

HUD Entitlement Grants

City of Roanoke, Virginia
FY2022 – 2023 Annual Plan



Overview

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY 22-23) The City of Roanoke anticipates receiving approximately \$ 2.7 million in new entitlement funds annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in three grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Roanoke is an entitlement community under these HUD programs. This means that HUD funds are allocated to the City every year using a formula based on population, income levels, and other factors. The amount that the City receives then depends on how much Congress appropriates for the entire nation. Additionally, the 2022 Annual Plan includes carryover funds from CARES Act (CDBG-CV) funding that remains unspent and needs to be reprogrammed in this plan. The City has also been notified by HUD that we will be receiving American Rescue Plan Act (HOME-ARP) funds upon approval of an Allocation Plan to be submitted in the coming months. This Annual Plan includes 5% administrative/planning costs for HOME-ARP allowable prior to receiving the full allocation. The City anticipates the remaining funds will be available for programming for eligible activities in the 2023 Annual Plan.

The development of the City's HUD Annual Plan is a process that involves HCR and city staff, non-profits and community funding partners, citizen review teams and stakeholders of our HUD target area. Localities are required by HUD to hold at least two public meetings during the preparation of our Annual Plan and comply with requirements in the Citizen Participation Plan. The first public meeting for Roanoke was held on November 10, 2021 and hosted by staff from the HUD Community Resources (HCR) division of the Department of Planning, Building & Development, This meeting explained how the various federal funds could be used, identified objectives to be addressed, explained the target area approach, and reviewed the Council policy on use of HUD Funds. The meeting also served as a "how to apply" workshop for interested non-profit agencies and city departments. Over 50 participants attended the meeting/workshop. On November 12, 2021, HCR opened up online applications utilizing ZoomGrants program for potential applicants to access. HCR staff offered technical assistance during the open application period on the application process and to answer program questions on eligibility and viability. Applications were sought for CDBG, HOME and ESG programming. Within CDBG, activities fall into the classifications of Public Services or Community Development. HUD limits no more than 15% of CDBG entitlement funds can be used for Public Services, and Council policy further limits that amount to 95% of the maximum. In total, there were over 40 applications received in all categories with total requests of more than \$7.8 million. With annual entitlements, carry over from prior year, program income and HOME-ARP funds, total budget for all HCR programming is \$6.5 million.



After the applications were closed on January 19, 2022, HCR staff began reviewing the applications to determine if the described activity meets one of the 3 National Objectives set by HUD and other eligibility criteria. If the proposed program meets basic eligibility standards, HCR staff then scored the application using an objective scoring system and performed a risk assessment on each application to determine the extent and scope of monitoring and technical assistance that may be required. The scoring sheets and risk assessments were provided to members selected on the various Citizen Review Committees to assist in the review and ranking of applications for Public Services, Community Development and ESG.

Members of the Citizen Review Committees were recommended by the HCR Administrator to the Director of Planning, Building & Development and approved by the City Manager. Every effort is made to make the committees diverse by race and sex, but also with a working knowledge of public services, community development, economic development and homeless services. Each committee includes representation from the Belmont/Fallon Target Area as well. The committees are reminded that they serve in an advisory capacity only, with City Council making the final decision on funding. For ESG applications, the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness acts as review and advisory panel. A subcommittee of BRICH reviewed ESG applications and made funding recommendations to the full board during their March meeting and offer recommended funding to the HCR Administrator, based on estimated revenues.

The Citizen Review Committee members were provided access to ZoomGrants for the applicable applications once the filing deadline passed in January. They were tasked to review and familiarize themselves with the various applications and to contact HCR staff if they had questions.

The three committees were later convened in separate meetings in March and asked to rank the various proposals based on the information provided to them by the applicants. Each committee's rankings are then used by HCR staff to prioritize funding and provide recommended levels to the city manager. Effort is made to stretch the limited funds out as much as possible, with those ranked higher getting priority on funding. In an effort to stretch our resources, some agencies do not receive the full amount as requested but enough so as still provide a scaled back, but functional program. Once the City Manager has reviewed and/or edited the recommended funding from the HCR Administrator, City Council is provided with the proposed funding plan, typically in late March, and a public notice is advertised per the Citizen Participation Plan. During the 30 day public comment period, City Council will hold the second required public meeting to receive feedback and comments on the proposed Annual Plan. The HCR Administrator mails letters at that time of the public notice to each applicant notifying them of the amount of funding that has been recommended to City Council, and encouraged to attend the public hearing to speak on their award amount. No action on the Annual Plan is taken during the same meeting as the public hearing, although Council members are welcomed to ask questions of HCR or city management to openly discuss the proposed plan. This would be an opportunity for Council members to debate and decide to adjust the individual allotments. At the following regular meeting of City Council, a resolution is presented authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit the Annual Plan to HUD under the funding levels proposed to City Council. City Council can change the recommended plan prior to adoption of the resolution. The deadline for submission of our Annual Plan is generally May 15 each year.

For the 2022 Annual Plan, HUD did not announce the entitlement allocations to states and local governments until May 13, 2022 due to a delay in Congress in passing an omnibus spending bill that funded US Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is why the Annual plan process could not run concurrently with the City's budget approval process. This year's HUD Annual Plan is set for a 30 day comment period beginning May 23, 2022 and concluding June 22,

2022. City Council will hold a public hearing on June 6, 2022 and adopt a plan on June 20, 2022, with the plan submitted to HUD once the 30 day comment period is complete and all comments received are included in the plan submission.

CDBG

CDBG funds have been allocated to the City since 1975 and can be used for activities ranging from housing to economic development and from job training to infrastructure projects. For the 2022-2023 program year, the City is scheduled to receive \$1,818,463 in new CDBG entitlement funds. This amount is a DECREASE from 2021 allocation by \$43,782 due to reduced funding by Congress in the CDBG program. CDBG funds are primarily intended to benefit low- and moderate-income persons and areas, though a limited amount can also be used for reducing blight in economically distressed areas. The amount of funds that can be used for administration, planning, and human services is also limited by regulation and City Council policy. The 2022-2023 Annual Plan has administrative cost of \$363,220, keeping within the 20% threshold allowed by HUD. Public Services are generally capped at 15% of entitlement funds, with Council policy limiting that to 95% of the maximum. Public Services are recommended at 73% of maximum allowed. Non-public service capacity is reflected in the funding in other categories, mostly Housing Development. The 2022-2023 Annual Plan includes \$385,865 in carryover funding from prior years as well as \$340,000 in program income.

HOME

The HOME program is exclusively for housing to benefit those of low or moderate income, including rehabilitation, new construction, homeownership assistance, and improvements to rental housing. The City has been receiving HOME funds since 1992. For the 2022-2023 program year, the City is scheduled to receive \$ 760,067 in new HOME funds. The 2022 allocation is an INCREASE to the HOME program of \$84,259 from 2021. HOME funds require a 12.5% match, which is met with volunteer labor from Habitat for Humanity projects funded with HOME dollars. At least 15% of each annual HOME grant must be invested in qualifying projects conducted by Community Housing Development Organizations (“CHDOs”). Currently, Habitat for Humanity is the only CHDO serving the city. Administrative expenses for HOME are set at \$75,633, below the 10% maximum allowed. The 2022-23 Annual Plan includes \$19,892 in prior year carryover funds for reprogramming.

ESG

The emphasis for use of Emergency Solutions Grant funds has shifted from providing for activities that assist homeless individuals and families to early intervention and prevention of homelessness. HUD has issued new rules for the distribution of these funds by entitlement communities, which are being assessed by city staff, the Roanoke Continuum of Care, the Roanoke Valley Council of Community Services and Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness. Total entitlement funding in FY 2021-2022 is scheduled to be \$156,541, with an additional \$33,482 in prior year carryover funds. 2022 ESG entitlement revenues are an INCREASE of \$3,417 from the prior year. Administrative costs for the ESG program are set at \$11,240, below the 7.5% allowable by HUD.

CDBG-CV

The City was awarded \$1,603,011 in CDBG-CV funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in April 2020. These funds are restricted to eligible activities related to the prevention, preparation and response to the COVID-19 pandemic in our community. These funds have been programmed for a number of public service and economic development

needs since 2020, and the 2022 HUD Annual Plan anticipates \$540,678 remain unspent and available for carryover for similar eligible activities. CDBG-CV funds are required to be expended in full by September 1, 2027. HUD requires that localities expend 80% of CDBG-CV funds within 3 years of allocation, or September 1, 2024. The City has expended approximately 67% of CDBG-CV funds through June 30, 2022. The 2022 Annual Plan programs all remaining CDBG-CV funds to be expended by June 30, 2023. While administrative costs are allowed by HUD to manage/monitor CDBG-CV funds, all administrative costs have been absorbed through regular CDBG caps since 2020.

HOME-ARP

In April 2021, the City received notice from HUD of an award of funds to the HOME Investment Partnership Program from the American Rescue Plan Act. Total funds to be awarded are \$2,449,336, but only 5% are available for administration and planning until the City submits an allocation plan to HUD. Consulting services are being procured to begin developing this plan to determine priorities from eligible housing activities. HOME-ARP funds can be used for four (4) eligible activities: the production and preservation of affordable housing; tenant-based rental assistance; supportive services including homeless prevention services and housing counseling; and the purchase or development of non-congregate shelter for individuals or families experiencing homelessness. For the 2022 Annual Plan, primarily administrative/planning funds will be utilized to prepare for subsequent funding likely to be programmed during the development of the 2023 Annual Plan. HOME-ARP funds are not required to be fully expended until September 30, 2030

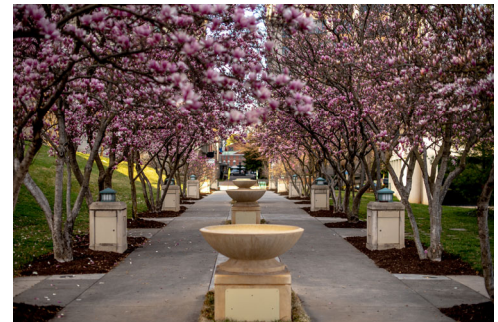
Available Funding

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Available Funding</u>
CDBG	2022-2023 Entitlement Grant	\$1,818,463
	Carry-Over and Program Income	<u>\$725,865</u>
	Subtotal – CDBG Funds Available	\$2,544,328
HOME	2022-2023 Entitlement Grant	\$760,067
	Carry-Over Funds	<u>\$19,892</u>
	Subtotal – HOME Funds Available	\$779,959
ESG:	2022-2023 ESG Entitlement Grant	\$156,541
	Carry-Over Funds	<u>\$ 33,482</u>
	Subtotal – ESG Funds Available	\$190,023
CDBG-CV	2020-2021 Allocation	\$0
	Carry-Over Funds	<u>\$540,678</u>
	Subtotal – CDBG-CV Funds Available	\$540,679
HOME-ARP	2021-2022 Allocation	\$2,449,336
	Carry-Over Funds	<u>\$0</u>
	Subtotal – HOME-ARP Funds Available	\$2,449,339
Total 2022-2023 All HUD Funding Available		\$6,504,343

Allocation of Resources:

The City's 2022-2023 Annual Plan outlines the use of over \$ million in CDBG, HOME, ESG, CDBG-CV and HOME-ARP funding, including carry-over and program income. These funds will support an array of housing, homelessness prevention, public services, economic development, neighborhood and community development programs, and planning and administrative costs associated with these activities.

- Economic Development – \$260,678 in CDBG-CV funding is proposed for job training and microbusiness development projects in the economic development category for FY 22-23.
- Homeless Services -- \$178,743 for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing through ESG funds for programs benefiting the homeless or those at-risk of becoming homeless.
- Housing Development -- \$ 4,351,869 in CDBG, HOME and HOME-ARP funds for new construction and housing rehabilitation for homeownership, the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes, and future housing services to address homelessness..
- Public Services -- \$469,461 in CDBG and CDBG-CV funds for services such as social services for at-risk children, academic enrichment, childcare, other youth and family programs to benefit low to moderate income families, physical/mental health services, and eviction prevention programs to avoid homelessness..
- Neighborhood Development – \$ 670,973 which includes bus shelters for NW neighborhoods, \$100,000 for ADA curb ramps in the Belmont/Fallon Target Area, \$176,914 to fund a portion of City code inspectors to serve conservation and rehabilitation low-mod neighborhoods, and \$ 346,297 to begin engineering and other costs associated with a 9th Street SE street improvement project for BFTA targeted for FY 23-24 .
- Planning and Administration -- \$ 572,600 for staffing, operating costs, training and outside consulting and professional services incurred by the City to administer CDBG, HOME, ESG, CDBG-CV and HOME-ARP funds.



Distribution of Housing Funds:

For 2022-2023, the City estimates its CDBG and HOME housing funds will be allocated as follows:

- \$ 640,000 for activities encouraging and facilitating the repair, maintenance, improvement or re-use of existing owner-occupied or rental housing.
- \$1,385,000 for activities encouraging and facilitating new homeownership.
- \$2,326,869 for future housing under the HOME-ARP program.

Project Locations:

The City will be focusing revitalization efforts this year in the approved Belmont/Fallon Target Area (BFTA). This will be the second full year solely BFTA, after transitioning out of the Melrose-Orange Target Area. The Belmont/Fallon Target area encompasses an area running from I-581 on the east to 19th Street to the west, and from Tazewell Avenue from the north to Highland Avenue to the south. A total of \$ 1,536,971 is earmarked for BFTA, or 53.27% of non-administrative CDBG and HOME funds in keeping with City Council policy of a minimum of 51% for target area activities. Other housing and public service activities will be intended for use citywide.

Lead Agencies:

The HUD Community Resources Division of the City's Department of Planning, Building and Development is the lead organization for developing and administering the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Updates. Numerous City offices and departments and other public, nonprofit and community organizations oversee activities funded in whole or in part with CDBG, HOME, ESG, CDBG-CV and HOME-ARP funds. The specific projects, agencies, and funding recommended for the 2022-2023 period are given in the following section.

2022-2023 Projects Submitted, Agencies and Recommended Funding:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Build Roanoke (Western Virginia Workforce Development Board)** – Build Roanoke is a project that was proposed to increase the number of individuals seeking employment in the construction industry. This was to have been accomplished by increasing the awareness and interest of youth and young adults in the construction industry, assisting individuals in getting the training and skills they need to be employable in the industry, and assisting skilled and trained individuals in obtaining their General Contracting license to provide more choices and availability of contractors in the market. Program was directed only at youth and failed to show effective use of funds or a clear path of eligibility. Program design was not connected to LMI. Only focuses on high school students for job training, not larger population. No tie in to recovery from economic impacts of COVID-19, making it ineligible as designed for available CARES Act CDBG-CV funds (Recommended \$0)



- **Building Trades Microbusiness Development (Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce)** - The Roanoke Regional Small Business Development Center (RRSBDC) will provide one on one confidential advising, technical business training and assistance, access to capital, human resource training, business plan development, a digital library of resources, industry research, and advocacy for microbusinesses specifically in the building rehabilitation and contracting industry. Special emphasis would be to assist minority and female owned contracting business to develop capacity to be more competitive with larger contractor firms in housing and commercial building rehabilitation services. RRSBDC would staff someone proficient in Spanish to help with outreach to a more diverse workforce. (Recommended \$60,678 CDBG-CV)

- **Job Training Scholarships for Building Trades (City of Roanoke Economic Development Department)** - This program would provide scholarships, training equipment, PPE and related expenses for individuals qualifying as Low- to Moderate-Income (80% AMI) to participate in certification courses for a variety of building trades to increase the workforce for that job sector. The program would be managed by staff of the City's Economic Development Department to market the program, verify income and coordinate training to be offered by qualified public or private agencies in an effort to increase capacity and workforce in the building trades. This would provide a secondary benefit to support other housing rehabilitation efforts routinely funded by CDBG and HOME funds. This program would help in the recovery from the job market due in large part by the COVID-19 pandemic and funded with unprogrammed CARES Act funds received in 2020. (Recommended: \$200,000 CDBG-CV)

HOMELESS SERVICES

- **Case Management (Family Promise of Greater Roanoke)** - Funds will provide for staff to provide extensive case management of families utilizing homeless sheltering operated by Family Promise. The position will perform initial intake, work with each family to develop life-management plans, make referrals to mental health services and physical health services, arrange child care for families, arrange transportation and oversee the day center. (Recommended: \$30,953 ESG)
- **Homeless Management Information System (Council of Community Services)** - CCS, in its role as the HMIS Lead for the Blue Ridge Continuum of Care, seeks to maintain quality data on the homeless individuals and families who reside in the Roanoke Valley coverage area in order to best plan, prepare for, and address the effects of homelessness. HMIS is a central data storage and reporting function required by HUD and will serve up to 20 agencies that provide services to the homeless population. (Recommendation \$11,000 ESG)
- **Homeless Prevention (Council of Community Services)** - CCS will provide short-term financial assistance, housing location, and service coordination services to individuals and families facing imminent homelessness. Financial assistance and case management services will be provided based on individual household need to include assistance with first month's rent, security deposits, rental arrears, assistance in locating housing, and general housing stability service coordination activities. The program will offer financial assistance as a means to preventing homelessness for 21 families in our community. Financial assistance will be paid to landlords and/or utility companies on behalf of clients losing their current permanent housing arrangement, thus preventing homelessness from occurring. (Recommended \$56,018 ESG)
- **New Beginnings Homeless Prevention (ARCH Services)** - New Beginnings provides rapid re-housing and promotes housing stability for clients who have recently transitioned out of homelessness. Clients receive case management services to obtain and maintain independent housing, referrals to services to address crises and assistance with accessing resources such as food and transportation. Home visits and services are client-centered to meet the needs of each individual New Beginnings serves. Services can continue up to 12 months after exiting from a homeless shelter. (Recommended \$0 ESG)
- **Rapid Rehousing (Council of Community Services)** - The project will provide housing start-up costs, a short-term rental subsidy, housing location and coordination of services to families experiencing literal homelessness. Financial assistance and case management services will be provided based on individual household need to include assistance with first month's rent, security deposit, utility deposit, rental assistance, assistance in locating housing and general

housing stability service coordination. The program will provide these rapid re-housing services to assist five families in our community exit homelessness and achieve stability in permanent housing. Financial assistance will be paid to third party vendors only (i.e. landlords and utility providers). (Recommended \$18,229 ESG)

- **Street Outreach and Case Management (City of Roanoke Homeless Assistance Team)** – These funds will allow the Human Services division of the City to cover wages and benefits for 2 staff case workers funded in part by ESG-CV funds to provide effective and efficient housing-focused street outreach to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the community. These additional staff allows HAT to expand hours of operations to serve individuals in mornings and/or evenings to improve outreach efforts to those that require these services. (Recommended \$ 35,330 ESG)
- **Trust House Sheltering (ARCH)** - ARCH's Trust House shelter program primarily serves veterans, individuals, and families who are chronically homeless upon entry. Over 90% of the clients served at ARCH are challenged with significant barriers to housing that can include criminal records, serious mental health and or substance abuse diagnoses; acute medical disabilities, low to no income, lack of health insurance and social supports, and are chronically homelessness. (Recommended: \$ 27,213 ESG)

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

- **Belmont/Fallon Home Ownership (Community Housing Partners)** - CDBG funds are proposed to be awarded to CHP to build 2 new construction homeownership units in the Belmont/Fallon target area for low income households. CHP has a vision of pursuing a multi-year revitalization strategy for the neighborhood that could include multifamily in the future and is a well-respected and experienced developer of affordable housing in the southeastern US and particularly the New River Valley of Virginia. The proposed funding does not include property acquisition, as it is anticipated that TAP's land bank funded with the City's ARPA program would provide suitable sites for construction of new housing. Use of CDBG funds for new housing construction is only allowable for an approved Community Based Development Organization (CBDO) that the City would need to establish with CHP. The establishment of a CBDO would be a much needed benefit in BFTA and beyond, as HUD regulations allow CBDO's to perform other eligible services for community and economic development and access Section 108 Loan funds if used. The recent Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) plan developed for BFTA does include establishing a CBDO as a development strategy. The financial structure and model used by Community Housing Partners is also expected to provide \$340,000 in Program Income to offset the CDBG funds. (Recommended: \$545,000 CDBG \$0 HOME)
- **BFTA Residential Façade Improvements (Renovation Alliance)** - The Belmont-Fallon Target Area Façade Grant Program will provide opportunities for property owners in the Belmont-Fallon Target Area to access matching funding for façade improvements. This program is intended to help address slum/blight remediation in the Belmont-Fallon Target Area. Eligible property owners will be able to access 50% matching funds for façade improvements within a designated gateway area within BFTA, including: Labor performed by a licensed contractor for siding repairs/painting/pointing/ etc., windows, storm windows, doors and storm doors, porches, porch footers, steps, roofs, and gutters and fees associated with Architectural/Engineering services and Permitting fees. RA would earn an administrative management fee of 5% of the value of each improvement. Program participation will require a

minimum reimbursement of \$2,000 and a maximum reimbursement of \$7,500, translating to \$4,000 - upwards of \$15,000 of improvements. (Recommended: \$40,000 CDBG)

- **Down Payment Assistance (City of Roanoke)** - Funds to provide 5-year forgivable, 0% interest loans of up to \$10,000 for down payment and closing costs to assist low/mod-income families to buy homes in the City. The program will be administered by the HUD Community Resources office staff and restricted to homes located in formerly “red-lined” areas of the City where financial services for homebuying were commonly practiced many years ago. (Recommended: \$30,000 CDBG)
- **Emergency Home Repair Program (Total Action For Progress)** - TAP’s FY 22–23 Limited/Emergency Home Repair program, run by the agency’s Energy Conservation and Housing Rehab (ECHR) component, will provide repairs to owner-occupied homes that are considered an immediate threat to the health and/or safety of the occupants. With CDBG funding, TAP will provide repairs to 7 or more eligible homes throughout the City of Roanoke, not to exceed \$15,000 per home. Repairs to homes will address physical defects contributing to an unsafe condition for occupants, as deemed necessary by the qualified rehabilitation specialist. (Recommended: \$80,000 CDBG.)
- **Empowering Individuals with Disabilities (Blue Ridge Independent Living Center)** - BRILC’s program will assist low income City of Roanoke homeowners with disabilities to remain independent within their own homes and the community by completing home modifications such as handrails, ramps, modifications of sidewalks, steps and doorways, bathroom modifications, and the installation of grab bars, etc. These modifications will also positively impact the sustainability and affordability of housing in the City. (Recommended: \$70,000 CDBG.)
- **BFTA New Homeownership – New Construction/Rehabilitation (Habitat for Humanity)** - Habitat for Humanity is a long standing partner organization that has received significant funding of CDBG and HOME funds for target area homeownership development. HFHRV is proposing the development and sale of sustainable and affordable single-family housing



through the rehabilitation of four existing properties and the construction of four new homes to benefit eligible low- to moderate-income homebuyers in and around the City’s Belmont/Fallon Target Area. All housing shall be developed in a manner consistent with the applicable neighborhood plans, local/federal historic requirements and any design overlay which may apply to each development site under consideration. (Recommended: \$

105,674 CDBG and \$ 704,326 HOME, \$810,000 Total)

- **BFTA Owner-Occupied Limited Repair (Renovation Alliance)** - The funding requested for this application will be used to complete a minimum of 6 owner-occupied rehabilitations with less than \$15,000 per unit maximum for households in the Belmont-Fallon Target Area whose household incomes are at or below 80% Area Median Income. Basic rehabilitation services utilizing volunteer labor to address “safe, warm and dry” homeowner needs for low-income persons. Projects usually include roof replacements, plumbing repairs, window and door replacement, accessibility modifications, and general maintenance and repair. (Recommended \$80,000 CDBG.)

- **BFTA Owner-Occupied Major Repair (Total Action for Progress)** - TAP's Target Area Major Rehabilitation Project will provide major rehabilitation to owner-occupied homes that are considered an immediate threat to the health and/or safety of the occupants. With CDBG funding, TAP will provide major rehabilitations to four eligible single-family owned homes throughout the City of Roanoke's Belmont-Fallon target area. Repairs to homes will address physical defects contributing to an unsafe condition for occupants, as deemed necessary by the qualified rehabilitation specialist (Recommended: \$265,000 CDBG.)
- **Summer Youth Repair (Renovation Alliance)** - RA engages contractors, area businesses, and youth volunteers throughout the year to implement critical home repairs with services culminating in several weeks over the summer. RA plans to work with youth volunteers on over 30 projects throughout the Roanoke Valley, with 12 being in the City of Roanoke. RA works with over 400 youth volunteers each year during the summer months for volunteer labor to address critical home repair projects for low-income homeowners in the City. Typical scope of work addresses safety and stability of the housing situation to help preserve affordable healthy homes, particularly for homeowners over 60 years of age, disabled, veterans and surviving spouses and homes with small children. Rehabilitation value is \$15,000 or less per house. Renovation Alliance reviews and selects homes to be included in the program, determine eligibility, work scopes, any environmental testing and historic reviews, and required permits. (Recommended: \$75,000 CDBG).
- **Restore 1240 Dale Avenue SE (Roanoke Transformations)** - This was an application for CDBG funds to complete a privately funded rehabilitation project in BFTA that had already been started by a property owner. Many concerns with the eligible use of CDBG funds with this activity. (Recommended: \$0 CDBG)
- **Transitional Housing Renovation (Rescue Mission)** - The Roanoke Rescue Mission proposes to rehabilitate a property they own at 319 Dale Ave SE for the purpose of creating 4 transitional apartment-style housing units Residents would pay a deeply discounted rent at \$10 a day, or roughly \$300 a month. The rental fee includes electricity, gas, water, cable, and internet. The model for this program is an existing model at the Mission known as Hope House, which does not utilize federal funds. Target beneficiary at 50% or less AMI (low to very low income). While transitional housing is a need in the City, the concerns with the request amount (\$230,000) with no prior experience with CDBG, some questions on program design and lease terms, and the amount of technical assistance required gave the citizen review committee cause to rank the application lower. (Recommended: \$0 CDBG)
- **High Costs Units for Lead Paint Abatement in BFTA (City of Roanoke Dept. of Planning, Building & Development)** - Lead Safe Roanoke (LSR) is a HUD-funded program implemented by the City of Roanoke and managed under the HUD Community Resources division of Planning, Building & Development Department. The program's goal is to reduce lead poisoning in children by stabilizing lead based paint hazards found in rental and single-family homes built in the City of Roanoke prior to 1978. Eligible applicants receive comprehensive services to identify and stabilize deteriorating lead-based paint hazards in their home and/or rental units. CDBG funds would assist on 5 single family "High Cost Units," defined by HUD as units requiring more than \$20,000 worth of lead hazard reduction services, in the Belmont Fallon Target Area (BFTA). (Recommended: \$30,000)
- **Future Housing Development Utilizing HOME-ARP Funds (City of Roanoke Dept. of Planning, Building & Development)** - In April 2021, the City received notice from HUD of an award of funds to the HOME Investment Partnership Program from the American Rescue Plan Act. Total funds to be awarded are \$2,449,336, but only 5% are available for administration

and planning until the City submits an allocation plan to HUD. Consulting services are being procured to begin developing this plan to determine priorities from eligible housing activities. HOME-ARP funds can be used for four (4) eligible activities: the production and preservation of affordable housing; tenant-based rental assistance; supportive services including homeless prevention services and housing counseling; and the purchase or development of non-congregate shelter for individuals or families experiencing homelessness. We are required to include the HOME-ARP funding in our 2022 Annual Plan, although it is not anticipated that we will begin the application process and program non-administrative funds until the FY 23-24 program year. HOME-ARP funds are not required to be fully expended until September 30, 2030. (Recommended: \$2,326,869 HOME-ARP)

PUBLIC SERVICES

- **2022 Apple Ridge Farm Academic Summer Camp (Apple Ridge Farm, Inc.)** - Apple Ridge seeks funding scholarships for 20 low-income youth to attend Apple Ridge Farms Academic Summer Camp. The project will be the embellishment of the self-esteem, team building, and social emotional learning programs at Apple Ridge's summer camp. Apple Ridge will use project-based and social/emotional learning techniques to teach science, reading, writing, art, music, swimming, gardening, team building, mindfulness, and outdoor adventure. Campers take field trips to universities to introduce them to college life. (Recommended: \$20,000 CDBG.)
- **Scout Reach (Blue Ridge Mountain Council – Boy Scouts of America)** -The Scout Reach program provides adult leadership, pays registration fees, offers scholarships to attend activities, program supplies, and transportation. The Scouting program is designed to develop leadership skills, increase a sense of community, provide positive adult role models, and build confidence in youth. Application failed to meet basic eligibility for funding. (Recommended: \$0 CDBG)
- **Court Appointed Special Advocates (Children's Trust)** - The CASA program is requesting CDBG funds to offer further programming for children in foster care as well as to support children who are at risk of foster care placement. CASA's program offers an objective advocate for a child who has experienced abuse and neglect. CASA staff and volunteers work with children whose cases have been assigned by a judge. CASA staff recruit, train and supervise volunteers. New volunteers complete 30 hours of training prior to serving as an Advocate and then 12 hours of continuing education annually. (Recommended \$38,501 CDBG)
- **Children's Advocacy Center Program (Children's Trust)** - The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) coordinates a community response to child abuse bringing together the services a child's needs during the investigation and prosecution of cases, and ensures that children get the help he/she needs to heal physically and mentally. Services offered through the CAC include: Forensic interviewing services, where an abused child often discloses his/her experiences to specially trained staff who conduct developmentally appropriate, legally sound interviews with children. Family advocacy services are also provided by Family Advocate staff at the CAC. The family advocate meets with the child's caregiver to answer any questions and conducts a needs assessment to make necessary referrals. This assessment can include basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, or mental health needs. The advocate continues to assist the non-offending caregiver with crisis intervention and referrals throughout the investigation and prosecution. (Recommended \$30,960 CDBG.)

- **Community Support Specialist for Brain Injuries**– (*Brain Injury Services of SW Virginia*)- BISSWVA Community Support Specialists are utilized to develop techniques that will help survivors of brain injury overcome challenges from their injury associated with everyday living and increase independent living and can help with a wide variety of things including learning how to get up on time, use public transit, manage money, stay organized, and other life skills. Application was lacking detail on how CDBG funds would apply to staff costs. As no one was currently serving in that position, it was not possible to assess the credentials of the person in this role and no plan on ensuring only Roanoke City clients were served with these funds. (Recommendation: \$ 0 CDBG)
- **Housing Stabilization for Families in Need** (*Council of Community Services*) - The project will provide homeless prevention services to households in the City of Roanoke. Services include payment of security deposits, rent, and utility deposits for 30 households. All payments are made directly to the landlord or utility company. Records documenting the eligibility and provision of services are maintained by the Council of Community Services (CCS). The Director of Homeless Services has oversight of the program to ensure compliance with regulations. The Director will provide supervision to the Housing Coordinator. Staff will serve as primary caseworker for the program. Staff will accept applications and perform eligibility determinations. Referrals will be made to community resources to assist the family in achieving long term stability. Staff will work with each family to develop an individualized housing stability plan with mutually identified goals and action steps. (Recommended \$75,000 CDBG)
- **LSR Outreach & Education Expansion** (*City of Roanoke Dept. of Planning, Building & Development*) - Lead Safe Roanoke (LSR) is a HUD-funded program implemented by the City of Roanoke. The program's goal is to reduce lead poisoning in children by stabilizing lead based paint hazards found in rental and single-family homes built in the City of Roanoke prior to 1978. Eligible applicants receive comprehensive services to identify and stabilize deteriorating lead-based paint hazards in their home and/or rental units. By funding this expansion, families would be protected in the short term from lead poisoning by having the tools needed to keep their family safe with cleaning while leveraging LSR's current funding to develop long term solutions like window replacement and fresh paint. Using additional CDBG funding, Lead Safe Roanoke would expand outreach and education services to families exiting homelessness and entering into a rental housing unit. LSR would collaborate with housing service providers to make a Welcome Home basket available to the family. The basket would include LSR program information and cleaning supplies such as mops, buckets, paper towels, sponges, etc. with instructions on how to clean lead safe. Each household would receive a standard Welcome Home basket with the option to personalize add on items such as smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, and thumb latch deadbolts depending on the health and safety needs of the unit. A Healthy Home Guide will be provided to review home safety, such as how and when to check smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, and available community resources. Families utilizing public funding to move into rental housing are required to have a lead screen performed by the housing service provider. This requirement falls under another HUD office and does not connect with LSR. However, greater assistance is needed by housing service providers to complete the screening than is provided. Under the LSR Outreach and Education expansion, LSR staff would provide lead education and technical assistance with the provider to ensure the requirement is met, but ultimately that the family is safe from lead in their new home. If the screen fails, LSR will assist the family and property owner in applying to Lead Safe Roanoke to receive a full lead inspection and risk inspection and lead hazard reduction services. This would be an expansion of a current program offered by LSR, but targeted for formerly homeless families. While this was a well devised and detailed plan, this program was not recommended for funding from CDBG, largely due to revenue constraints. (Recommended: \$0)

Building Legacies Overcoming Challenges (BLOC) Counselling (Family Service of Roanoke Valley) - FSRV will offer mental health services, counseling and support to residents of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority sites; Lansdowne, Hunt Manor, Melrose Towers, Villages of Lincoln, Jamestown Place, Morningside Manor, Bluestone, and/or Indian Village. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in reported mental health issues nationwide. The traumas experienced in the last two years due in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic are unprecedented and well documented. Within these RRHA neighborhoods it is advantageous to have embedded Mental Health Professionals to build trust, credibility and decrease the barriers to access care including childcare and transportation. The counseling services FSRV provides, using trauma informed practices, will help residents build resiliency and address depression/anxiety needs that have ballooned since March, 2020. The application makes a strong case that the program addresses the required criteria for use of CDBG-CV funds. (Recommended: \$65,000 CDBG-CV)

Emergency Eviction Relief Program (Total Action for Progress) - TAP is requesting funding to provide mortgage, utility, or rent assistance (direct payments) on behalf of families (0-80% AMI) at risk of homelessness because of past-due payments. Partners include the local Continuum of Care (Central Intake) and the Financial Empowerment Center. All families will be offered the services of the FEC to help them budget for future housing and utility costs. Families assisted would have to be either 1) at risk of homelessness because of foreclosure or eviction, or 2) risk violating their leases and losing their housing because of utility shutoffs. This is an existing program which has been provided both CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds since 2020. The eviction moratorium currently in place in Virginia is set to expire in June 2022. The application as written provides subsistence payments to families at 80% or less of AMI. In the event that this application is recommended for funding at a lower amount, HCR may ask TAP to direct these funds to 50% or less AMI to use limited resources to the most susceptible to homelessness. (Recommended: \$215,000 CDBG-CV)

Emergency Service Program/Pathway for Youth (Presbyterian Community Center) - Emergency Services offered by PCC is a homelessness prevention program that provides food and financial assistance to eligible families and individuals facing crisis situations. PCC's Emergency Services program will provide such eligible services to households, including: payment of rent, mortgage, and utility bills in cases where a temporary financial shortage has created the threat of eviction or cut-off of essential services; payment for non-narcotic prescription medications and other medical expenses which are not covered by public or private insurance or are otherwise unaffordable to the patient; referrals to other available resources and programs provided by Family Service of Roanoke Valley, Roanoke Area Ministries, Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, and Rescue Mission. PCC also offers a long-standing child care/education program called Pathway for Youth. As other funding is earmarked for rent relief and homeless prevention, HCR staff has reached out to PCC to instead provide CDBG funds for the expansion of the child care program, which is a need for families in BFTA. (Recommended: \$25,000)

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

- **ADA Curb Ramps Improvements (City of Roanoke Transportation – Streets & Traffic)** - Phase II Installation of handicapped accessible ramps and repair/replacement of dilapidated

sidewalks in the Belmont/Fallon Target Area (BFTA). Funds to be matched by City General Funds (Recommended \$ 100,000 CDBG)

- **Belmont Branch Library Accessibility Renovations (City of Roanoke Libraries)** - Funds were requested to augment a larger renovation of the Belmont Branch Public Library to improve handicapped accessibility. While CDBG funds are normally restricted for improvements or maintenance to public buildings other than to remove architectural barriers for handicapped access. Since the project was already underway, a new bidding process would have been required and Davis-Bacon requirements would have likely meant cost increases to the entire project. (Recommended: \$0 CDBG)
- **Code Enforcement (City of Roanoke Dept. of Planning, Building & Development)** - Funds salaries and fringe benefits of 3 inspectors in established conservation and rehabilitation districts for City enforcement of the building maintenance and other codes to address blighting conditions and improve living standards and housing stability in heavily saturated low-moderate income neighborhoods. (Recommended: \$ 176,914 CDBG.)
- **Neighborhood Development Grant Program (City Manager's Office/Neighborhood Services)** - HUD Community Resources will no longer provide CDBG grants to neighborhood organizations in predominantly low- to-mod-income neighborhoods due to the difficulties and requirements of managing federal funds for many small, volunteer based neighborhood groups. The City's general fund has provided resources through Neighborhood Services and Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates to operate a similar program that will have fewer regulatory requirements and can be more easily managed by neighborhood associations. (Recommended: \$0 CDBG).
- **RIDE Solutions Better Bus Stops for Neighborhoods (Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission)** - RIDE Solutions intends to create and facilitate a working group of Northwest Roanoke communities, Valley Metro, and the City of Roanoke, to select the suitable locations for three new transit shelters (two art bus shelters and one unmodified shelter), under the assumptions that all the work to be conducted within City right-of-way, contracting work is limited to the acquisition of right-of-way excavation permits, and encroachment permits will be coordinated between the City of Roanoke and the Greater Roanoke Transit Company. Where possible and feasible these grant funds will pay for the installation of ADA accessible concrete pads, and reasonable updates to existing sidewalks and curb ramps to facilitate access to the shelter. Bus shelters will be donated by Valley Metro and two of the bus shelters will be customized by a local artist in coordination with the City of Roanoke Arts Commission. (Recommended: \$47,762 CDBG)
- **Land Bank and Property Acquisition for BFTA (Total Action for Progress)** - In early 2019, TAP was designated the land bank for the City of Roanoke. As a land bank, TAP's intent is to acquire, hold, and transfer properties within the City boundaries to return any blighted, abandoned, foreclosed, or tax-delinquent property back to its most productive use. This generally means transferring titles to responsible entities that have the experience and capability to rehabilitate and renovate a property for affordable housing or homeownership. TAP requested to use CDBG funds to acquire two properties within the Belmont-Fallon Target Area. HCR policy is to require any property acquired with CDBG funds to have a written agreement in place with a developer of affordable housing within 36 months. The application did not identify specific properties or provide details of any agreements for future development. (Recommendation: \$0 CDBG)

- **BFTA Street Improvement Project (City of Roanoke Engineering Department)** - CDBG funds to set aside for Belmont/Fallon Target Area 9th Street SE Improvement Project to begin in FY 23-24. FY 22-23 allotted funding will cover costs for design and engineering to expedite the time needed to begin the project. The City typically funds a street improvement project in each target area funded between CDBG and General Fund capital accounts. Past practice has been to do these public improvements at the conclusion of a target area period, but efforts will be made to begin these visible projects earlier in a target area timeline to better encourage private investment during the target area period and beyond. (Recommended: \$ 346,297 CDBG)

ADMINISTRATION/PLANNING

- **HUD Administrative Funds (City of Roanoke Dept. of Planning, Building & Development)** - The HUD Community Resources (HCR) office is tasked with planning, budgeting, managing, monitoring and reporting on the use of federal funds received from HUD for eligible activities that meet HUD National Objectives. HCR solicits applications for funding annually, determine eligibility of proposed programs, involve citizen review committees to rank priority projects, and develops Annual Action Plans for approval by City Council and submission to HUD. Once the Plan has been approved by Council, HCR staff develop MOUs and written agreements with non-profit agencies or city departments, provide technical assistance as needed, manage funded programs, monitor for compliance with federal regulations, and report beneficiary information and accomplishments to HUD and the general public. The office is currently staffed by a Community Resources Administrator, 2 Community Resource Specialists a City Planner and an Administrative Assistant. The 2022 Annual Plan proposes to add an additional Community Resources Specialist to improve monitoring and compliance as well as assist small non-profits in capacity building. Staffing and other operating costs associated with the general administration of the City's CDBG, HOME, ESG entitlement programs as well as CARES Act and HOME American Rescue Plan supplemental funding. Budget includes costs for staff salaries/fringe benefits, operating and administrative expenses, professional development training and use of outside consultants for specialized services. Limits for each program are 20% for CDBG, 10% for HOME, 7.5% for ESG, 20% for CDBG-CV and 15% for HOME-ARP. (Recommended: \$ 363,220 CDBG; \$ 75,633 HOME; \$ 11,280 ESG; \$0 CDBG-CV and \$ 122,467 HOME-ARP).

2022-2023 HUD Funding Recommendations

Funding by Category:	Economic Development	\$260,678
	Homeless Services	\$178,743
	Housing Development	\$4,351,869
	Public Services	\$469,461
	Neighborhood Development	\$670,973
	Planning and Administrative Costs	<u>\$572,600</u>
	Total	\$6,504,324

Breakout – 2022-2023 Funding for Belmont/Fallon Target Areas Revitalization Initiative: **\$ 1,536,971**

Agency	Project Name	Current	Requested	Recommended
Apple Ridge Farms	2022 Academic Summer Camp	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
ARCH Roanoke	Rapid Rehousing	\$19,060	\$29,508	\$0
ARCH Roanoke	Shelter Operations	\$27,213	\$32,600	\$27,213
Blue Ridge Independent Living Center	Empowering Individuals with Disabilities	\$55,000	\$75,000	\$70,000
Blue Ridge Mountain Council	Scout Outreach	\$0	\$24,600	\$0
Brain Injury Services of SW Virginia	Community Support Specialist	\$0	\$24,000	\$0
Children's Trust	Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$30,500	\$38,501	\$38,501
Children's Trust	Family Advocacy Services	\$29,750	\$30,960	\$30,960
City of Roanoke	ADA Ramps in BFTA	\$51,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
City of Roanoke	BFTA Infrastructure – 9 th Street Improvements	\$0	\$900,000	\$346,297
City of Roanoke	Belmont Branch Library Accessibility Renovations	\$0	\$285,160	\$0
City of Roanoke	Code Enforcement	\$163,850	\$176,914	\$176,914
City of Roanoke	Down Payment Assistance	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
City of Roanoke	HAT Outreach and Case Management	\$0	\$35,330	\$35,330
City of Roanoke	High Cost LSR Units in BFTA	0	\$30,000	\$30,000
City of Roanoke	HOME-ARP Housing Future Development	\$0	\$2,236,869	\$2,236,869
City of Roanoke	HUD Administration	\$446,333	\$602,312	\$572,600
City of Roanoke	Job Training Scholarships for Building Trades	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
City of Roanoke	LSR Outreach and Education Expansion	\$0	\$15,000	\$0
Community Housing Partners	Belmont/Fallon New Homeownership	\$0	\$875,000	\$545,000
Council of Community Services	Homeless Management Information Services	\$11,162	\$11,000	11,000
Council of Community Services	Homelessness Prevention	\$56,018	\$56,018	\$56,018
Council of Community Services	Housing Stabilization for Families In Need	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Council of Community Services	Rapid Rehousing	\$18,229	\$18,229	\$18,229
Family Promise of Greater Roanoke	Case Management	\$30,953	\$30,953	\$30,953
Family Services of Roanoke Valley	BLOC Mental Health Counseling	\$0	\$65,000	\$65,000
Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley	BFTA New Homeownership	\$937,000	\$1,178,000	\$810,000
Presbyterian Community Center	BFTA Childcare Services	\$0	\$45,000	\$25,000
Renovation Alliance	BFTA Limited Housing Repair	\$96,500	\$110,000	\$80,000
Renovation Alliance	BFTA Residential Façade Improvement	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Renovation Alliance	Summer Youth Housing Repair	\$91,000	\$105,000	\$75,000
Rescue Mission	Transitional Housing Renovations	\$0	\$230,000	\$0
Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce	Building Trades Microbusiness Development	\$0	\$63,000	\$60,678
Roanoke Transformations	Restoration of 1240 Dale Ave SE	\$0	\$19,018	\$0
Roanoke Alleghany Regional Commission	RIDE Solutions Better Bus Stops for NW Neighborhoods	\$0	\$47,762	\$47,762
Total Action For Progress	Emergency Eviction Relief Program	\$0	\$215,000	\$215,000
Total Action For Progress	BFTA Major Housing Rehabilitation	\$194,250	\$278,524	\$265,000
Total Action For Progress	BFTA Land Bank Property Acquisition	\$0	\$90.131	\$0
Total Action for Progress	Limited Housing Repair	\$62,500	\$98,244	\$80,000
Western Virginia Workforce Development Board	Build Roanoke	\$0	\$197,000	\$0

