



PAT BRISTER  
PARISH PRESIDENT

2013 ~ 2014

# Annual Action Plan

## Community Development Block Grant

St. Tammany Parish Government

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	950,000	0	0	950,000	380,000	The Parish anticipates receiving \$950,000 a year in CDBG entitlement funding from HUD each year for the next five years.
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Housing	2,025,000	0	0	2,025,000	9,000,000	The Northlake Homeless Coalition receives CoC funding from HUD and then disperses it to local agencies
Supportive Housing Program	public - state	Other	92,460	0	0	92,460	369,840	SHP funding comes to the Parish's Community Action Agency from the State of Louisiana.
Other	private	Other	5,000	0	0	5,000	20,000	Utility Assistance
Other	public - federal	Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing	9,000,000	0	0	9,000,000	0	HUD Disaster Recovery Funds
Other	public - federal	Other	2,213,000	0	0	2,213,000	8,000,000	Funding received from FTA, funneled through LDOTD, for transportation.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Other	public - state	Acquisition Admin and Planning Housing	400,000	0	0	400,000	800,000	CDBG funds received from Louisiana Land Trust property sales in St. Tammany.
Other	public - state	Housing	221,000	0	0	221,000	884,000	Weatherization and energy efficiency improvements funding from the State of Louisiana
Other	public - state	Housing Public Services Other	20,000	0	0	20,000	80,000	The Parish's Community Action Agency anticipates receiving \$20,000 a year from the State of Louisiana's Office of Community Development. This funding is usually granted to local nonprofit that operate emergency shelter programs.
Other	public - state	Other	1,200,000	0	0	1,200,000	4,800,000	Utility assistance funding received from the State of Louisiana

**Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table**

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

There are currently no entitlement fund matching requirements that need to be addressed. However, CDBG funds that are used to administer the goSTAT voucher program will contribute to goSTAT’s FTA match requirements.

**If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The Parish is currently pursuing various grant opportunities for public facilities improvement projects that will take place on Parish-owned property. This includes:

- Improvements to public recreational facilities
- Accessibility improvements for the Trace
- Expansion of an agricultural facility in Covington
- Remediation of donated property in eastern St. Tammany

# Annual Goals and Objectives

## AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

### Goals Summary Information

Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
Residential Rehabilitation	2013	2014	Affordable Housing	Parish-wide	Affordable Housing	CDBG	Housing Units
Infrastructure Improvements	2013	2014	Non-Housing Community Development	Unincorporated Slidell	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG	Low/Mod Area Benefit
Home Energy Audit and Education	2013	2014	Affordable Housing	Parish-wide	Affordable Housing	CDBG	Housing Units
Public Service Projects	2013	2014	Non-Housing Community Development	Parish-wide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG	Public services activities for LMI clientele
goSTAT Voucher Program	2013	2014	Non-Housing Community Development	Parish-wide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG	Public services activities for LMI clientele
Homeownership Assistance	2013	2014	Affordable Housing	Parish-wide	Affordable Housing	State-funded CDBG and CDBG	Housing Units

**Table 55 – Goals Summary**

### Goal Descriptions

<b>1</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Residential Rehabilitation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	5 owner-occupied LMI households will receive repairs.
<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public service projects TBD by RFP.
<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Infrastructure improvements and sewer distribution system improvements in Browns Village Road area.
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Home Energy Audit & Education Program
	<b>Goal Description</b>	LMI households that received home repair assistance and other receive home energy audit and home maintenance education information.

5	<b>Goal Name</b>	IDA Program Project
	<b>Goal Description</b>	LMI homebuyers will receive financial assistance, in the form of an Individual Development Account, when purchasing a home.

**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):**

HOME regulations define affordable housing for homeownership as housing that:

1. Must be single-family;
2. Must be modest as follows:
  - i. Has a purchase price that does not exceed 95% of the median purchase price for the area;
  - ii. In the case of acquisition with rehabilitation, the house does not exceed 95% of the median price for the area;
  - iii. Must meet other requirements addressing median purchase price, periods of affordability, resale and recapture, and other qualifications as listed in 91.315(b)(2).

At this time, the Parish is not a recipient of HOME funds. However, the Parish estimates that it will provide 10 affordable housing units to LMI families in the next year.

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The 2013 – 2014 program year funds will fund a variety of projects. These dollars will be used for home rehabilitation, public service projects for LMI or presumed LMI populations that are to be determined later by RFP, sewer system improvements in an LMI area, home energy audit and education services for recipients of home repair assistance, homebuyer assistance, and program planning and administration needs.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Home Rehabilitation
2	Browns Village Road Area Infrastructure Improvements
3	Home Energy Audit and Home Repair Education
4	Program Administration
5	IDA Program Project

Table 56 – Project Information

#### Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Home rehabilitation will address the sustainability, affordability, and substandard housing issues that affect Parish homeowners. The public service RFP will be made availability to local nonprofits so that they may apply for funding to increase or create needed services for LMI populations in St. Tammany that include special needs, the homeless, and elderly. Sewer system improvements in the Browns Village area in eastern St. Tammany will remedy both public health and housing sustainability issues that affect LMI neighborhoods in that area. Water quality issues are a significant problem in St. Tammany. The home energy audit and education program will assist homeowners who receive repair assistance from Parish-funded programs in lowering their utility bills and maintaining the home improvements that they receive. This will also increase sustainability of affordable housing. The IDA Project will provide LMI homebuyers with increased access to affordable housing and homeownership.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Home Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area Browns Village Road Area West 30's
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Residential Rehabilitation
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$300,000
	<b>Description</b>	Owner-occupied LMI households will receive home repairs.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Owner-occupied LMI households will receive home rehabilitation services.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Browns Village Road Area Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	Browns Village Road Area
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$1,000,000
	<b>Description</b>	Improvements will be made to the sewer distribution system in the Browns Village Road area of eastern St. Tammany Parish.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Approximately 181 households will be connected to an improved sewer distribution system.
3	<b>Project Name</b>	Home Energy Audit and Home Repair Education
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$70,000
	<b>Description</b>	LMI households will receive home energy audits and home repair maintenance education.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	LMI households will receive home energy audits and information on how to lower their utility bills and households that have received home repair services will be educated on how to maintain their new repairs and how to lower their utility bills.
4	<b>Project Name</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	



	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	:
	<b>Description</b>	Administration of St. Tammany Parish's CDBG program.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administration of St. Tammany Parish's CDBG program.
5	<b>Project Name</b>	IDA Program Project
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$45,015
	<b>Description</b>	LMI homebuyers will receive assistance with purchasing a home.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	LMI homebuyers will receive assistance with purchasing a home.

Table 57 – Project Summary

(Same information as above in different format):

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Goals Supported</b>	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	<b>Funding</b>
Residential Rehabilitation	Available Parish Wide with priority given to target areas	30 Housing Units will receive home repairs	Affordable Housing	\$25,000
Public Service Projects	Parish Wide	Assistance to LMI Clientele with Specific #'s TBD	Non-Housing Community Development	\$152,888.25
Browns Village Road Area Infrastructure Improvements	Browns Village Road Area in Unincorporated Slidell	181 Housing Units will receive residential sewer connection	Infrastructure Improvements	\$522,500
Home Energy Audit and Education Program	Available Parish Wide with priority given to target areas	45 Housing Units will receive energy audits and educational services	Affordable Housing	\$70,000
IDA Program	Parish Wide	Homebuyers will receive financial assistance	Affordable Housing	\$45,015.75
Planning & Program Administration	N/A	Planning & Program Administration	Planning & Program Administration	\$203,851

**Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs:**

The 2013 – 2014 program year funds will fund a variety of projects. These dollars will be used for home rehabilitation, public service projects for LMI or presumed LMI populations that are to be determined later by RFP, sewer system improvements in an LMI area, home energy audit and education services for recipients of home repair assistance, and program planning and administration needs.

Home rehabilitation will address the sustainability, affordability, and substandard housing issues that affect Parish homeowners. The public service RFP will be made availability to local nonprofits so that they may apply for funding to increase or create needed services for LMI populations in St. Tammany that include special needs, the homeless, and elderly. Sewer system improvements in the Browns Village area in eastern St. Tammany will remedy both public health and housing sustainability issues that affect LMI neighborhoods in that area. Water quality issues are a significant problem in St. Tammany. The home energy audit and education program will assist homeowners who receive repair assistance from Parish-funded programs in lowering their utility bills and maintaining the home improvements that they receive. This will also increase sustainability of affordable housing.

## AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

### Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

#### Browns Village Road area in unincorporated Slidell

This area includes neighborhoods (census tracts 407.04 and 407.01) that consist of primarily low-income households. The Belle Gardens and Browns Village Subdivisions are both in need of sewer system improvements and upgrades. These areas are also in need housing rehabilitation and access to supportive services.

#### The West 30's area in Covington

This neighborhood is located in a majority LMI census tract (405.01) and is still in need of a substantial amount of housing rehabilitation, supportive services, and neighborhood improvements. A West 30's Steering Committee has been formed, a work plan has been developed, and there are community enhancement efforts taking place at the present time.

#### Hwy 433/Hwy 190 area in Slidell

This area is in two census tracts (411.03 and 412.04) and is need of sewer system and infrastructure improvements in the Huntington Estates/Victoria Way, Centennial Park, Ozone Woods, Slidell Manor, and Bayou Vincent Subdivisions. Most households in this unincorporated area are of low-income status and are in need of housing rehabilitation and access to supportive services.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Highway 190/433 Area	5
Browns Village Road Area	51
West 30's	10

Table 58 - Geographic Distribution

## **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The Browns Village Road area is located in eastern St. Tammany and is in great need of a sewer system for area residents. Most of the 181 residents of the Browns Village and Belle Gardens subdivisions have their own individual home sewer systems. Many of those systems are not up to code and therefore become threats to public health when they pollute their local ditches and bayous and eventually run off into larger water systems. By constructing a new system and connecting area residents to that system, the water quality will drastically improve for those residents and the threat of contamination of area ditches and other local water systems will decrease.

The remaining funds will be spent on LMI residents across the Parish. When appropriate, the needs of the disabled, special needs and frail elderly populations will receive priority when it comes to obtaining services.

# Affordable Housing

## AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

### Introduction

2013 CDBG Funds will be used to:

- Rehabilitate homes owned and occupied by LMI persons
- Assist LMI homebuyers in purchasing a home through Individual Development Account creation and contribution
- Provide nonprofits (organizations and projects TBD) with an opportunity to submit project proposals for public service funding for projects that assist the LMI, homeless, non-homeless, and special needs.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	5
Non-Homeless	30
Special-Needs	15
Total	50

**Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	5
Acquisition of Existing Units	3
Total	8

**Table 60 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**  
**Discussion**

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing**

To address the needs of public housing residents, the Parish will:

- Contact housing authority staff about the applicable events or services that may be helpful to their residents
- Attend the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance meetings of which housing authority staff also attend

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

The Parish will distribute information about homeownership assistance programs and services to the housing authority staff so that they may be distributed to residents.

### **If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance**

Not applicable.

## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)**

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

In an effort to reach out to homeless persons, the Parish will:

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the homeless will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

#### Continue Administering the goSTAT Voucher Program

CDBG funds will continue to be used to fund the goSTAT voucher program, which provides income-eligible individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transit system at no cost. This will assist the homeless population in accessing available services.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Administer Supportive Housing Program

Community Action Agency staff will continue to provide outreach and administer the Parish's Supportive Housing Program.

#### Administer State-Funded ESG Allocation

Community Action Agency staff will continue to administer ESG funds both to organizations that serve the homeless and homeless individuals that they are provided through the state.

#### Utilize Parish Public Health Millage Funds for Services

The Parish will continue to provide public health millage funds to local nonprofits that provide mental health and public health services to the Parish residents that are in need. These services will be made available to those whose mental illness contributed to their homelessness.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

To address the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons, the Parish will:

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the homeless will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

#### Continue Administering the goSTAT Voucher Program

CDBG funds will continue to be used to fund the goSTAT voucher program, which provides income-eligible individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transit system at no cost. This will assist the homeless population in accessing available services.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Administer State-Funded ESG Allocation

Community Action Agency staff will continue to administer ESG funds both to organizations that serve the homeless and homeless individuals that they are provided through the state.

**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

In order to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living and prevent individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again, the Parish will:

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the homeless will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development



of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

Continue Administering the goSTAT Voucher Program

CDBG funds will continue to be used to fund the goSTAT voucher program, which provides income-eligible individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transit system at no cost. This will assist the homeless population in accessing available services.

Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information, including contact information to local affordable housing providers, to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

Administer Supportive Housing Program

Community Action Agency staff will continue to provide outreach and administer the Parish's Supportive Housing Program.

Administer State-Funded ESG Allocation

Community Action Agency staff will continue to administer ESG funds both to organizations that serve the homeless and homeless individuals that they are provided through the state.

Utilize Parish Public Health Millage Funds for Services

The Parish will continue to provide public health millage funds to local nonprofits that provide mental health and public health services to the Parish residents that are in need. These services will be made available to those whose mental illness contributed to their homelessness.

Support Local Organizations that Provide Affordable Housing

CDBG funds provided to St. Tammany from the State Office of Community Development will be provided to the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, so that they may provide affordable housing opportunities to income-eligible clients who are at risk of homelessness. The Parish will also continue to work with both Habitat for Humanity organizations in St. Tammany, as they provide affordable housing opportunities to residents as well.

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

In order to assist LMI individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, the Parish will:

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the homeless will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families. Representatives from organizations that provide housing, health, social service and related services to the homeless and near homeless population attend these meetings as well. This assists in the coordination of resources and available services.

#### Continue Administering the goSTAT Voucher Program

CDBG funds will continue to be used to fund the goSTAT voucher program, which provides income-eligible individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transit system at no cost. This will assist the near-homeless population in accessing available services.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Administer Supportive Housing Program

Community Action Agency staff will continue to provide outreach and administer the Parish's Supportive Housing Program.

#### Administer State-Funded ESG Allocation

Community Action Agency staff will continue to administer ESG funds both to organizations that serve the homeless and homeless individuals that they are provided through the state.

#### Utilize Parish Public Health Millage Funds for Services

The Parish will continue to provide public health millage funds to local nonprofits that provide mental health and public health services to the Parish residents that are in need. These services will be made available to those whose mental illness contributed to their homelessness.

#### Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund a home repair program and home energy education programs so that the LMI households receive necessary repairs and information that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable.

## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)**

**Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment**

### The Biggert-Waters Act (BWA)

St. Tammany is a recipient of Hazard Mitigation and Severe Repetitive Loss funds from FEMA. The Parish uses these funds to assist homeowners in elevating their homes to the appropriate level as indicated by FEMA. Ideally, this will help prevent certain homes from becoming unaffordable due to the new BWA laws. Parish leaders, including representatives from St. Tammany Parish, have been active with other regional leaders in addressing these issues with Congress so that they do not negatively impact the residents of south Louisiana.

### Impact Fees

CDBG staff will evaluate affordability issues that arise with LMI homebuyers due to Parish impact fees. After further assessment, Parish staff may approach the issue with Parish officials to see if the fees may be waived for individuals who earn up to 80% of the area median income.

### NIMBYISM

Many of the Parish's elected officials see a need for affordable workforce housing in our community. CDBG staff will work with local officials and the Northshore Housing Initiative in presenting an informational campaign to the public that teaches them community about the benefits and needs of workforce housing.

### High Cost of Land

The Parish is working with the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, by providing them with non-entitlement CDBG funds received from the State Office of Community Development. These funds will assist the NHI in their program wherein they assist qualified homebuyers in purchasing homes by covering the cost of and retaining ownership of the land on which the home resides. This decreases the purchase price for the homebuyer and makes the home more affordable.

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the LMI population will be eligible to apply for funding. Organizations that provide case management services, life skills education, job training, and educational programs will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources such as job training, education, and employment assistance. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

#### goSTAT Voucher Program

The Parish will continue to fund the goSTAT voucher program with CDBG dollars, which provides LMI individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transportation system at no cost. This will assist poverty-level families in accessing public transportation that provides them with a mode of transit to and from work and school

#### Creation of Faith-Based Sheltering System for Families

The St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance is working on developing a faith-based sheltering system for families. This system would provide shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. This would ensure that children can attend school, that families can stay together, and that assistance is provided so that these families can again become self sufficient.

#### Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community's delivery system. By staying attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

#### Research Grant Opportunities and Partnerships for Homeless Facility Rehabilitation

If able to identify an organization to operate a new homeless shelter in St. Tammany, the Parish will research grant opportunities for funding for rehabilitation of a facility to be used as the homeless shelter or potential one-stop shop for homeless services.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

In order to foster and maintain affordable housing, the Parish will:

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information, including contact information to local affordable housing providers, to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Administer Supportive Housing Program

Community Action Agency staff will continue to provide outreach and administer the Parish's Supportive Housing Program.

#### Support Local Organizations that Provide Affordable Housing

CDBG funds provided to St. Tammany from the State Office of Community Development will be provided to the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, so that they may provide affordable housing opportunities to income-eligible clients who are at risk of homelessness. The Parish will also continue to work with both Habitat for Humanity organizations in St. Tammany, as they provide affordable housing opportunities to residents as well.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

In order to reduce lead-based paint hazards, the Parish will:

#### Provide LBP Educational Information to the Public

The Parish will display LBP posters in its DHHS and CAA offices and will have that information available for distribution to organizations and interested parties. Recipients of the Parish-funded home repair program(s) will also receive LBP educational materials. The Parish will let local organizations that serve LMI populations know that LBP educational materials can be accessed from the DHHS.

### Provide Affordable Housing Program Information to Affected Households

Households that are affected by LBP are able to contact the Parish for information regarding affordable housing opportunities for homes without LBP hazards. The Parish maintains a current list of affordable housing options in St. Tammany that can be distributed to interested parties. The Parish will let local organizations that serve LMI populations know that affordable housing information can be accessed from the DHHS.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

In order to reduce the number of poverty-level families, the Parish will:

#### Issue an Annual RFP for Public Service Projects

The Parish will issue an RFP each program year to nonprofits for eligible public service projects. Organizations that provide services directly to the LMI population will be eligible to apply for funding. Organizations that provide case management services, life skills education, job training, and educational programs will be eligible to apply for funding.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources such as job training, education, and employment assistance. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

#### Development of the Northshore Center of Innovation and Learning

Parish government will continue its efforts to create, coordinate, and develop the Northshore Center of Innovation and Learning. This center, once created, will provide educational, employment, and job training opportunities to residents of St. Tammany and the surrounding areas. Ideally, the creation of the center and business park will lead to a more educated and skilled workforce and the creation of new jobs as well. This will help individuals become more qualified to earn better wages and gradually increase their household income so that they are no longer considered to be poverty-level.

#### goSTAT Voucher Program

The Parish will continue to fund the goSTAT voucher program with CDBG dollars, which provides LMI individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transportation system at no cost. This will assist poverty-level families in accessing public transportation that provides them with a mode of transit to and from work and school.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

In order to develop institutional structure, the Parish will:

#### Development of Single Point of Entry System

The NHC is working on developing a single point of entry system for homeless housing and service providers. The NHC is currently collecting information and feedback from providers so that the new system will address the concerns and needs of those who provide hands-on services to the homeless. Once all information is gathered, the system will be created so that all providers have access to the same information, communication is enhanced, and homeless persons receive expedited assistance and information when accessing services.

#### Creation of Faith-Based Sheltering System for Families

The St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance is working on developing a faith-based sheltering system for families. This system would provide shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. This would ensure that children can attend school, that families can stay together, and that assistance is provided so that these families can again become self sufficient.

#### Annual Requests for Proposals for CDBG Public Service Funding

The Parish intends on issuing an annual request for proposals for CDBG public service funding. This allows local service providers an opportunity to obtain financial support for operational funding for their organizations for costs that may include but not be limited to case management, transportation, education, and other related services.

#### goSTAT Voucher Program

The Parish will continue to fund the goSTAT voucher program with CDBG dollars, which provides LMI individuals with vouchers so that they can ride the Parish's transportation system at no cost. The vouchers may be obtained from local agencies and organizations that participate in the program and become voucher distributors. All organizations that serve LMI clientele are able to become voucher distributors. In order to do so, they must enter into a memorandum of understanding with goSTAT and sign a beneficiary reporting agreement with the Parish Department of Health and Human Services. The Parish will also coordinate a meeting with goSTAT and local service providers so that any concerns about the accessibility and availability of the current transportation system can be discussed in an open format.

#### Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community's delivery system. By staying attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

#### Research Grant Opportunities and Partnerships for Homeless Facility Rehabilitation

If able to identify an organization to operate a new homeless shelter in St. Tammany, the Parish will research grant opportunities for funding for rehabilitation of a facility to be used as the homeless shelter or potential one-stop shop for homeless services.

#### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies**

In order to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies, the Parish will:

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community's delivery system. By staying attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

The CDBG Administrator serves on the board of a local nonprofit organization called the "St. Tammany Commission on Families." This organization hosts free monthly meetings in the Parish that offer different speakers each month who present on a variety of social service topics. These meetings are well-attended by representatives from local health, mental health, housing, social service, and governmental agencies. CDBG staff often use information received from these meetings as a gauge in terms of what needs exist in our community. It also provides networking opportunities for all above-mentioned agencies that often lead to enhanced service coordination. Parish staff members also attend meetings of the local Continuum of Care, the Northlake Homeless Coalition, where local homeless service providers convene monthly to discuss the needs of the homeless in our region.

In the past six months, two new coalitions have been formed. One is the "St. Tammany Behavioral Health Task Force" and another is the "St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance." These two groups were formed by a Parish-employed DHHS consultant and have become excellent planning tools for service coordination for mental health, homelessness, and housing needs in St. Tammany. Mental health and housing have become two of the most important and visible needs of our community; the Alliance and Task Force and played a role in ensuring that service gaps are identified and that efforts made to address those gaps are non-duplicative and coordinated.

Members of the Behavioral Health Task Force include representatives from the following organizations: National Alliance on Mental Illness – St. Tammany, the Florida Parishes Human Service Authority, Catholic Charities – Northshore, St. Tammany Outreach for the Prevention of Suicide (STOPS), the St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office, the St. Tammany Community Health Center, St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, Northlake Behavioral Health System, and Slidell Memorial Hospital.

Members of the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance include representatives from the following organizations: the Northlake Homeless Coalition, Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans, Catholic Charities – Northshore, the Samaritan Center, Covington Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West, Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany East, the Covington Housing Authority, St. Tammany Community Action Agency, Slidell Housing Authority, Northshore Community Foundation, the City of Covington, and Community Christian Concern.



## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00%