FUNDING REPORT

Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnerships Program

The IMPACT

National Community Development Association | Region VI
5 BIG REASONS
AND COUNTLESS SMALL REASONS
why funding matters.
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Dear Honorable Members of the Senate and House:

As you carefully consider the proposed FY2018-2019 budget, we respectfully urge you to continue funding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership programs. These federal programs have proven success in strengthening our local economies and have funded countless community projects and organizations that provide essential services to low- and moderate-income residents. Cuts to these programs would cripple cities across our region that depend on funding from CDBG and HOME to meet the needs of our citizens. These two well-founded programs have helped communities improve infrastructure, build and maintain affordable housing options, and provide valuable public services to children, seniors, and veterans. Eliminating CDBG and HOME, or even reducing the level at which they’re funded, would mean fewer home-bound elderly and disabled would be able to receive a warm meal from local food programs.

Cuts to these programs would cripple cities across our region.

Without these grants, after-school programs and counseling initiatives for at-risk youth would no longer receive necessary funding. And the dream of homeownership will remain out of reach for so many hard-working Americans who will no longer be able to receive down payment assistance. The projects funded through the CDBG and HOME programs enhance our cities. Through these crucial projects, we are able to reduce crime, create jobs, generate tax revenue, and improve the lives of residents. Without these projects – and the programs that fund them - communities will suffer. We understand the difficult fiscal decisions you have before you. As local government representatives, we are also committed to responsible budgeting and finding the most effective use of taxpayer dollars. Our communities depend on CDBG and HOME. That is why we, the undersigned, strongly urge you to consider once again funding the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Partnership Programs. We appreciate your continued support for our local economies.

Shanette Eaden
Housing and Community Services Manager
Plano, TX
CHAIR

Rick Giron
Community Services Project Manager
Albuquerque, NM
SENIOR VICE-CHAIR

Kevin Howard
Community Development Manager
Little Rock, AR
VICE-CHAIR OF LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Yvette Balderas
Assistant Community Development Director
McAllen, TX
VICE-CHAIR OF MEMBERSHIP AND NOMINATIONS

JonAnne Longoria
Community Development Manager
Mission, TX
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Sharon Berkley
Community Development Manager
Fort Worth, TX
VICE-CHAIR OF CONFERENCES
About the Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and the programs’ regional impact

For more than 40 years, communities across the United States have depended on funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program to provide essential services and assistance to hardworking people struggling to make ends meet. Each year, these critical programs improve the lives of millions of low- and moderate-income Americans while making our communities stronger and safer places to live and work.

Across Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana, and Arkansas, economic development projects funded through the CDBG and HOME programs have breathed new life into distressed communities. Areas devastated by natural disasters have been able to rebuild and grow stronger. Children, seniors, veterans, and small businesses have all benefited from necessary social services – all funded through these programs.

Without these programs, hundreds of communities and millions of Americans would suffer greatly.
Regional funding over last 10 years
(Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico)

**CDBG**
- **2009:** $397,417,858
- **2010:** $385,802,662
- **2011:** $360,595,588
- **2012:** $323,331,210
- **2013:** $334,346,857
- **2014:** $327,675,890
- **2015:** $323,204,581
- **2016:** $256,790,843
- **2017:** $232,138,857
- **2018:** $354,896,142

**HOME**
- **2009:** $199,501,467
- **2010:** $184,421,697
- **2011:** $174,772,093
- **2012:** $108,231,309
- **2013:** $102,909,966
- **2014:** $106,942,534
- **2015:** $95,183,882
- **2016:** $100,441,419
- **2017:** $100,070,644
- **2018:** $145,425,411

*numbers do not account for losses due to the increasing annual cost of inflation.*
Feed Your Brain’ (‘Alimenta Tu Cerebro’) One Community Bilingual Summer Reading Program

FAYETTEVILLE, AR

Summer literacy program focused on helping Spanish- and Marshallese-speaking students & families learn English in a fun, interactive environment. By ensuring the literacy of local students & their families, these families are provided countless opportunities for success, including the potential for employment and social improvement, as well as the prevention of summer literacy loss.

PARTICIPANT DATA:

- Clients enrolled in the program: 42
- Qualify as ‘extremely low’ income: 33%
- Hispanic/Latino: 6
- Caucasian/White or African American/Black: 39
While the new Caldarera House has yet to see many families step inside its doors, the impact it will have on the community of Fort Smith is great. The Next Step Day Room continues their success rate of getting homeless families off the street and into homes with this new addition.

120-150

Clients seen each day

HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS
While some have outside family members to help, often times those family members live out of town and/or state making it more challenging for them to get help with painting their homes. In the past we have had the aide of volunteers to help with paint projects. We have combined resources from the Federal Home Loan Bank SNAP Program to provide a much needed service to this subpopulation in Jacksonville.

Program focuses on disabled/elderly homeowners

Number of citizens served: 6

OVERALL IMPACT OF PROGRAM:
- The entire neighborhood benefit from the upgrade of the homes
Mid-South Health System (MSHS) - Transitional Group Home Rehabilitation Project

JONESBORO, AR

Mid-South Health System provides mental health services throughout 13 counties in Arkansas. In Jonesboro, MSHS with the Transitional Group Homes provides transitional housing to men diagnosed with severe mental illnesses and receiving treatment through Community Integration Program. The three group homes can accommodate up to 18 residents at any given time and house approximately 35 residents every year. Mid-South aims to address the lack of sufficient transitional housing in Jonesboro, especially for individuals with mental disabilities.

As a community mental health facility, we operate on a very tight budget and are always looking for resources to help us improve our efficiency. The CBDG is an outstanding program and Jonesboro is fortunate to have these funds available to our city.”

- Robbie Cline, Facilities Director, Mid-South Health Systems

HOME REPAIRS MADE USING CDBG FUNDS

- Install energy efficient windows
- Replace Doors
- Weatherize
The EmPowerment Center consist of a 24-bed residential treatment program designed to provide a safe, holistic comprehensive drug free environment for participants and their families. It also offers 30 single occupancy resident rooms to individuals with special needs (i.e. transitional living, limited income, homeless or has a disability affecting their income and need for supportive services). These units are fully furnished with microwave, refrigerator, and has Wi-Fi accessibility and are cable ready. It also has a dining hall that holds up to 102 occupants which is available to the community, with prior scheduling, for programs and events.

"After going through the process of getting my keys to my new home, I feel blessed and overwhelmed in a good way. I feel great and love my new home.”
– Sandra Davis

80,000
Individuals Served
Marion Street and Drainage Improvements Project

– Phase 1

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR

This project will provide neighborhood revitalization and improved curb appeal as front yards will no longer be flooded during heavy rains. New sidewalks will provide safe routes for pedestrians, including children walking to school bus stops.

Beneficiaries:

2,715

RESIDENTS IN THE AREA LIVING ON A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME

75%
As the first city in the United States to end homelessness among veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana prides itself on its proactive approach to helping those who have served in our armed forces. A key program that has drastically improved the housing situation for veterans transitioning from combat to civilian life in New Orleans is the Bastion Community of Resilience Project. The project, which leveraged HOME Investment Partnership funds to obtain donations from the private and business sectors, created 38 permanent, supportive housing units for veterans and their families. At Bastion, the warriors and their families are able to live in an environment designed to foster relationships, build community support, and provide individualized personal care plans for those who require special assistance or suffer from a medical condition such as a physical handicap or PTSD.

“Bastion has been a huge blessing for me and my family. It gave us hope at the time when hope was in question.”

- Malik Scott, Bastion Resident

**FUNDING FOR BASTION:**

$1,000,000

HOME funds used to leverage over $8.5 million for total development cost

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Housing Units:</th>
<th>38</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Residents:</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years of combined military service:</td>
<td>196</td>
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Known for its vibrancy and artistic appeal, New Orleans, Louisiana is one of the most cultural cities in America. In the heart of the Treme neighborhood, often called the home of jazz, a unique new development has brought new life to a beautiful, 100-year-old school building left empty after Hurricane Katrina devastated the area. Using HOME Investment Partnership funds, the city helped acquire the building for an adaptive reuse development project called Artspace. The new development will include 79 housing units for low-to moderate-income artists, cultural workers, and families. It will also have studio and practice spaces and community space for gatherings and artistic expressions.

FUNDING FOR ARTSPACE:

$2M

$1M grant

$1M acquisition loan

HOME funds used to leverage over $37 million for total development cost
Christian Service Program

Shreveport, LA

Shreveport’s Christian Service Program provides the most vital necessity to the city’s homeless and working poor. As a non-profit public service, the program provides warm meals to the food insecure, homeless, and needy. In collaboration with HOPE Connections, the city’s homeless coalition agency, the program provides daily meals at the agency’s campus. Founded in 1970, the Christian Service Program has served over 3 million hot meals to the poor. Many of those, including families and children, would go without food if not for this critical program.

While the non-profit agency receives most of its funding through grants and private donations, Community Development Block Grants still account for a significant portion of the program’s funding, and greatly help Christian Service Program leverage and raise the necessary funds.

Christian Service Program Annual Funding

$1,613,158 Private Donations and grants
$300,000 Community Development Block Grants

MEALS SERVED THROUGH CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

250 per day
7,700 meals per month
92,000 meals per year
3,000,000 meals since 1970
Casa Grande & Historic El Vado Redevelopment Project

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

In 2010 the City of Albuquerque acquired a blighted property using CDBG-R funds for the future redevelopment of Affordable Housing along Albuquerque’s major transit corridor. While the property had many environmental, zoning, and challenges, it was situated adjacent to the historic El Vado, Route 66 motel, which was also acquired by the City.

The Casa Grande/El Vado redevelopment project is the result of a public/private partnership between the MRA, the City’s Department of Family and Community Services, Palindrome Communities and Family Housing Development Corporation. The former restaurant site and historic motel are being developed to create a single mixed-use development that offers a variety of amenities, creating a catalytic redevelopment project.

Additionally, the privately financed phase of the historic El Vado preservation/redevelopment was also completed in the summer of 2018, preserving one of the few remaining classic Route 66 motels. This community redevelopment project not only preserved the site, but added to it with a boutique motel, an amphitheater, an event center, a Ponderosa Brewery tap room, restaurant pods, a spa, and retail space. This mixed-use redevelopment has brought new life to the historic charm of the El Vado and will serve generations of Albuquerque residents for years to come on Route 66.

FUNDING USED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDBG-R</th>
<th>HOME</th>
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<tr>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$1,900,000</td>
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MIXED-INCOME HOUSING UNITS

El Vado (all phases) Total Development Cost: $15,911,545
Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC) is a non-profit, certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) which drives small business success through non-traditional lending programs and provides technical assistance and educational resources designed to help entrepreneurs start or expand a company.

TEDC’s target population reflects businesses and entrepreneurs who create and retain jobs, primarily for low income Tulsans located in low to moderate income census tracts, and that have traditionally faced barriers to accessing capital.

“TEDC was there both when we purchased Economasters, LLC and when it was time to expand. We couldn’t have done it without them.” – Paul and Susan Hildebrand, Owners (Economasters, LLC);

To focus limited CDBG resources for impact while supporting existing City of Tulsa Sector Plans, TEDC gives priority to businesses in certain areas targeted for redevelopment. As an example, TEDC used CDBG to provide financing to several businesses opening in the Historic Kendall Whitter Square, a two-block area around Admiral Boulevard and Lewis Avenue in Tulsa. New businesses to the neighborhood funded by TEDC include: Whitty Books, selling a highly curated collection of new books; Flash Flood Print Studio, offering screen printing services; and The STEMcell Science Shop, providing a super cool science shop for adults. The National Main Street Center recently named the Kendall Whittier Main Street program as one of 10 semi-finalists for the National 2019 Great American Main Street award.

**IMPACT OF PROGRAM:**

- $4.1 million of leveraged funds
- $2.64 million in new wages
- 14 loans provided to 14 businesses totaling $1.36 million
- 112 jobs created, including 62 full-time and 50 part-time
The Impact of Community Housing Development Organizations in Arlington, TX

Over the past five years, two CHDOs have constructed 15 new single-family homes in lower-income neighborhoods where homeownership is significantly below the city-wide homeownership rate of 56%. With affordable entry-level housing inventory on the decline, these CHDO homes are critical to providing opportunities for first-time homebuyers. Experienced CHDOs bring unique partnerships to single-family housing development in Arlington, resulting in stronger neighborhoods and long-term benefits for low-income families.

Housing Rehabilitation Program Impacts Since 2016

38 Families benefitted
15 Individuals benefitted

“It’s definitely a dream to be able to own our own home,” said Sarah Rosales, mother of two.
This project replaced the fresh water and waste water lines from the main to the 20 units, and updated bathrooms in 19 of the 20 units including correcting structural issues uncovered during demolition and repair of interior water lines. This project provided low- and moderate-income families with a safe and healthy living environment, and increased efficiencies in the use of water resources.

“The residents love their new bathrooms. The tubs and toilets are not stopping up as they used to, and we are not having to call out plumbers every other day.” Sue Kaeufer, Executive Director of the Frisco Housing Authority

2017-2018
Citizens served:
3 Black/African American
13 Hispanic
15 White

18 households

Very Low household income:
16

Low household income:
1

Moderate household income:
1
PediPlace is a not-for-profit primary care pediatric healthcare practice that serves N. TX children who are uninsured or who receive Medicaid or CHIP benefits. The primary clinic is located in a strip shopping center in Lewisville where 67% of patients live within a five mile radius. This project redesigned and repurposed parts of the 20-year old existing clinic to add three additional exam rooms, an additional triage space, move administrative functions to an expanded space next door and remodel the entire clinic with updates and a more patient friendly décor. The City invested $108,865 in CDBG out of a total project costs of $442,500. PediPlace has 30 employees who work directly in the community. Because patients live and or work near the facility, they are able to access quality pediatric primary care quickly, reducing unnecessary visits to area emergency rooms. Children are able to return to school sooner, absenteeism is reduced, and parents are more productive at work and at home.

"We switched to this group and I am so thankful we did. Dr. McCloud is wonderful. She is our primary. We have also seen two other doctors here on emergency basis and all the doctors we have seen care not only for the patient but the whole family."
Play-For-All Playground at Salinas Park

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

The Salinas Park “Play-for-all” Playground is Corpus Christi’s very first playground of its kind. Consisting of a zip-line with a suspended chair that a person in a wheel chair can comfortably transfer onto to enjoy, a cozy cove for children with autism who may wish to seek out a quite spot if things get too overwhelming for them, a Sway Fun Glider which allows a person in a wheelchair to glide back and forth along-side of their friends and family, and a Rhapsody Outdoor Instrument set that features chimes, drums and metallophones. This playground isn’t just another individually standing piece of equipment but an entirely enclosed, covered, safe and fun play area for parents to feel comfortable taking their children no matter their abilities.

3,000 Household served

“What a great park. My kids had a blast. I love that it is fenced off so I don’t have to worry as much about my little ones wandering off. My kids thought the instruments were awesome and they loved the swing.”
Housing Rehabilitation Program

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PLANO, TX

The City of Plano Housing Rehabilitation Program revitalizes Plano’s aging housing stock and preserves affordability by providing a range of home repairs to low-income homeowners, from HVAC replacement to home reconstruction. Through one of the many program activities, the City acquires, rehabilitates, and re-sells dilapidated homes, providing new affordable homeownership opportunities and preventing blight. In 2017, the City partnered with Plano Housing Authority to acquire and demolish a deteriorated, vacant property and build a new home in its place. The home will be sold to an eligible buyer in FY 2018.

“Everything was excellent! We couldn’t have asked for more. This program was such a relief to our family.”

26

Households benefited

54%

Female-headed household

AFTER

BEFORE
As part of the Mueller Affordable Homes Program, 85 percent of the 240 residential units will serve young families, working couples, single parents and older adults who earn 30 to 60 percent of Austin’s median family income. Eighteen units have been made available to households with incomes at or below 30 percent MFI; 47 units have been made available to households with incomes at or below 50 percent MFI, which ranges from $16,000 annually for a single person to $51,500 for a family of four.
Housing Rehabilitation Program

MCKINNEY, TX

The Housing Rehabilitation Program endeavors to preserve existing affordable housing, assisting low-to-moderate income homeowners by bringing properties under acceptable standards, and enhancing the neighborhoods where the properties are located. The program is citywide, with emphasis on home repairs and also reconstruction in the older communities east of McDonald Street. The project assisted senior citizens, families, and the disabled with emergency, accessibility and other necessary repairs to make their homes safe. Funding used over the last two years: $588,057

21 Homeowners benefited

$588,057 Funding

“I’m so grateful! I never thought I would ever have a warm home and have it looks so nice. I did the best I could with mine, but I’m glad we asked and were able to get help. It’s changed my family’s life.”
Columbia at Renaissance Square

FORT WORTH, TX

Columbia at Renaissance Square affords residents the opportunity to be closer to work, reducing commute times and travel costs, leading to increased disposable income as well as time to enjoy the area attractions and activities. Columbia at Renaissance Square serves as a model on how developers partnering with housing finance agencies and cities can provide residents with better live-work-play lifestyle as well as to provide quality affordable housing options in planned communities built with purpose.

One of the community wellness components included an agreement with YMCA that provided funding through the City of Fort Worth, in which YMCA provides reduced fees for 50 households of the Columbia at Renaissance Square, including access to additional programs like after-school and summer programs, wellness programs, and more. Residents will also have access to the new aquatic center at the McDonald Southeast YMCA, located less than a block away from Columbia at Renaissance Square, which will be accessible to all City residents.

Phase 2 will include

120

Affordable Rental Units

There have been 9 HOME-assisted families who’ve been assisted but there are 140 families total who call this development home, including several who receive assistance through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Without the City’s HOME funds, this high-quality development would not have been completed.
The City of Laredo constructed two duplexes of one and two bedroom units to address the growing need for elderly housing in the community. These units are limited to persons 62 years of age or older and who are of very low income. The project was designed to compliment the unique architectural features of the oldest historical neighborhood in the community. The inspiration behind the design was geared toward providing ADA housing that will enable our elderly citizens a sense of freedom and safety. Residents will be able to enjoy a front porch, garden area, and gated parking. These units will also provide access to the downtown stores, public transportation and government offices.

The City of Laredo’s population is 260,654 with 30.6% living in poverty and approximately half of that low income population being elderly residents.