

**Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2013-14 Action Plan for the
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) &
Home Investments Partnership Program (HOME)**

A. General Information

Grantee Name	The City of New Haven
Name of Entity or Department Administering Funds	The Office of Management and Budget
Contact Person (person to answer questions about this amendment)	Elizabeth Smith
Title	Project Coordinator
Address Line 1	165 Church Street
Address Line 2	Third Floor, Room 350
City, State, Zip Code	New Haven, CT 06510
Telephone	203-946-8390
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Email Address	esmith@newhavenct.net
Authorized Official (if different from Contact Person)	
Title	Mayor
Address Line 1	165 Church Street
Address Line 2	Second Floor
City, State, Zip Code	New Haven, CT 06510
Telephone	203-946-8200
Fax	203-946-7683
Email Address	
Web Address where this Form is Posted	www.cityofnewhaven.com

Amount Grantee is Receiving *	\$436,972 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) \$65,911 - Home Investment Partnership (HOME)
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B. Overview

In June 2013, after completion of its Annual Action Plan, the City received notification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that it would receive an additional \$436,972 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$65,911 in Home Investment Partnership (HOME) program funding under the PY2013 Annual 2013-2014 Consolidated Action Plan as the result of a national redistribution of unutilized federal disaster recovery funding. This additional funding requires an amendment to the 2013-2014 Program Year and will be subject to Community Development Block Grant Program requirements, Home Investments Partnership Program (HOME) requirements and the Consolidated Planning regulations at 24 CFR Part 91.

Upon notification of receipt of this funding, the City of New Haven developed a plan for the use of these additional (CDBG) and (HOME) Program funds consistent with its Five Year Consolidated Plan and local housing and community development priorities. In accordance with federal Consolidated Plan regulations and the local Citizen Participation program, the receipt of this additional funding necessitates the preparation of an amendment to the City's current Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan. According to the City's Citizen Participation Plan, any substantial change in activities adopted in the Five Year Plan's Strategies and Goals or the One Year Annual Action Plan requires an amendment to be submitted to HUD. A substantial change means any new allocation or use of funds, a major reprogramming of funds (a reprogramming of more than 0.5% of the grant allocation for a given program year or \$100,000 whichever is greater), or a change in the method of distributing funds not previously contemplated in the original submission.

This document serves as the amendment to the 2013-2014 Annual Action Plan describing the use of funds and the process for determining its distribution.

B. Briefly describe the process(es) to select funded programs.

During the Fall of 2012 and Winter of 2013, the City of New Haven had its application and budgeting process for the 2013-2014 Program Year for the four (4) Consolidated Plan Programs (CDBG, HOME, HOPWA and ESG) following its standard public outreach, information and citizen participation process. At that time the City received applications for programs and projects eligible for funding and provided opportunity for citizen participation and comment. On May 6, 2013 the Board of Aldermen of the City of New Haven approved an Annual 2013-2014 Consolidated Action Plan – Statement of Activities and Use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds which was then submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City utilized this initial process as the basis for its amended Action Plan utilizing the additional allocation of funds. An administrative decision was made to fund neighborhood public facility repairs and support operational expenses at local emergency shelters to compensate for funding shortfalls experienced during the original funding budgeting process.

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C. Distribution and Administration of Funds

In order to implement a program with the additional funding allocations that enables the commitment and expenditure of funds in a timely and efficient manner with maximum program benefit, the City has distributed the CDBG funds to programs previously funded under or agencies responding to the initial funding application process for the 2013-2014 Program Year. CDBG funding was targeted to the support of neighborhood public facility improvements and repairs and fund programs that benefit homeless and at-risk populations to compensate for a decline in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funding in 2013-2014. Funds will also be utilized for Program Administration and implementation in accordance with the regulations.

Additional HOME funding will be utilized to support Housing Development projects as determined by the Livable City Initiative, to provide Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) support and for general program administration in accordance with regulatory requirements.

CDBG Allocation Distribution

The programs proposed for funding and the distribution of funds with the additional \$436,972 allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are:

Neighborhood Facility Public Improvements – (\$200,000) To provide for a neighborhood public improvement program in low/moderate income areas benefiting public facilities which includes code improvements, repairs and permanent enhancements. Individual project funding will be based upon proposed benefit to clients/neighborhoods. Projects will initially be reviewed by Community Services Administration and then recommended to the Livable City Initiative for feasibility and project management.

Facility Emergency Repair – (\$84,032) To correct unsafe conditions which constitute an imminent and substantial danger to the welfare and safety of occupants. Conditions include: lack of water, heat, electricity or gas services caused by faulty mechanical systems and necessary repairs to prevent additional structural damage to the facility. Projects will be reviewed by Community Services Administration and then recommended to the Livable City Initiative for feasibility and project management.

Columbus House – (\$26,578) \$3,496 will provide for operational expenses (specifically utilities) at the main shelter (586 Ella Grasso Blvd.) which is open throughout the year. Approximately 100 men and women reside in the shelter which provides for extended stay beds. \$23,082 will provide for operational expenses (specifically lease, utilities and site security costs) at the overflow shelter (232 Cedar St.) The overflow shelter is open on a seasonal basis for males. It provides a safe, secure and structured environment with 2 meals and the provision of basic needs.

Immanuel Baptist Shelter – (\$27,076) Funding will be used for operational expenses (specifically for lease payments and utilities) at the shelter located at 645 Grand Ave. The program specializes in providing shelter and services for homeless men operating a 75-bed facility. Client check-in starts at 4:00 pm and wake up is 7am with all clients departing shelter by 7:30 am.

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Liberty Community Services – (\$5,946) Funding will be used to cover operational expenses (specifically utilities and outside cleaning) at the facility known as Safe Haven, located at 210 State St.. Safe Haven provides 33 apartments for people who were chronically homeless and a Day Program for people currently homeless.

New Haven Home Recovery – (\$5,946) Funding will be used to cover operational expenses (specifically heat and utilities) at the facility known as Martha's Place which serves 18 single women and 3 women with children who are homeless.

General CDBG Administration - (\$87,394) Funding for the planning and development of the Consolidated Plan and the Five Year Plan. The plan will require input from the public, non-profits, for-profits and various municipalities. The information provided will determine the needs, the gaps and priorities of the community. Funds will also provide capacity to ensure compliance with federal regulations, program monitoring, and changing reporting requirements.

HOME Allocation Distribution

Distribution of the \$65,911 in supplemental HOME funding is proposed as follows:

HOME (Housing Development) - \$49,433

HOME (CHDO Set-Aside) - \$9,887

HOME (Admin) - \$6,591

D. Citizen Participation and Public Comment

The City of New Haven's Citizen Participation Plan requires consultation with elected officials, neighborhood representatives and residents, and other collaborators on plan development and when amendments are made to existing plans.

In regards to the additional allocations of CDBG and HOME funds, which provides funds to agencies and organizations applying for funding as part of the 2013-2014 Annual Action Plan, New Haven's elected officials were involved from the beginning assisting administrative staff in providing oversight during the application review, project selection and the original Action Plan development process in the Spring of 2013. Neighborhood representatives and community residents were also given opportunity to participate in and comment on the process.

Upon notification of the supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) allocations the City made the decision to build upon the existing Annual Action Plan and fund programs it was unable to fund under its original 2013-2014 allocation. Because the City experienced a decline in its Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding, which benefits emergency shelter and homeless programs, the City chose to make up for the shortfall by selecting emergency shelter activities eligible under CDBG regulations. Once this decision was made and the distribution of funds was determined, the City prepared a public notice announcing the receipt of the additional CDBG and HOME funding and the Substantial Amendment to the 2013-2014 Annual Action Plan.

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The public has been notified through both print media as well as postings on the City's website (see attachments). The Action Plan for 2013-2014 and its amendments are viewable on the City's website at: <http://www.cityofnewhaven.com> under Finance Department, Budgets and Finances. The public was given 30 days to comment on the proposed amendment and use of funds.

1. Provide the appropriate response regarding this substantial amendment by checking one of the following options:

- Grantee did not receive public comments.
- Grantee received and accepted all public comments
- Grantee received public comments and did not accept one or more of the comments.

2. Provide a summary of the public comments regarding the substantial amendment. Include a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons for non-acceptance.

The City has received no formal public comment on its planned use of its additional allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) or HOME funds.

E. Describe how grant funds will be used in a manner that is consistent with the grantee's Consolidated Plan.

Key elements of the City's Consolidated Plan highlight its consistency with the projects selected under this amendment.

CDBG program objectives and priorities provide for emergency housing and shelter services along with prevention and maintenance services to prevent homelessness. CDBG objectives also support the strengthening and stabilization of neighborhoods through property maintenance and the removal of blight and the empowerment of individuals and families through the provision of public service facilities and programs.

The **Housing and Community Development Strategy** prioritizes existing homeless and special needs shelters and the development of permanent supportive housing for special needs populations. There is also a priority for facility improvements in support of consolidated planning efforts.

The Consolidated Plan **Needs Assessment** prioritizes improved access to safe, supportive and affordable housing opportunities and provides for a continuum of care system of housing opportunities that provide safe shelter for individuals working towards self sufficiency. The need for the expansion and improvement of public facilities in support of neighborhood revitalization is also part of the City's Consolidated Plan.

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F. Authorized Signature

By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provided the required assurances and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code Title 218, Section 1001)

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Mayor
Title