

PUBLIC NOTICE
Somerset County, New Jersey

Combined Summary of the Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan
Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing

Background - The County of Somerset is the recipient of federal entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds. As a condition of receipt of these funds, the County must prepare and submit an Annual Action Plan to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Available Funds - The County has been advised by HUD that it will receive an entitlement grant allocation of \$1,098,818 in CDBG funds and \$532,984 in HOME funds. The County is also recapturing \$24,220.68 in CDBG funds from prior Program Years and \$27,490.00 in HOME funds from prior Program Years.

Range of Eligible Activities - Funds available under the CDBG Program may be used for a wide range of activities including acquisition, disposition, public facilities and improvements, clearance activities, public services, interim assistance, payment of non-federal share of grants, relocation, loss of rental income, housing services, utility construction, home ownership assistance, economic development, provision of technical assistance, certain educational institution assistance, rehabilitation and preservation activities, special assistance to community based development organizations and related planning, environmental and administrative activities. Funds available under the HOME Program may be used to provide incentives to develop and support housing affordability through rental assistance payments, acquisition, new construction, reconstruction or rehabilitation by funding of eligible hard and soft costs and certain related counseling services, and activities for eligible low and moderate income persons.

Program Limitations - Both the CDBG and the HOME Programs have certain legislative and regulatory limitations on the uses of funds which restrict the types of projects and activities which may be funded under these programs, including the requirement that funds must principally benefit persons of low or moderate-income. As a result, the range of eligible activities under these programs is subject to these legislative and regulatory limitations. The County has prepared a draft Annual Action Plan as summarized below. Based on the projects and activities proposed the County anticipates that 100% of both the CDBG and HOME Program funds will be used in a manner which will benefit low and moderate income-persons as defined by federal regulations.

Proposed Annual Action Plan - The County will submit to HUD its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan. The Draft Action Plan is based on a review of project proposals submitted to the Somerset County Community Development Office and the County's experience in the administration of prior year grants. The draft Annual Action Plan is summarized as follows:

<u>2020 CDBG Program</u>		
Applicant	Proposed Project	Award
Arc of Somerset County	Jerry Davis Center for Children & Families 141 So. Main Street Manville, NJ	\$43,000.00
Community Hope, Inc.	Hope for Veterans Employment Training Program 151 Knollcroft Road, Bldg. 53 Lyons, NJ	\$35,000.00
Middle Earth	Youth College Readiness Program 520 North Bridge Street Bridgewater, NJ	\$15,000.00
Safe + Sound Somerset	Transitional Housing Direct Services 427 Homestead Road Hillsborough, NJ	\$15,000.00
Somerset YMCA	Active Older Adults Program 140 Mt. Airy Road Basking Ridge, NJ	\$9,834.00
Visions & Pathways	Street Smart Outreach Program 49 Brahma Avenue Bridgewater, NJ	\$36,000.00
Alternatives	Kitchen Improvements - Group Home 85-87 Fairview Avenue Somerville, NJ	\$18,882.00
Delta Community Supports	Bath Improvements - Group Home 174 Opossum Road Montgomery, NJ	\$21,675.00
Martin Luther King Youth Center	Roof & Gutter Replacement 1298 Prince Rodgers Road Bridgewater, NJ	\$42,604.00
Midland Adult Services	Accessibility Improvements - Group Home 363 Pleasant Run Road Branchburg, NJ	\$56,829.32
Our House	Roof Replacement - Group Home 17 Vail Terrace Bernards, NJ	\$11,625.00
Our House	Roof Replacement - Group Home 642 Winsor Street Bound Brook, NJ	\$12,090.00
Visions & Pathways	Improvements - Group Home 5 Third Avenue Bridgewater, NJ	\$25,954.00

Zufall Health	Installation of Dental Operatories 71 Fourth Street Somerville, NJ	\$72,000.00
Bound Brook Borough	West 2 nd Street Improvements Bound Brook, NJ	\$77,442.00
Manville Borough	Sidewalks & Ramp Improvements Louis Street & North 9 th Avenue Manville, NJ	\$77,443.00
North Plainfield Borough	Sanitary Sewer Improvements Jefferson Ave & Walnut Street North Plainfield, NJ	\$77,442.00
Raritan Borough	Sanitary Sewer Improvements Various locations Raritan, NJ	\$77,442.00
Somerville Borough	Sanitary Sewer Improvements Various locations Somerville, NJ	\$77,442.00
South Bound Brook Borough	Sidewalk Improvements Edgewood Terrace South Bound Brook, NJ	\$77,442.00
Somerset County	Program Administration	\$218,671.68
	TOTAL	\$1,098,818.00

2020 HOME Program		
Applicant	Proposed Project	Award
ADTI Housing Corp.	Acquisition - Group Home Bridgewater, NJ	\$292,571.00
ADTI Housing Corp.	CHDO Operating Costs 600 First Avenue Raritan, NJ	\$20,000.00
Central Jersey Housing Resource Center	First-Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance 92 East Main Street Somerville, NJ	\$1,605.00
Somerset County	Future Low-/Moderate-Income Projects	\$165,510.00
Somerset County	Program Administration	\$53,298.00
	TOTAL	\$532,984.00

Action Plan Amendments-CDBG		
Program Year 2015		
Somerset County	Administrative Costs	(\$67.43)
Midland Adult Services	Accessibility Improvements - Group	\$67.43

	Home 363 Pleasant Run Road Branchburg, NJ	
Program Year 2016		
Hope Autism	Recreation/Therapy Program 5 Lyons Mall Basking Ridge, NJ	(\$1,057.00)
Interfaith Hospitality Network	Sunrise House - Heating System 209 Rt. 28 Bridgewater, NJ	(\$2,932.57)
Manville Borough	Sidewalk Improvements 1 Onka Street Manville, NJ	(\$8,019.92)
Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children	Group Home - Bathroom Improvements 49 Brahma Avenue Bridgewater, NJ	(\$1,980.00)
Midland Adult Services	Accessibility Improvements - Group Home 363 Pleasant Run Road Branchburg, NJ	\$13,989.49
Program Year 2017		
Raritan Borough	Installation of ADA Ramps Arnold Avenue Raritan, NJ	(\$4,349.50)
Midland Adult Services	Accessibility Improvements - Group Home 363 Pleasant Run Road Branchburg, NJ	\$4,349.50
Program Year 2019		
Jewish Community Center	J-Cares Special Needs Program 775 Talamini Road Bridgewater, NJ	(\$1,666.20)
Midland Adult Services	Emergency Generator Project - Group Home 890 Old York Road Branchburg, NJ	(\$2,055.02)
Midland Adult Services	Emergency Generator Project - Group Home 423 Readington Road Branchburg, NJ	(\$958.02)
Midland Adult Services	Emergency Generator Project - Group Home	(\$1,135.02)

	94 Windy Willow Way Branchburg, NJ	
Midland Adult Services	Accessibility Improvements - Group Home 363 Pleasant Run Road Branchburg, NJ	\$5,814.26
	Total Reprogrammed - CDBG	\$24,220.68

<u>Action Plan Amendments - HOME</u>		
Program Year 2014		
Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity	New Construction of Homes Churchill Avenue Franklin Township, NJ	(\$11,491.04)
Central Jersey Housing Resource Center	First-Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance 92 East Main Street Somerville, NJ	\$11,491.04
Program Year 2015		
Arc of Somerset	Emergency Generator Project - Group Home 51 Old Stirling Road Warren, NJ	(\$11,903.96)
Central Jersey Housing Resource Center	First-Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance 92 East Main Street Somerville, NJ	(\$4,095.00)
Central Jersey Housing Resource Center	First-Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance 92 East Main Street Somerville, NJ	\$11,903.96
ADTI Housing Corp.	Acquisition - Group Home Bridgewater, NJ	\$4,095.00
	Total Reprogrammed - HOME	\$27,490.00

Availability of Draft Plan - Pursuant to the provisions of federal regulations and the County's Citizen Participation Plan, the County is providing notice that the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and Draft 2020 Annual Action Plan is available for review by contacting the CD Office at Hirsch@co.somerset.nj.us. CD Staff can also be reached at 908-541-5756.

Citizen Comments - In order to make it easier to use 2020 CDBG funding for coronavirus response, HUD has granted waivers that shorten the public comment period to a minimum of five days and allow grantees to meet public hearing requirements with virtual public hearings.

Persons wishing to comment on the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and Draft 2020 Annual Action Plan should respond to the County during the comment period which begins on June 19th and ends on June 26th. All comments should be addressed to Jeremy Hirsch, Principal Planner, Somerset County Community Development Office, PO Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876-1262 or Hirsch@co.somerset.nj.us. Comments may also be presented at the virtual public hearing on the Draft 2020 Annual Action Plan to be held June 24th, 2020 at 12:00 PM. Details are available on the Somerset County website. All comments must include your name and municipality.

Shanel Y. Robinson, Freeholder Director