programs. Program specific compliance, reporting, and record-keeping is still handled by program managers distributed through other areas of the department and other departments.

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

The City continuously meets with local housing partners. We also maintain a close partnership with Monroe County and Rochester Housing Authority and meet with them via regular standing meetings.. The City and Monroe County jointly award their annual ESG funding through a consolidated RFP process.

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

In 2020, the City of Rochester engaged Mullin and Lonergan Associates to develop a new Analysis of Impediments of Fair Housing Choice (AI). The prior AI had been developed in 2015. Unfortunately, the 2020 AI shows the persistence of a number of longstanding issues related to fair housing choice and opportunity in the City of Rochester. For example:

- More than one-third of the City's census tracts (30 of 88) are classified as racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs).
- R/ECAPs scored "lowest" or "lower" in an analysis of access to opportunity, and analysis found that these areas also align with the areas identified as "low demand" in the 2018 Citywide Housing Market Study.
- An analysis of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) lending data found that while the overall approval rate for applicants in Monroe County (outside the city) was 84%, the approval rate citywide was only 70%, only 64% for Hispanic or Latino city applicants were approved, and only 55% of Black or African American city applicants were approved.

Despite these issues, a public policy analysis in the 2020 AI found that the "geographical distribution of the City's investments using federal and local funds are consistent with affirmatively furthering fair housing choice" for a range of programs, including rehab, homebuyer services, and affordable and supportive housing development.

More and better work is still needed, however. The 2020 AI includes a Fair Housing Action Plan that identified four impediments to fair housing choice in Rochester and 12 recommended actions that the

City and community partners should take on over the next five years.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all aspects of the City's actions related to Fair Housing, with many relief activities and programs providing resources to assist those affected. Related moratoria on housing evictions and foreclosure actions, which in the City of Rochester disproportionately affect low income and minority populations. The City of Rochester's housing related services for 2023-24 remained focused on immediate assistance to residents as they continued to face ongoing challenges brought on by the pandemic, dedicated toward stabilizing housing situations and accessing available resources.

Three of the recommended actions that were identified for completion in the short term (by the end of 2021 Program Year), have needed to be further rescheduled due to ongoing activities related to the COVID -19 pandemic, and ongoing redesign of the City's website, and are now identified to be completed by the end of the 2023-24 Program Year:

- Develop a new prominent, easy-to-find webpage with fair housing information on the City's website.
- Make the City's fair housing webpage accessible for persons who are visually impaired and translate it into Spanish.
- Designate a City department/staff liaison for Fair Housing and provide its contact information on the Fair Housing webpage.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The City of Rochester continually monitors the performance of housing and community development activities to assure that they are carried out in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and to ensure that performance goals are achieved. Comprehensive planning requirements and overarching regulatory compliance monitoring is overseen by staff in the Commissioner's Office in the Department of Neighborhood and Business Development (NBD). Program specific compliance, reporting, and recordkeeping is handled by program managers disbursed throughout other units of NBD, as well as other City departments. For some program areas subrecipients and contractors are utilized to deliver services and projects, and program managers are responsible for monitoring and enforcing HUD requirements for those activities. All subrecipient invoice documentation is reviewed by both program managers and Grants Accounting prior to processing any payments. All program delivery or program administration staff complete payroll certifications or time distribution forms certifying the time spent working on the grant-funded programs which are then reviewed by City Grants Accounting prior to any reimbursement draws.

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.

Our citizens had an opportunity to comment on the CAPER **during the 15-day public comment period running from August 30- September 14, 2024**. A public notice was published online on the City's webpage for HUD notifications and documentation, emailed to the City's HUD citizen participation email listserve, and sent to news outlets. The report was available for review at various City locations, including City Hall, and online. See attachment for full detail.

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.

The City did not make any significant changes to its program objectives.

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

No

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

CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)

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

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

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic affected the City of Rochester's ability to undertake on-site inspections for all HOME assisted rental projects during its 2023-24 fiscal year. However, inspections were made at a number HOME assisted rental housing projects or units.

The City coordinated with respective property managers to schedule needed inspections, while being sensitive to the property managers' guidelines related to protecting the health and safety of residents and staff. HOME compliance inspections were undertaken at a number of projects, the vast majority of which found HOME assisted units to be in conditions meeting or exceeding standards. Projects inspected include: Wedgepoint Apartments, Eastman Gardens, Jefferson Wollensack, Olean Heights, Michelsen Mills, Erie Harbor, Son House, Rare 2 Apartments, Monroe Avenue Apts, Warfield Square, Edna Craven Estates, Park Square I, Kennedy Tower, Carriage Factory, Zion Hill, Anthony Square, Flower City Apartments, El Camino I & II, South East Tower/Park Square I. Additionally, a number of HOME Assisted rental projects were inspected for and received new Certificates of Occupancy (CofO's) during 2023-24, documenting that all units in the project meet or exceed NYS occupancy standards. Projects receiving CofO's include: Providence Brown Street, VOC/Liberty Landing, Carlson Commons Townhouses, Brown Street Apartments, Voters Block, Holy Rosary, Near Westside, Providence Olean Townhouses, Mildred Johnson Estates I, El Camino Estates I, Anthony Square, Pinnacle Place, Plymouth Manor Townhouses, Charlotte Square III.

Moving forward, the City continues to improve its ongoing HOME inspection process to perform inspections annually for larger HOME Assisted rental projects, and explore opportunities to integrate the inspection process into the City's new property information system, which began being phased in beginning in 2023.

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

All of the City's affordable housing projects require an affirmative marketing plan. Consistently, our projects are marketed to households that would not typically have access to new units. This includes units marketed in neighborhood newsletters, and advertised on radio that would reach minority and other underserved markets, in neighborhoods where projects are located, and to populations identified as lease likely to apply. Populations least likely to apply may include those whose race or ethnicities are

noted as not currently residing in the project area, based upon available census data.

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

The City of Rochester carried a Program Income balance of \$356,030.80 into 2023-24 and receipted \$221,422.68 in program income in the 2023-24 program year. \$3,000 of program income funds were expended in the 2023-24 program year. The City ended with a balance of \$574,453.48, but this is expected to be utilized towards several large affordable housing development projects in 2024-25.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 91.320(j)

The City of Rochester was largely developed prior to 1940 and has the second oldest housing stock in the nation among cities of its size. As such, many of the opportunities to create affordable housing stock consist of rehabilitation of existing housing stock. The City has long recognized that the NYS Fire Prevention and Building Code posed barriers to the development of affordable housing when existing structures are rehabilitated or adaptively re-used. The code was developed as a “new construction” standard and makes it very costly, if not impossible, to effectively redevelop existing structures. Projects also experience significant delays because they must obtain variances from the state code. The City has worked successfully with the State of New York to address this issue by replacing the former code with the NYS Enhanced International Building Code. The City has continued to monitor the NYS Building Code and the new local zoning code for adverse effects to the development of affordable housing. The HOME allocation has been utilized for affordable housing development and rehabilitation as well as homeownership financial assistance. HOME funds are not used to provide tenant-based rental assistance. The City allocates HOME funding to a variety of rental activities designed to prioritize maintaining and increasing the supply of safe, adequate rental housing that is affordable to households below 60% of the area median family income while deconcentrating poverty and supporting diverse neighborhoods.

Two large scale affordable rental projects, each focused on adaptive repurposing of existing buildings, started construction in June 2022. Each will contribute additional affordable rental housing communities to the city of Rochester that include supportive units for special needs households. The Tailor Square Mixed-Use Project, entails the redevelopment of the existing Hickey Freeman clothier manufacturing site (approximately 233,000 square feet) at 1155 North Clinton Avenue in northeast Rochester. The project is anticipated to complete construction in early 2025, with initial lease-up of units taking place through summer and fall of 2025.

As a mixed-income, mixed-use project undertaken by local developer Home Leasing, LLC, the project will provide 134 affordable rental housing units for households aged fifty-five and older and seniors in need of supportive housing, and 77,000 square feet of clothier manufacturing space to be developed for the

for the continued operations of the Hickey Freeman company, which long owned and occupied the site. The original building has over time become outdated and oversized for the company's long-term viability, and this project will retain a locally historic business while creating much needed affordable and supportive housing options for older city residents. The residential buildout will include units for households with income at or below 30% AMI, as well as 43 units for households at or below 50% AME, 23 units for households at or below 60% AMI, and 15 units affordable for households at or below 70% AMI. Eight units will benefit from Section 8 Project Based Vouchers through the Rochester Housing Authority. Forty-five units will be set-aside for permanent supportive housing for frail elders as defined by New York's Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI), with on-site supportive housing services provided by People, Inc. Total Development cost exceeds \$79.5 million, with the City providing a permanent and construction loan of \$2,300,000 toward the residential development, comprised of \$1,875,000 HOME funds and \$425,000 of local funds. There will be 11 HOME assisted units in the project. Construction work began in June 2022, and the project is on schedule and anticipated to complete construction in late 2024. The City of Rochester provided a PILOT only for the Canal Street Apartments project, undertaken by East House Corporation, which entails the adaptive reuse and historic rehabilitation of 67-69 Canal Street, a vacant five-story 166,251 square foot building located in the Susan B. Anthony Neighborhood in southwest Rochester. Completed in December 2023, the development created 123 apartments, 70 of which are permanent supportive housing units with rental subsidies and on-site supportive services. The units include studio, one- and two-bedroom units, all of which are affordable to households at or below 60% of AMI. Seventy units are affordable at or below 30% and/or 50% AMI, and 53 units are affordable at or below 60% AMI. The developer, East House is service provider for the 70 supportive housing units, which serves a combination of special needs populations, including 37 units targeting individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and 25 units targeting individuals with Substance Abuser Disorder (SUD), and eight (8) units targeting the chronically homeless. Flower City Apartments is an affordable rental housing rehabilitation project which includes 150 units at three locations within the City of Rochester that completed construction in January 2024. The project includes 83 studios, 54 one-bedrooms, and 13 two-bedroom apartments, all of which were at various states of disrepair. The units were unregulated, or not rent-restricted prior to this initiative, but were considered "naturally affordable". This project ensures that these units remain affordable for households with incomes ranging from at or below 30% to 60% MFI. Fifty-six (56) of the 150 units will be set aside for supportive housing. Included in the 56 supportive housing units are ten (10) units for previously incarcerated individuals, 11 units for individuals with HIV/AIDS, and the other 35 supportive housing units will serve formerly homeless and chronically homeless individuals. All households living in the supportive housing units will receive on-site supportive services and rental subsidies. It is anticipated that the residents will remain in the buildings during construction and move into a newly renovated unit when completed. A Relocation Coordinator was hired to work with the residents to develop individualized, temporary relocation plans to meet their needs during construction. The total development cost is \$18.8 million. The City provided the project with a \$300,000 HOME funded permanent loan, and a 10% Shelter Rent PILOT. The project, which started construction in Spring 2021, was affected by pandemic related issues including labor challenges, however was completed by the end of 2023.

270 On East is a rental housing development that is part of the revitalization efforts resulting from the City's Inner Loop East infill project. This 118,450 square foot affordable housing development includes 50 indoor parking spaces and a 14 space surface lot. The project completed construction in spring 2022, and created 112 units of affordable rental housing, including studios, one-, and two-bedroom apartments affordable to a diverse range of incomes, with units targeted to households with incomes at or below 50%, 60%, and 80% of MFI. Fifty-five (55) units are set-aside for supportive housing for frail elderly and formerly homeless veterans, all of whom will receive on-site services and rental assistance. The project completed lease-up and transitioned to permanent financing in spring 2024. Total development cost is \$30.5 million. The City sold the parcel for the project, provided a locally-funded loan of \$1,500,000 for permanent financing, and approved a Shelter Rent PILOT agreement.

The Federal Street and Scattered Sites Project involves the building and/or preservation of 53 affordable and workforce units at the Rochester Housing Authority's (RHA's) Federal Street sit and 24 scattered sites located in the surrounding neighborhoods in Southeast and Northeast Rochester, and is a noted component of the community driven Connected Communities Beechwood Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan. The project includes the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversion of 51 public housing units to project-based voucher supported units (while still managed by RHA), preservation and new construction. Demolition of blighted/outdated buildings with 16 units on Federal Street will be followed new construction of 18 new units, and demolition and new construction of 4 units on scattered sites, and rehabilitation of the other 31 units. At least 6 of the replacement units will be fully accessible, providing for an increase for this type of necessary housing as part of this project. The 53 unit project includes 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom, and 4 bedroom units, and will sustain the availability of this type of affordable family housing for a minimum of 30 years. The majority of units will be affordable for households at or below 30%, 50% or 60% MFI. There will be 9 units set aside for households with individuals transitioning from incarceration, with Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative funded supportive services provided by Spiritus Christi Prison Outreach. The project designs will enhance the existing character of the surrounding neighborhoods while applying modern technology to achieve energy efficiency, universal design, and sustainable construction that will meet or exceed requirements for NYSERDA's New Construction-Housing Program 3 standards, and the rehabilitation of units will comply with the 2020 Enterprise Green Communities criteria. The project closed on funding and started construction in spring of 2023, and construction completion is anticipated in early 2025.

The Alta Vista project entails the new construction of a six-story affordable rental residential and commercial structure in Center City Rochester that will include 76 units, including 14 supportive housing units with related case management support provided by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Rochester & Monroe County, and provide for visitor and community space in support of uses related to St. Joseph's Park, which is located adjacent to the project site. The residential units will include 54 one-bedroom, and 22 two-bedroom units, with eight (8) units targeted to households at or below 30% AMI, 36 units targeted to households up to 50% AMI and 11 targeted to households up to 80% AMI. The supportive housing units will be set aside for households that are homeless or at risk of homelessness, for which the YWCA has been awarded Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative rental,

service and operating subsidy. The project also received \$2.6 million of Homeless Housing Assistance Program capital funds to support the development of these units. The City of Rochester sold land for the project, and is providing a PILOT and a HOME loan of \$1,000,000 for construction and permanent financing. Total development cost is \$35,630,994.

The Center City Courtyard Project includes the new construction of 164 units of affordable and supportive rental housing on a formerly vacant lot in Center City Rochester. Included in the project will be 95 units of supportive housing and related services that will serve military veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals and those experiencing substance use disorders, and/or severe mental illness, and 69 units for households with incomes less than 60% AMI. The four-story U-shaped building surrounding a courtyard will include 22 studios, 125 one-bedroom units and 17 two-bedroom units, including ten (10) ADA accessible units, four (4) Audio/Visually impaired accessible units and eight (8) units with Section 8 Project-Based Housing Vouchers from the Rochester Housing Authority. The supportive housing units will receive rental assistance and supportive services funded through NYS agencies through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI). The building will feature a central courtyard with street access, as well as amenities including a reception area and lobby, a community room with kitchen, lunge and fitness rooms, laundry facilities, property management and supportive services offices, all designed for accessibility to accommodate populations with a full range of capabilities, as well as for residents to age in place. The project will be an all-electric building, including heating, air conditioning and hot water systems and will utilize awarded Clean Energy Initiative funding for the project for highly efficient air source heat pumps for heating and cooling. Total development cost is \$72,682,355 and includes a \$1,000,000 HOME loan and shelter-rent PILOT from the City.

The Parliament Fairfield project includes the rehabilitation of existing affordable rental housing, along with demolition and new construction of a total of 103 units that will be affordable, 96 of which will serve households up to 50%, 60%, 80% AMI. There will be a range of unit sizes, including one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, and include 16 ADA accessible units, (three (3) audio/visually impaired-(A/VI) accessible units and two (2) units with both ADA and A/VI accessibility.) Design at both sites will enhance the existing character of the respective neighborhoods while applying modern technology to achieve energy efficiency, improved accessibility and sustainable construction as well as all electric heating, air conditioning, and hot water systems. At construction completion there will be seven (7) units without income restriction that will allow households that desire to remain tenants should their incomes exceed 80% AMI. As vacancies naturally occur, RHA will prioritize serving households at or below 50% AMI. This project is part of a redevelopment partnership with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to rehabilitate and or modernize public housing and convert the related rental subsidies to Residential Assistance Demonstration (RAD) support via Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers. The project includes locations in southwest and northeast Rochester. Total development cost is \$51,584,030 and the City is providing a \$750,000 HOME funded loan and a shelter-rent PILOT for the project. Construction is underway and planned to be completed in 2025.

The Harpers Corners Project is located at the northwest corner of East Main Street and North Clinton Avenue intersection that serves as a prominent center city location, however has been physically distressed for an extended period of time. Comprised of four small mixed use buildings, upon completion the project will include eleven residential units affordable to households at or below 80% AMI, and affordable (below market rate rents) ground floor commercial spaces to be targeted and marketed toward local and minority/women business enterprises. There will be five one-bedroom units, 5 one-bedroom-plus-den area units and one two-bedroom apartments, and each building will feature at least one commercial ground level space. Total development cost is \$11 million and includes a \$500,000 loan of local funds from the City, in addition to a NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative award of \$4,000,000. The project began construction in June 2024 and is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

Park Square II project, formerly known as Midtown Manor Apartments, entails the rehabilitation of 200 units of existing affordable rental housing, along with the new construction of 40 units of affordable rental housing, to serve households at up to 50% (150 units) and up to 60% AMI (90 units). The project will include 100 studio apartments, 100 one-bedroom apartments and 40 two-bedroom apartments. The rehabilitation will include repair/replacement of all major building systems, including plumbing & wastewater piping, domestic hot water heating and HVAC, all new finishes in apartments and common areas including paint, flooring and cabinets. Energy efficient components include new energy-efficient windows, efficient plumbing and light fixtures and all new EnergyStar appliances. There will be 150 project based vouchers, a combination of 120 from NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) and 30 from RHA, providing rental assistance to tenants of 75 of each of the studio and one-bedroom apartments, which allows the property to remain affordable to extremely-low and low income households. Total development cost of the project is \$112.8 million and the City is providing a \$500,000 loan of American Rescue Plan Act funding as well as a shelter-rent PILOT for the project. Construction is underway and completion is anticipated in 2026.

The City is increasing its partnerships with local developers and builders to create new homeownership opportunities, such as the Buy The Block (BTB) initiative that has been launched in northeast Rochester. This initiative, utilizing ARPA funding to offset the high costs of construction and allowing houses to be sold at prices affordable to low and very low income households is one way that the City can redevelop vacant residential land and assist households that are shut out of the home purchase market due to increasingly higher sale prices of existing homes.

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

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

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

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	52	8
Tenant-based rental assistance	92	109
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0
Total	144	117

Table 13 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

This chart shows that 117 households were served through HOPWA. However, this chart does not capture that an additional 28 households were served through HOPWA permanent housing placement service and supportive activities, bringing the total number of households served by HOPWA to 145. There were 2 duplicate households served, bringing the adjusted total to 143. Please see separate 2023-24 HOPWA CAPER report attachment for further detail.

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	1	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	12,630				
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	5				
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	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					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	1				
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
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.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	1				
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					
Other.					

Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

In line with the publication of the Section 3 Final Rule and Benchmark Notice, the City of Rochester began reporting Section 3 compliance data in IDIS within the applicable reporting cycles for:

1. Over \$200,000 in HUD funding and involves construction or rehab
2. One of the following:
 - a. Contract executed between 12/1/2020 and 6/30/2021 AND the activity was still open after 7/1/2021
 - b. Contract executed on or after 7/1/2021

ESG- To Be Completed in SAGE

Note: this replaces CR-60, CR-65, CR-70, CR-75

Project Outcomes

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.”

The City utilizes the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) to document program progress and monitor program performance on an ongoing basis. The City requires all ESG sub-recipients to enter data into HMIS as required by HUD. A Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is prepared annually by the City. Each ESG funded subrecipient now uses HMIS to run their own CAPER report and download it directly into SAGE for the City and County to produce the combined CAPER. The CoC will assist the project as needed to do the submission. The consolidated CAPER contains a summary of resources and programmatic accomplishments, the status of actions taken in concert with the CoC to implement the strategies contained in the Consolidated Plan, and evaluation of progress made in addressing identified priority needs and objectives.

Performance Standards are in alignment with the HUD required measures including reducing the duration of homelessness; reducing recidivism; reducing the number of people who become homeless; increasing employment and income; and stability in permanent housing. Additional local standards have also been established and are included in the community written standards; occupancy rate, number of days to respond to referrals, number of days from program entry to move-in date into RRH or PSH, etc.

These standards have been confirmed/reconfirmed by City, County, and CoC for program year 2023-24, and each organization will be expected to keep accurate and timely data and meet these goals. Each component type has different outcome/performance measures, but they are related to the goals stated in the previous question.

Emergency Shelter (ES)

- Average length of stay is less than 30 days
- 60% of participants exit with a successful housing outcome
- 50% of participants exit to permanent housing
- Less than 20% of participants exit to an unknown location
- 50% of participants exit with/linked to cash income
- 60% of participants exit with/linked to non-cash resources
- 90% average occupancy rate

Street Outreach (SO)

- 30% of all participants engaged will exit to permanent housing destinations
- 30% of all participants engaged will have successful exits from the program
- 70% or more of adult participants will have non-cash benefits
- 60% or more of adult participants will have income from sources other than employment

- 15% or more of adult participants will have income from employment
- 80% of participants will not return to homelessness within two years
- Average time from contact to engagement is 60 days
 - Contact: Outreach worker meets client but may not collect any information
 - Engagement: Client completes intake and is entered into HMIS
- Average time from engagement to successful exit from program is 45 days

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Homeless Prevention (HP)

- 92% of all participants will remain stable in RRH or exit to other permanent housing destinations
- 64% or more of adult participants will have non-cash benefits
- 64% or more of adult participants will have income from sources other than employment
- 20% or more of adult participants increase income from sources other than employment
- 20% or more of adult participants will have income from employment
- 20% or more of adult participants will increase income from employment
- 92% of participants do not return to homelessness within a one-year period after exit from RRH
- 85% of participants do not return to homelessness within a two-year period after exit from RRH
- Average time from enrollment to moving to permanent housing is thirty (30) days
 - Persons are entered into RRH programs upon completing intake unless person is not eligible based on information obtained at intake (i.e. not homeless, over income, etc.)
- 95% Utilization rate based on amount of rental assistance that is expended annually

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.*

Below is the list of Emergency Shelter Operations, Street Outreach, and RRH/HP performance standards that the City of Rochester met or exceeded. The data below was submitted by the City's ESG funded partners for the 2023-24 program year.

Emergency Shelter (ES) - local attainment in [brackets] before the performance/written standards*

- [65.9%] 60% of participants exit with a successful housing outcome
- [64.2%] 60% of participants exit with/linked to non-cash resources
- [95.0%] 90% average occupancy rate

Street Outreach (SO)

- [34.0%] 30% of all participants engaged will have successful exits from the program
- [70.7%] 70% or more of adult participants will have non-cash benefits
- [Yes] 80% of participants will not return to homelessness within two years

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Homeless Prevention (HP)

- [88.8%] 64% or more of adult participants will have non-cash benefits
- [72.2%] 64% or more of adult participants will have income from sources other than employment

- [Yes] 20% or more of adult participants increase income from sources other than employment
- [34.8%] 20% or more of adult participants will have income from employment
- [Yes] 20% or more of adult participants will increase income from employment
- [92.6%] 92% of participants do not return to homelessness within a 1-year period after exit from RRH
- [Yes] 85% of participants do not return to homelessness within a 2-year period after exit from RRH
- [Yes] 95% Utilization rate based on amount of rental assistance that is expended annually

For 2023-24, the City worked with grantees to improve the accuracy and timeliness of reporting submissions. There was a marked advancement from prior years, but the timing issues remain for a few organizations and further process refinements are planned. However, many of the performance standards were met, and those that weren't were typically only missed by small margins.

The emergency shelter system was often at capacity, and open beds were not empty for long. While standards such as length of stay were not met, the performance metrics focused on exits showed a commitment to those living at the shelters. Both the percentage of exits with a successful housing outcome and the percentage of participants linked with non-cash resources were about 5% more than the standards. This is an even greater accomplishment when compared to 2022-23, when only 34% of persons exited to positive housing outcomes. Since then, there has been nearly a doubling of the rate of successful housing outcomes for those leaving shelters. Street outreach fared much the same, with successful exits and non-cash benefits both above the established standards. The above achievements are not always the focus of outreach and shelter work, but are similar to what an RRH or HP program aims to achieve, indicating a commitment to the long-term well-being and stability of their charges.

For RRH/HP, all but two of the performance standard metrics were met, and a majority of the standards were significantly exceeded. The percentage of adult participants that have non-cash benefits, income from sources other than employment, and income from employment were exceeded by 24%, 8%, and 14.8%. Additionally, the percentage of participants returning to homelessness after exiting RRH was small, for both the 1 year and 2 year periods. Rental housing supply has recently failed to keep up with demand, a problem that is magnified when considering the market available to households with rent subsidies, imperfect rental histories, low/no-income, and mental or physical disabilities. Given the lack of options for RRH program participants, the success of these programs is even more remarkable.

Altogether, a majority of the performance metrics were met, and the areas of success will be strengthened. Any shortcomings will be addressed in the 2024-25 program year, and potential solutions are already in place or under review. The focus of the past few years has been to ensure data was collected in a timely manner and that the data was accurate. The City's ESG partners have largely responded to that, and new policies help to ensure that will continue. In the coming years, more of a focus will be put on improving upon prior year accomplishments and fine-tuning programs to ensure they are exceeding community standards.

Lastly, all grantees reported on the necessary data points, but certain categories still need cleaning up. Up until 2023-24, the performance measures were relied upon to ensure programs were setting goals that provide a better housing and support services ecosystem for those that face greater housing instability. We expect each agency to make a best effort to attain each of the goals pertinent to their programs, but measures for some programs change due to population (youths, DV, etc.) and economic trends.

Briefly describe what you did not meet and why.

Below is the list of Emergency Shelter Operations, Street Outreach, and RRH/HP performance standards that the City's ESG-funded partners did not meet. The data below was submitted by the for the 2023-24 program year.

Emergency Shelter (ES)

- [39] Average length of stay is less than 30 days
- [32.1%] 50% of participants exit to permanent housing
- [34.0%] Less than 20% of participants exit to an unknown location
- [47.4%] 50% of participants exit with/linked to cash income

Street Outreach (SO)

- [14.5%] 30% of all participants engaged will exit to permanent housing destinations
- [37.0%] 60% or more of adult participants will have income from sources other than employment
- [10.6%] 15% or more of adult participants will have income from employment
- [N/A] Average time from contact to engagement is 60 days
 - Contact: Outreach worker meets client but may not collect any information
 - Engagement: Client completes intake and is entered into HMIS
- [N/A] Average time from engagement to successful exit from program is 45 days

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Homeless Prevention (HP)

- [79.1%] 92% of all participants will remain stable in RRH or exit to other perm. housing
- [72] Average time from enrollment to moving to permanent housing is thirty (30) days
 - Persons are entered into RRH programs upon completing intake unless person is not eligible based on information obtained at intake

For 2023-24, the City worked with grantees to improve the accuracy and timeliness of reporting submissions. There was a marked improvement from prior years, but the timing issues remain for a few organizations, and issues beyond their control impacted all housing and homeless services providers. The housing market posed several challenges to ESG programs and the homeless and at risk populations, and the City witnessed an increase to unsheltered homelessness with almost a doubling of the population counted during the Point In Time (PIT). At the same time, the community is dealing with some repercussions of the pandemic, including a spike in evictions, an increase in both for-sale and rental housing prices, a surge in costs, and an inability for housing supply to keep up with demand.

The low supply of affordable housing options, including permanent supportive housing, leads to greater instability for those with low-incomes or mental and physical disabilities. Shelter stays are up, and the average length of stay is now 39 days (up from 30 in 2022-23). As compared to prior years, a far greater percentage of those served in shelters are in need of rental assistance, but rental assistance programs have not kept up with demand. Only 32% of participants are exiting to permanent housing, well below the 50% standard, and over a third (34%) of participants are exiting to unknown locations. The other shortcomings within the Shelter Operations program type can be tied to changes in the housing market and increased strain on the system.

Street outreach programs are more necessary than ever, as evidenced by the PIT count. While the City, County, and other stakeholders can respond to the need within increased spending in the future, prior year funding levels were in place for 2023-24. The outreach workers connected with more households per caseworker than in the past, and that progressive engagement will lead to improved outcomes for anyone they work with. But the aforementioned housing market and subsidy issues remain, and only 14.5% of participants engaged exited to permanent housing destinations; less than half of the written standard (30%). Additionally, unsheltered homeless persons had much higher needs than in years past, with addiction commonplace amongst the population. Additional resources are dedicated to these services for 2024-25, but much more work is needed to adequately address this situation. Lastly, RRH programs met the great majority of performance metrics, but failed with respect to the percentage of participants remaining stable in RRH or exiting to other PSH (79% attained; 92% goal). Additionally, the average time from enrollment to moving to PSH is over double the standard (72 days attained; 30 day standard). These issues are the result of serving very high-needs participants and an inadequate and expensive housing market.

The City expects the entire portfolio of programs/projects to meet the performance standards, but analysis of the shortcomings is needed. Moving forward, any projects that do not meet performance measures will be expected to develop a plan to help them attain success in the future. These performance measures will be available to the ESG Proposal Review Committee, and will be part of the review committee's scoring as well (occurs once per year in early Spring). Except in rare circumstances, not meeting a performance measure should not determine if a program is or isn't funded, but it may point to individual aspects of their program that need tweaking, or it may lead to a better understanding of a larger problem facing our community or a specific population of persons.

The City is working with local partners to increase both the availability of non-congregate emergency shelter beds and permanent supportive housing units.

If your standards were not written as measurable, provide a sample of what you will change them to in the future?

N/A

CARES Act CAPER Attachment- Accomplishments Through 6/30/2023

Via the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the City of Rochester received additional pandemic-relief grant allocations totaling \$12,697,579 for the CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA grant programs. These funds were only able to support activities that would prevent, prepare for, and respond to the economic and health issues brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. HUD issued waivers from many normal HUD regulations to help ensure funds could be deployed quickly.

The City staff consulted with community stakeholders to identify the most critical community needs and to inform the development of the plan for how the funds would be used. Key needs identified included small business stabilization assistance, eviction prevention through rent and legal assistance, computer and internet access, and emergency housing repairs. Staff compared these needs to allowable activities to finalize the draft plan. Vital collaboration was maintained with Monroe County to jointly budget ESG-CV funding to address homelessness and rent arrears issues. The City also collaborated with a consortium of non-profit and governmental partners convened by the United Way working on a coordinated community response to the crisis. This consortium informed the development of several of the City's funded programs, including the "Bridging the Digital Divide" initiative, whereby low-income Rochester City School District students without home computers and/or internet access were provided devices during the critical period of remote learning.

The 2019-20 Annual Action Plan was amended to incorporate the CARES act funds for the purposes of tracking and reporting. Due to funding awards being made over several installments, 4 different substantial amendments were made. Per waivers provided by HUD, the original funding plan amendment, and subsequent additions, were each posted for public comment for a 5-day period. 100% of the funds have been allocated to activities.

CARES Act Grant	City of Rochester Allocation	Expended through 6/30/2024	Encumbered Balance as of 7/1/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024
CDBG-CV	\$7,252,215	\$7,058,393.72	\$67.68	\$14,891.47
ESG-CV	\$5,303,335	\$5,088,641.23	\$0	\$214,693.77
HOPWA-CV	\$142,029	\$138,925.20	\$0	\$3,103.80
TOTAL	\$12,697,579	\$12,285,960.15	\$67.68	\$232,689.04

As of June 30, 2024, \$12,285,960.15 had been incurred in program expenses to assist businesses; serve meals to seniors; assist families with rent assistance for eviction prevention, legal assistance for eviction and homelessness prevention; prevent foreclosures; assist senior homeowners to age in place more comfortably; repair rental units for 60% AMI renters; help owner-occupants make emergency repairs to their homes; provide laptops to RCSD students; help low income individuals/households with emergency shelter/rapid rehousing/street outreach; and, provide rent assistance and permanent housing assistance to individuals/families living with HIV/AIDS. Over 40,000 households were impacted by these programs.

Additional spending and accomplishment detail by program is provided on the following pages.

CARES Act Funded Projects- Accomplishments and Spending Through June 30, 2024

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Business Emergency Retention Grants	CDF local funding	\$411,135.00	\$411,135.00	\$-	Businesses	215	Social distancing and isolation protocols significantly reduced the revenue for local small businesses, putting them at risk of reducing employment and/or closing. A significant number of businesses were severely impacted by substantial decreases in revenue. It was vitally important to act quickly to retain both businesses and their employees.	The Business Emergency Retention Grant (BERG) was a program generated to assist business owners who struggled to pay everyday unpaid working capital expenses such as rent/mortgage payments, utilities, insurance, inventory and/or payroll, who were experiencing financial hardships due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. A significant number of businesses experienced extreme financial hardships due to COVID 19 shutdowns, which resulted in significant revenue and employment losses. The BERG program was extremely successful in retaining a large number of businesses and their employees during this time. The City's NBD, Business Development Division (BD) set a record for businesses assisted in less than one year. HUD also requested NBD BD assist other communities who may have struggled with CARE's funds, and communicate how our City was so successful.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Business Emergency Retention Grants	CDBG-CV	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,497,999.60	\$2,000	Businesses	449	Social distancing and isolation protocols significantly reduced the revenue for local small businesses, putting them at risk of reducing employment and/or closing. A significant number of businesses were severely impacted by substantial decreases in revenue. It was vitally important to act quickly to retain both businesses and their employees.	The Business Emergency Retention Grant (BERG) was a program generated to assist business owners who struggled to pay everyday unpaid working capital expenses such as rent/mortgage payments, utilities, insurance, inventory and/or payroll, who were experiencing financial hardships due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. A significant number of businesses experienced extreme financial hardships due to COVID 19 shutdowns, which resulted in significant revenue and employment losses. The BERG program was extremely successful in retaining a large number of businesses and their employees during this time. The City's NBD, Business Development Division (BD) set a record for businesses assisted in less than one year. HUD also requested NBD BD assist other communities who may have struggled with CARE's funds, and communicate how our City was so successful.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Restaurant Grant aka Senior Meals	CDBG-CV	\$881,575.00	\$858,040.15	\$0	Senior Households	12696	The elderly were recommended to observe strict isolation protocols as they were at higher risk of adverse health outcomes when contracting COVID-19 virus. This however increased the risk for these households to go hungry or lack proper nutrition. Simultaneously, social distancing and isolation significantly reduced the revenue for local small business restaurants, putting them at risk of reducing employment and/or closing	The City contracted with 211 Lifeline for call center intake services. The program coordinated the delivery of 42,829 meals to 12,696 vulnerable senior households. This helped enable them to remain safely isolated, while ensuring they got adequate nutrition. The program simultaneously helped sustain 32 restaurants though the long period of economic hardship driven by pandemic social distancing requirements.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Eviction Prevention Rent Assistance	CDBG-CV	\$900,000.00	\$891,236.56	\$-	Persons	623	The COVID related financial impact/loss amongst LI (<80%AMI) households was high, and this increased as incomes went down and/or rent burden went up. These programs mitigated the financial losses of tenants <i>and</i> their landlords, and reduced transmissibility by keeping people stably housed.	Early in the pandemic, ESG-CV was the only form of arrears assistance available to the community, but many households were unable to qualify for ESG-CV assistance, largely due to income. The City used CDBG-CV funding to address this need and fill a funding gap, and leveraged the existing system that was in place for ESG-CV arrears assistance. The funding was largely used to provide arrears assistance.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Eviction Prevention, Landlord/Tenant	CDBG-CV	\$311,025.00	\$265,605.05	\$-	Households	3064	Risk of homelessness and eviction judgement, typically caused by income issues created from or exacerbated by the pandemic. In addition, many health/safety concerns were raised that the property owner/manager may have been unable or unwilling to correct due to their own pandemic-related issues. Loss of housing increased risk of contracting COVID if household has to go to congregate shelter or stay with friends/family.	Note: #s include hotline tenants + hotline landlords in addition to those directly assisted by the two legal services agencies (Legal Aid Society and Legal Assistance of Western New York). 425 tenant households were assisted by legal services staff to negotiate/advocate with the property owner and/or eviction judges. The other households were provided with immediate information on rights/responsibilities/options regarding their housing situation (on the part of tenants) or their rental situation (on the part of property owners/managers). The ability to access this information over phone/email reduced physical contact but also improves landlord-tenant relations and provides the opportunity for households to avoid illegal eviction and homelessness, and the loss of much-needed rent for owners/managers to continue to keep up their properties.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Foreclosure Prevention	CDBG-CV	\$179,000.00	\$165,769.20	\$67	Households	156	Risk of displacement and loss of housing as well as ruination of financial situation and stability. In addition, potential illegal or unethical lender/servicer practices were mitigated. Loss of housing increased risk of contracting COVID if household has to go to congregate shelter or stay with friends/family, as well as the increased difficulty of finding housing at a time when it was unsafe to go into enclosed spaces as well as a much more expensive housing market.	Households were assisted to avoid the loss of their home to foreclosure. This includes budget counseling, assessment of situation and options, advocacy to the lender/servicer as well as potential funders (such as New York State who had grant funds available), and even counseling/referrals to other agencies to support the household to prevent further issues or recover from their current financial issue created or exacerbated by the pandemic.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Aging In Place	CDBG-CV	\$128,000.00	\$91,780.00	\$64	Households	7067	The elderly were recommended to observe strict isolation protocols as they were at higher risk of adverse health outcomes when contracting COVID-19 virus. This however increased the risk for these households to go hungry or lack proper nutrition. The goal was to eliminate as much exposed to the virus as possible.	Lifespan provided prescription pickup, grocery cards and food deliveries to elderly City residents. This enabled the elderly residents to remain in their homes, and not risk exposure to COVID-19 virus in order to purchase necessities. They provided transportation to vaccine locations. The elderly also were provided small home repair that allowed them to remain safely in their homes during this time.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Landlord Grant (Vacant Unit Rehab)	CDBG-CV	\$300,000.00	\$243,592.43	\$12,678	Rental Units	51	Landlords were impacted by loss of rents during the pandemic due to the high rate of unemployment occurring in the City. The program was created to assist this population by providing financial assistance to undertake needed repairs in vacant rental units, thereby increasing the availability of affordable housing to low-income renters.	The program provided assistance to 51 rental units whereby repairs were made to enable owners to obtain a certificate of occupancy. Repairs include such work as electrical, plumbing, mechanical, corrections to code violations and other health and safety issues. Completed units were made available to low-income families with incomes at or below 60% of the area median income.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Emergency Assistance Rehab	CDBG-CV	\$100,000.00	\$100,366.00	\$-	Households	58	Low-income households were impacted by the significant rise of unemployment during the pandemic. Disposal income for housing repairs were diminished during this time. The program provided financial assistance to this population to replace non-working furnaces and hot water tanks.	The program provided assistance to 58 households where new furnaces and hot water tanks were installed. This provided significant relief to homeowners that otherwise could not have paid for these repairs.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Digital Divide (Laptops for RCSD Students)	CDBG-CV	\$1,021,038.00	\$1,020,996.81	\$-	Children	2901	Social distancing required the Rochester City School District to shift to remote learning via zoom. However, many low income student households did not have a compatible computer, adequate internet, or both. If left unaddressed, the pandemic could have contributed to an even more significant learning gap for low income households, who already have worse outcomes in normal times.	The City partnered with RCSD and local philanthropic organizations coordinated by the United Way of Greater Rochester the Finger Lakes. CDBG funding was utilized to purchase and distribute laptops to 2901 children. Internet and other needs were addressed through other funding sources. Given that students continued remote learning for over a year, this activity had a major impact in mitigating learning loss and other issues. The positive impact will continue even after in-person learning resumes.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Financial Empowerment Centers	CDBG-CV	\$125,000.00	\$116,430.92	\$82	People	502	The pandemic led to increased unemployment and economic hardship for large swaths of the population, particularly for low income households. This contributed to housing instability and other serious challenges. The Rochester Financial Empowerment Centers (FEC) provides free 1-1 financial coaching services to households that can help mitigate these challenges. This includes helping households increase their savings, reduce their debt, create and manage their budgets, access safe and affordable banking, as well as provide referrals to other support programs.	CARES funding helped to provide expanded services through the FEC to serve households impacted by pandemic economic hardship. Through 6/30/2024 the CARES funding helped serve 1,008 households with average annual household income of less than \$35,358. Through June 30, 2024 373 clients were able to achieve a total of 1,336 major FEC outcomes: 12 client established credit after being credit invisible, 228 increased their savings by at least 1 week worth of income, 228 increased their credit scores by at least 35 points, 78 opened safe and affordable bank accounts, and clients reduced a total of 470 delinquent accounts. 229 clients were able to reduce their non-mortgage debt by 10%.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Admin	CDBG-CV	\$806,577.00	\$806,577.00	\$-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>CDBG-CV Subtotal</u>	<u>CDVG-CV</u>	<u>\$7,252,215</u>	<u>\$7,058,393.72</u>	<u>\$14,891.47</u>				

Homeless Prevention	ESG-CV	\$2,526,465.71	\$2,393,719.32	\$132,746.39	People	2418	<p>The pandemic shed light on how unstable and tenuous housing situations were for many ELI and VLI renters. Households with severe rent burdens are often one emergency away from an eviction, and COVID played that part for many. Homeless persons and those at risk of homelessness were at higher risk of both catching and transmitting COVID, and moving during a pandemic increases that risk. Financially, there was a correlation between higher economic impact/loss as incomes went down. These programs mitigated the financial losses of landlords and tenants, and reduced transmissibility by keeping people stably housed.</p>	<p>Several programs were funded, to provide different forms of support to persons facing various kinds of housing instability. Grantees provided direct financial assistance, including rental arrears assistance (up to 6 months), rental assistance, security deposits, and 1st month's rent to ensure housing stability was re-established or secured. The City worked with the County, CoC, and local service providers to perform outreach and inform tenants and landlords as to their rights, responsibilities, and potential solutions. Resources were pooled, and funders planned and implemented a single point of entry system for all eviction and homelessness prevention resources. The system was initially funded by City and County ESG-CV resources, and was eventually used to deploy ERAP and ARP arrears dollars. Early in the pandemic, the majority of households served by ESG-CV were given arrears assistance. ESG-CV was the first arrears funding assistance available to the City and our community, and was in high demand when the program came online in mid-2020. After additional arrears dollars were provided, most with more flexible eligibility criteria, ESG-CV was primarily used for security deposits and 1st month's rent. In total, 225 households were provided arrears assistance and 111 households were</p>
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Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
								<p>provided with security deposits and 1st month's rent. ESG-CV dollars were also used to fund a program that provided legal assistance for those facing eviction, and an eviction information/intake hotline. While 1887 persons were served according to standard homelessness prevention reporting, many more were provided assistance in some form. Of those 1887, The Tenant Defense Project served all households facing eviction, through legal representation, mediation, and negotiation with landlords on behalf of tenants. Over 16,000 calls were answered by the eviction information hotline, and over 7,000 intakes were completed across the program. Attorneys were able to prevent or delay evictions in over 90% of cases that made it to court.</p>

Emergency Shelter + HMIS Data Entry	ESG-CV	\$1,041,945.29	\$1,040,750.91	\$1,194.38	People	8899	<p>Shelter operators faced significant challenges throughout COVID. The persons served by shelters during this time had high needs and higher risk of transmission. Most shelters were congregate in nature, and social distancing was not a viable option. The entire community participated in a "Decompression", which saw the highest risk shelter residents placed in hotels, and ultimately permanently housed. Shelters faced financial losses due to an inability to fundraise, and the decompression effort, while very necessary, reduced the amount of funding shelters received in per diems from the County.</p>	<p>Over a dozen shelters provided services to the community throughout the pandemic, and all remained open and offered services in-person. The majority of Emergency Shelter Operations funding supported expenses like hazard pay, COVID related training, staffing, and general operations. A local non-profit was able to provide the majority of cleaning and personal safety supplies, while ESG-CV funding filled gaps in budgets to ensure staffing remained sufficient and stable. This was especially important given the uncertainty around the eviction moratoria. Since the start of the pandemic, 3645 households were served, including; 1441 children, 1138 persons with a mental health disorder, and over 600 persons with a physical disability. 440 households were fleeing domestic violence, with over half of those including children. Lastly, the City funded Partners Ending Homelessness (local CoC) to provide additional technical assistance for HMIS to any ESG-CV grantees, new and old.</p>
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Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Rapid Rehousing	ESG-CV	\$767,374.72	\$767,374.72	\$1,584.61	People	600	Early in the pandemic, much of the focus was on prevention; with COVID transmission, moving (new leases), and evictions (also homelessness). However, prevention was not the best option for many. For rent burdened households, especially ELI and VLI households or those with severe rent burdens, the pandemic magnified how unstable their housing situations were.	Our RRH partners provided traditional RRH assistance to the community, and also focused efforts on persons impacted by the "decompression". These programs provided security deposits, short term rental assistance, and ongoing case management and general support to all clients. The need for RRH assistance increased over time, while our prevention programs continued to demonstrate that other interventions were needed. Prevention was the preferred choice, but not at the expense of a household's long-term financial/housing stability. In total, 137 (107 households) persons were served and engaged, with 81 successfully moving on to permanent housing options. Of those 81 persons housed; 25 were children, 34 had a mental health disorder, 21 had a chronic health condition, and 27 had a physical disability.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Street Outreach	ESG-CV	\$613,130.69	\$566,564.31	\$46,566.38	People	3573	Unhoused persons' problems were exacerbated and extended during the pandemic. Shelter capacity went down, mobile services were reduced or suspended, and housing became even more difficult to secure. Landlords became more risk averse, and were often not willing to rent to households with imperfect rental histories. Some landlords stopped renting units altogether. Lastly, persons living on the streets could sometimes make ends meet through panhandling, but even this resource was essentially non-existent (remote work, income uncertainty amongst general public, etc.).	Street outreach teams worked with unhoused persons to develop relationships and provide services and housing options to those that want them. With many businesses, services, and individuals working remotely, outreach teams were an invaluable resource to the community, and were often the only way unhoused persons had to learn about and secure services or housing. The City's unsheltered homeless population and number of encampments remained relatively stable throughout much of the pandemic, but they have both increased since the end of the eviction moratoria. The City anticipates that this trend will continue, and, in September 2022, committed \$250,000 in ESG-CV to a street outreach program. Of the 77 persons served, 46 were chronically homeless, and 51 had mental health disorders,

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
Admin	ESG-CV	\$352,833.98	\$320,231.97	\$32,602.01	N/A		N/A	N/A
ESG-CV Subtotal	ESG-CV	\$5,303,335	\$5,088,641.23	\$214,693.77				
Support for persons with AIDS	HOPW A-CV	\$142,029.00	\$138,925.20	\$3,104	People	495	Individuals and families who have members with AIDS had significantly higher health risk when exposed to COVID-19 virus. The added burden of safe isolation and lack of proper nutrition caused by the inability to get access to food in a safe environment created a need for these services.	CCCS and Trillium Health provided rental assistance to help with isolation protocol during the pandemic. Cards for food services were also provided to these vulnerable individuals.

Program	Fund Type	Budgeted	Funding Drawn Through 6/30/2024	Balance as of 7/1/2024	Outcome Type	# Served Through 6/30/2024	COVID-19 Pandemic Health/Economic Issue Mitigated by the Program	Program Accomplishment Narrative
<u>GRAND TOTAL CARES ACT FUNDING</u>	<u>ALL</u>	<u>\$12,697,579</u>	<u>\$12,285,960.15</u>	<u>\$232,689.04</u>				
<u>GRAND TOTAL WITH LOCAL FUNDS</u>	<u>ALL</u>	<u>\$13,108,714</u>	<u>\$12,697,095.15</u>	<u>\$232,689.04</u>				