



# 2024 Annual Action Plan

## Community Development Block Grant

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City of Kankakee  
Economic and Community  
Development Agency

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## Executive Summary

### AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

#### 1. Introduction

##### City Response:

The City of Kankakee, Illinois is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Programs, as defined by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Kankakee receives an annual block grant, allocated by HUD on a formula basis which can be used to address critical and unmet community needs. In compliance with HUD regulations, the City of Kankakee has prepared this FY 2024 Annual Action Plan (AAP) for the period of May 1, 2024 through April 31, 2025. The City of Kankakee's Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is responsible for the planning, administration, and execution of CDBG programming.

This AAP is the final year of the city's FY2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan assessed the City's affordable housing, homeless and non-housing community development needs and market conditions, set goals and objectives and developed funding priorities for CDBG programs. The AAP establishes the City's goals for a twelve (12) month period and outlines the specific initiatives the City will undertake to address its needs and objectives by promoting: improving City infrastructure, the rehabilitation and construction of decent, safe, and sanitary housing, creating a suitable living environment, removing slums and blighting conditions, promoting fair housing, improving public services, expanding economic opportunities, and principally benefitting low- and moderate-income persons.

#### 2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

##### City Response:

The 2024 Annual Action Plan contains a range of goals, objectives, and outcomes formulated to address the needs identified for housing, homelessness, other special needs, community development and economic development. The following goals and objectives have been identified for the twelve-month period of FY2024:

#### Affordable Housing

The City will promote affording housing for low- and moderate-income residents through:

- Rehabilitation of owner-occupied single-family properties
- Homebuyer’s counseling and assistance programming
- Supporting ECDA’s HUD Lead Hazard Reduction grant program through funding match

#### Creating Livable Communities

The City will make living environments more available, accessible, affordable, and sustainable for low- and moderate-income residents through:

- Supportive services for the homeless
- Improve public instructresses and facilities through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction, of streets, sidewalks, bridges, curbs, walkways, water, storm water, sanitary sewer, handicap accessibility improvements/removal of architectural barriers, etc.
- Clearance/demolition of vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures that pose a major life or safety hazard to the community

#### Public Services

The City will provide additional funds to existing non-profit organizations to expand the availability of and increase access to needed services in the community. These include, but are not limited to:

- Mental health services
- Job training
- Senior services
- Homeless prevention
- Homebuyer counseling
- Rental assistance

- Youth programs

## Economic Development

The City will increase economic development opportunities and grow the existing economic community through providing:

- Increased access to capital
- Technical assistance services
- Workforce training and development programs
- Building a support system for the small business community

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

#### City Response:

The ECDA has undergone tremendous change through the course of the FY2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and consequently struggled to meet all established objectives outlined therein. In 2021 and 2022, ECDA had multiple staff turnovers, impacting the CDBG program and its regular operation. As a result, the ECDA hired a full-time CDBG program manager in 2022, responsible solely for the planning, administration, and execution of CDBG-funded projects and activities. While Kankakee's timeliness issues demonstrate a struggle to spend grant funding at an adequate speed, we are confident this has been a temporary result of operational changes and not a symptom of ongoing systemic issues.

### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

#### City Response:

Citizen participation process is conducted according to the public participation policies and procedures detailed in the City's CDBG Standard Procedures manual. One public meeting was hosted each month from March through October to gather initial information regarding community needs and desires. Public hearings were held on February 12, 2024 and February 21, 2024 to provide citizens an opportunity to learn about the CDBG program and 2024 AAP goals and budget.

The thirty-day public review and comment period for the 2024 AAP took place from February 10, 2024 to March 11, 2024. No comments were received.

The City announced public hearing details, the public comment period, and where to locate drafts of the 2024 AAP on social media and in the Daily Journal, a local newspaper. See AP-12 for additional steps that the City took to encourage citizen participation.

The attached Citizen Participation PDF includes the following:

- Summary of public comments
- Proof of Publication
- Citizens Participation Plan

## **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

City Response:

No public comments were received.

## **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**

City Response:

No comments were not accepted.

## **7. Summary**

**PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)**

**1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan**

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	KANKAKEE	
CDBG Administrator		Economic and Community Development Agency

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative (optional)**

City Response:

The lead agency for the development of the Annual Action Plan is the City of Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

## **AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)**

### **1. Introduction**

#### City Response:

In carrying out the programs and services funded by CDBG, the ECDA makes concerted efforts to communicate and strategize with stakeholders in the community. Working to advance the quality of life of low- to moderate-income individuals is not a job that can be accomplished exclusively by one agency, and so ECDA participates regularly in many community meetings to ensure distribution of programming information throughout the community, agency awareness of needs and desires in the community, and an awareness of external agency offerings to residents of Kankakee.

#### **Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))**

#### City Response:

The ECDA maintains an active role in many community groups in an effort to enhance coordination between local community development agencies.

ECDA has a representative attend regular meetings with the following agencies: the Kankakee Regional Planning Group of the Central Illinois Continuum of Care, the Kankakee County Community Outreach Committee, the Kankakee Development Corporation, and the Economic Alliance of Kankakee County, the Kankakee County Homeless Task Force.

When possible, the ECDA also connects with agencies such as: the Kankakee County Housing Authority, the Kankakee County Landlord’s Association, the Kankakee County Health Department, the Kankakee County NAACP, the Kankakee Hispanic Partnership, the Kankakee County Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Kankakee Black Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.**

#### City Response:

PATH Crisis Center of Bloomington, IL has been responsible for leading the local Continuum of Care efforts, but had undergone homeless lead staffing changes nearly every six months. As a result, it has become nearly impossible to communicate effectively or coordinate any constructive approach to homelessness in our community.

Locally the Kankakee Regional Planning Group (KRPg) is the lead entity in these efforts. The Kankakee Regional Planning Group consists of Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet, Iroquois-Kankakee Regional Office of Education, Kankakee County Community Services, Kankakee County Housing Authority, The Manteno Prince Home, Fortitude Homeless Shelter, Salvation Army, Thresholds, and Veterans Assistance Commission, and many others as they choose to attend. Any homeless service provider is welcome and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. The City has representation at the monthly Kankakee Regional Planning group to facilitate interaction and communication between the various social service agencies in the area.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS**

City Response:

The City of Kankakee does not receive ESG funds, but does participate in the Central Illinois CoC and provide feedback and assistance when requested by PATH. PATH has struggled to adequately administer these funds, according to local agencies who receive ESG funding. Several agencies have received awards but are without grant agreements and are therefore unable to spend their funding without guarantee of reimbursement.

The ECDA has attended Continuum of Care meetings and worked to advocate for local agencies to receive their funding in a timely manner, lest services to our local homeless community be interrupted.

**2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities**



**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Kankakee County Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Contacted KCHA through their annual plan and via email. The City of Kankakee plans to utilize this connection and information gleaned from these meetings to develop a comprehensive housing strategy for the community, ranging from homeless shelters to housing counseling for potential homebuyers.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	SOUTH SUBURBAN HOUSING CENTER
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consulted via website and through regular communication. South Suburban Housing Center (SSHC) conducts Fair Housing work on behalf of the City of Kankakee, including responding to all Fair Housing complaints and performing periodic testing for potential Fair Housing violations. SSHC has provided the City detailed information about the complaints it has handled, as well as providing Fair Housing training for Economic & Community Development Agency (ECDA) staff. SSHC works with numerous communities in the south Chicago suburbs geographic region, and therefore collaborating with them has expanded Kankakee's network of potential collaborators.

3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Kankakee Development Corporation
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consulted via website and attend monthly board of directors meeting, at which Kankakee Development Corporation (KDC) and the City share with each other regarding ongoing projects and available resources. The City regularly collaborates with KDC to build local strategies for downtown housing, workforce development, and business growth. Additionally, KDC provides free downtown internet access as a benefit to the community.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Economic Alliance of Kankakee County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consulted website and attended quarterly board of directors meeting, at which the Economic Alliance of Kankakee County (EAKC) and the City of Kankakee discuss ongoing projects and available area resources. The City regularly collaborates with EAKC to build regional strategies for housing, workforce development, and business growth.

5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	THE SALVATION ARMY - KANKAKEE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services - Victims Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Contacted via email and consulted website. Representatives from Salvation Army regularly attend meetings of the Kankakee Regional Planning Group (K RPG), which includes all local Continuum of Care service providers as well as numerous other related helping service providers.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF JOLIET
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment

<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless  Homeless Needs - Families with children  Homelessness Needs - Veterans  Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth  Homelessness Strategy  Non-Homeless Special Needs  Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Contacted via email, phone, and consultation of website. Catholic Charities operates multiple social service programs in the Kankakee area, assisting populations including seniors, veterans, and homeless families. Catholic Charities representatives regularly participate in Kankakee Regional Planning Group (KRP) meetings, which consist of all local Continuum of Care providers as well as numerous other related service providers. Catholic Charities' representatives have been among the most reliable KRP participants, consistently sharing updates regarding their own program and providing useful feedback to other organizations and KRP as a whole. Consulting with Catholic Charities has helped the City stay up-to-date regarding availability of local social services, especially homeless/housing services.</p>
<p>7 <b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p>Kankakee County Health Department</p>
<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Services-Children  Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS  Services-Health  Health Agency  Other government - County  Regional organization</p>
<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Non-Homeless Special Needs  Lead-based Paint Strategy</p>

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Contacted via email and consulted website and reports. The City of Kankakee has a long history of collaborating with Kankakee County Health Department (KCHD), especially regarding lead abatement efforts. Whenever KCHD discovers an Elevated Blood Lead Level (EBLL) in children, it refers the family to the City's Lead Hazard Reduction (LHR) program. The City is then able to perform a Lead Inspection/Risk Assessment to determine whether lead-based paint is a hazard within the residence, and if lead is found can perform mitigation or abatement using its LHR grant program. Over the past year, the Health Department has also become a regular participant in the Kankakee Regional Planning Group, helping to address the health needs of our homeless community.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Harbor House
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Contacted via phone and email. Although Harbor House is not usually able to attend KRPG meetings due to an ongoing schedule conflict, they still participate in KRPG information distribution including announcement of local events. Harbor House's many community education events and direct correspondence with the City have helped the City understand the specific needs of survivors of domestic violence, including their unique housing needs.
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	KANKAKEE COUNTY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Other government - County

<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consulted website and reviewed Comprehensive Plan. The City of Kankakee and Kankakee County have formally partnered to form the Kankakee Regional Land Bank, and share responsibility for overseeing this program. Through the land bank, abandoned and blighted properties will be strategically acquired and rehabilitated with the goal of ultimately returning them to productive use. The City and county have also jointly discussed area housing and homeless services needs.

**Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting**

City Response:

The City engaged with all agency types.

**Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan**

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	Kankakee Regional Planning Group	This plan gives information on how the area's continuum of care addresses the homelessness strategy.
Kankakee County 2030 Comprehensive Plan	Kankakee County Planning Department	The Kankakee County Comprehensive Plan includes the City of Kankakee and lays a plan for the county requirements.
Kankakee Consolidated Plan	City of Kankakee	This is a five-year plan for community and economic development efforts with a focus on housing.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Kankakee Riverfront Master Plan	City of Kankakee	This is a 25-year redevelopment strategy for the Kankakee River which runs through the City of Kankakee. The plan calls for housing rehab and new construction to meet housing needs.
Home Illinois: Illinois Plan to Prevent and End H	State of Illinois	This plan provides additional strategies, policies, and programs which will contribute to the City's homelessness efforts.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing	City of Kankakee	This plan provides the basis for fair housing activities for the City of Kankakee. This plan was implemented in December 2021.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**

City Response:

The ECDA is constantly engaged with local stakeholders through the creation of the Consolidated Plan and through the development of each of the Annual Action Plans. The City continues to make efforts to bring more collaborators to the table and receive information and feedback in diverse areas to ensure thorough preparation of our plans from year to year.

## **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

#### City Response:

The City of Kankakee has an adopted Citizen Participation Plan, as required in 24 CFR 91.105. The Citizens Participation Plan contains the City's policies and procedures for public participation in regards to the consolidated plan process, use of CDBG funds, as well as other public documents submitted to HUD annually.

In 2023, the ECDA began hosting monthly “Community Conversations” to encourage citizen participation, which has historically been a struggle for the city. These meetings provided an opportunity to hear from residents throughout the year and understand their needs and desires.

Through the year, some of the topics that arose most often centered around residents’ feelings of safety at their home and in their community and a lack of affordable housing.



**Citizen Participation Outreach**

<b>Sort Order</b>	<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted and reasons</b>	<b>URL (If applicable)</b>
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1	community events	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>We attended 17 different community events between March 2023 and August 2023. Positive interactions were had at each event. The sign in sheets are included in the attachments with this plan's submission. 7th Ward Meet and Greet on May 6 from 12pm to 3pm at Pioneer Park. Four people shared their contact information with us, but at least 50 people took information about our office. Kankakee Farmers Market on May 20 from 8am to 12pm. Three people shared their contact information with us, but at least 20 people interacted with us in some way and took</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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			<p>our information.</p> <p>Success by 6's Early Childhood Fair at the Kankakee Farmers Market on June 10 from 8am to 12pm. Two people shared their contact information with us, but we interacted with at least 32 people in some way who also took our information.</p> <p>Youthpalooza at Kankakee High School on June 16 from 11am to 4pm. Two people shared their contact information with us, but at least 44 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Juneteenth Freedom Festival on June 17 from 11am to 4pm at Pioneer Park. One person shared their contact information</p>			
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			<p>with us but we interacted with at least 17 people who took our information. Kankakee Farmers Market on June 24 from 8am to 12pm. Two people shared their contact information with us, but at least 14 people interacted with us in some way and took our information. Community Block Party hosted by Kankakee United at the Neighborhood House on July 8 from 1pm to 3pm. Four people shared their contact information with us, but at least 6 people interacted with us in some way and took our information. 100 drawstring bags with ECDA info were given to Alderwoman</p>			
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			<p>Malone Marshall on July 10 Summer Read Fest hosted by the Kankakee Public Library on July 15 from 9am to 12pm. No one shared their contact information, but at least 22 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Kankakee Farmers Market on July 22 from 8am to 12pm. Three people shared their contact information with us, but at least 15 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Catholic Charities had their Back to School event on July 25 and included 200 copies of ECDA materials for us</p> <p>Between the Back to School Bash on August</p>			
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			<p>5 and the Fresh Look Braid and Cut-a-Thon on Aug 19 hosted, in part, by Kankakee United, there were 706 erasers containing ECDA info distributed to families. Kankakee Farmers Market on August 19 from 8am to 12pm. One person shared their contact information with us, but at least 15 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Kankakee Forgives Ribbon-Cutting and Block Party on August 25 from 4pm to 7pm. No one shared their contact information with us, but at least 10 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Kankakee Junior High School's Open House</p>			
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			<p>on August 28 from 10am to 12pm and 4pm to 6pm. Three people shared their contact information with us, but at least 40 people interacted with us in some way and took our contact information. Kankakee High School's JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) program had an event with students on August 29 from 1030am to 1230pm. We were able to share ECDA information with about 20 students. Kankakee Community College had a Student Resource Fair on August 31 from 11am to 3pm. We were able to share ECDA information with about 22 individuals.</p>			
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2	community events	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>We attended 15 different community events between August 2023 and February 2024. Positive interactions were had at each event. The sign in sheets are included in the attachments with this plan's submission. Kankakee Farmers Market on September 16 for the Hispanic Heritage Celebration from 8am to 12pm. No one shared their contact information with us, but at least 17 people interacted with us in some way and took our information. Housing Fair in partnership with South Suburban Housing Center and Prairie State Legal Services on September</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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			<p>19 from 2pm to 4pm at the Kankakee Public Library. 46 people were in attendance.</p> <p>Marycrest Fall Festival on September 23 from 12pm to 6pm at Lisieux Center hosted by Marycrest Association of Responsible Citizens. Five people shared their contact information with us, but at least 39 people interacted with us in some way and took our information.</p> <p>Kankakee Farmers Market on September 30 from 8am to 12pm. No one shared their contact information with us, but at least 13 people interacted with us and took our information.</p> <p>Halloween Downtown event on October 15</p>			
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			<p>from 10am to 4pm in downtown Kankakee. About 400 adults and children were interacted with and about 280 took our information. Candy and bracelets were tagged with program information. Kankakee County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event on October 19 from 430pm to 630pm. There were at least 30 interactions with visitors to the office. Kankakee Public Library's Trunk or Treat on October 27 from 6pm to 8pm. Candy and bracelets were tagged with program information. 204 bracelets and 415 pieces of candy were passed out. Kankakee Farmers Market on</p>			
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			<p>October 28 from 8am to 12pm. One person shared their contact information with us, and we interacted with about 6 other people while passing out about 80 pieces of candy and 5 bracelets with program information attached. Kankakee Junior High School Conferences from 10am to 1pm and the KSD111 Community Resource Fair at Avis Huff from 4pm to 6pm on November 2. 40 pieces of candy and 17 bracelets with program information attached were shared. Proegler Conferences on November 16 from 10am to 6pm. 32 people shared their contact information with us. 24 drawstring</p>			
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			<p>bags and 10 bracelets were shared.</p> <p>Kankakee Christmas Parade on December 9 at 430pm. 277 pieces of candy with ECDA information attached were handed out during the parade. St Mary's Food Pantry on January 2 from 3pm to 430pm. We passed out 177 ECDA program flyers to attendees. St Mary's Food pantry on Feb 5 - our materials were shared with 205 attendees despite us not being in attendance. Kankakee School District 111's College and Career Fair at Kankakee High School on February 13 from 12pm to 6pm. We interacted and shared information with at least 48 individuals, mainly</p>			
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			<p>high school students.  Proegler's Parent Academy on February 26 from 9am to 11am.  About 15 interactions with attendees.</p>			

3	Public Meeting	residents	<p>This year we implemented a new way to community meeting strategy, which we called Community Conversations. There were 8 held throughout the 7 wards of the city, plus we attended a 2nd ward-specific meeting. The notes from these Community Conversations can be found at the URL link provided. The sign in sheets are included in the attachments with this plan's submission. March 9 at 6 pm at Morning Star Community Center. One resident in attendance. April 13 at 6pm at Kankakee Public Library Auditorium. Five residents in</p>		n/a	<p><a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AcEf-rR0dGsp0AN9C7tx8zpi8rK-nAZH?usp=drive_link">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AcEf-rR0dGsp0AN9C7tx8zpi8rK-nAZH?usp=drive_link</a></p>
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			<p>attendance. May 11 at 6pm at Real Life Church. Six people in attendance. June 8 at 6pm at Kankakee County Museum. Seven residents in attendance. July 13 at 6pm at Bird Park Meeting Room. Seven residents in attendance, plus a Bourbonnais resident. August 10 at 6pm at Beckman Park. Five residents were in attendance. September 14 at 6pm at City Life Center. Seven residents were in attendance, including both 7th ward aldermen. October 12 at 6pm at Kankakee Public Library Auditorium. Five residents in attendance. 2nd Ward meeting on February</p>			
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			21 at 530pm at the Kankakee Public Library. There were about 37 people were in attendance.			

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	ECDA-hosted workshops	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>The sign in sheets are included in the attachments with this plan's submission. Healthy Homes Workshop on April 11 at 5:30pm in the ECDA Conference Room. One person in attendance. Healthy Homes Workshop on June 27 at 5:30pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Two people in attendance. Healthy Homes Workshop on September 26 at 5:30pm in the ECDA Conference Room. One person in attendance. Lead workshop on October 24 at 5:30pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Two people in attendance.</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	

5	Economic Development workshops	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community entrepreneurs or business owners</p>	<p>The sign in sheets are included in the attachments with this plan's submission. Business Workshop in Spanish on Small Business Taxes on March 7 from 5pm to 630 in the ECDA Conference Room. Six people were in attendance. Individual Tax Workshop on March 21 at 5pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Two people were in attendance. Business Workshop in partnership with the Kankakee County Health Department on April 4 from 5pm to 630pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Three people were in attendance. Business Workshop in English on Accessing</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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			<p>Resources on June 6 from 5pm to 630 in the ECDA Conference Room. Ten people were in attendance.</p> <p>Business workshop in English on Creating a Business Plan on September 5 from 5pm to 630pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Two people were in attendance.</p> <p>Business workshop in Spanish on Creating a Business Plan on October 3 from 5pm to 630pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Two people were in attendance.</p> <p>Lunch n Learn on February 6 from 11:30am to 1pm in the ECDA Conference Room. Four people were in attendance.</p>			
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6	door to door	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>The Neighborhood Walks Initiative is an Economic and Community Development Agency program created to connect with residents to share ECDA program information, information about other local resources, and news about upcoming events. Walks take place each Friday - weather-permitting - in a different Kankakee neighborhood. Other local organizations are invited to participate by sharing materials detailing the resources they offer the community and to walk with us. If residents do not answer, we leave behind a bag with all the information.</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			Between March 2023 and February 2024, we walked 39 weeks out of the 52 weeks and were able to knock on 4,806 doors.			

7	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>We post an average of 35 ECDA-related posts a month. These posts may be in relation to upcoming community events or workshops that we are attending or hosting and/or information about available programs. As of May 1, 2023, the ECDA launched its own Facebook and Instagram social media accounts. Prior to this, the ECDA shared social media space with the City of Kankakees social media accounts have continued to grow and as of March 8, 2024 the ECDA Facebook (<a href="https://facebook.com/ecdakanakee">facebook.com/ecdakanakee</a>) has 1,044 followers and the ECDA Instagram (@kankakeeecda) has 272 followers.</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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8	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	<p>The Notice of Public Comment and Public Hearing for HUD's CDBG grant 2024-25 Annual Action Plan was published in the local newspaper, The Daily Journal, on February 10, 2024. The public comment window was open from February 10, 2024 to March 11, 2024. Two public hearings were held. The first public hearing was held on February 12, 2024 at 4:30pm in the Kankakee Public Library's 3rd Floor Meeting Room and the second was on February 21, 2024 at 12pm in the ECDA Conference Room. No comments were submitted during the public comment window. A copy of the</p>	No comments were received.	n/a	
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			notice that was published in the newspaper is included in the attachment's of this plan's submission.			

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

**Introduction**

City Response:

The City of Kankakee currently has more resources available than is allowed through the timeliness test. We are aware of the issues that have led to failure of the timeliness test and expect to meet the 1.5x test in the future.

**Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder 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	602,655	0	1,094,639	1,697,294	0	The City of Kankakee anticipates an annual allocation of \$602,655, \$0 in program income, and currently has \$1,094,639.09 in remaining prior year resources. This leaves a total of \$1,697,294.09.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Other	public - federal	Admin and Planning Housing Public Services	226,362	0	0	226,362	0	Please be aware that there is actually \$226,362.38 in CDBG-CV funding, but we are unable to include the remaining cents on this page. We have rounded down to \$226,362. The remaining CDBG-CV funding will be used for administering and providing Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance in the city of Kankakee.

Table 5 - 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**

City Response:

The City of Kankakee leverages other additional funding to stretch federal dollars as far as they can go. This includes state and private grants. ECDA has also been awarded grants through the National League of Cities for the City Inclusive Entrepreneurship Network (CIE). The City of Kankakee and ECDA are always looking for partnership opportunities to coordinate with other organizations.

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

City Response:

The City of Kankakee does not currently plan to utilize any publicly owned land or property to address the needs identified in the plan at this time. If a circumstance arises, the City will inform HUD and the public of this matter.

**Discussion**

City Response:

The CDBG program provides extraordinary opportunities to the City of Kankakee as we work to address low- to moderate-income needs in our community. This funding provides the backbone of the Economic and Community Development Agency and many highly needed programs in the city, and the ECDA looks forward to the creation of more adaptive and comprehensive programs in the future to use and leverage these funds to their fullest extent.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Homeless	Citywide	Owner Occupied Repair Homeownership Clearance and Demolition	CDBG: \$1,141,138.09	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 15 Households Assisted Buildings Demolished: 5 Buildings
2	Creating Livable Communities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Public Infrastructure Public Services	CDBG: \$230,625	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 300 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Public Services	2020	2024	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Public Services	CDBG: \$75,000 CDBG-CV: \$226,362	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 40 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 100 Persons Assisted
4	Economic Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Economic Development	CDBG: \$130,000	Businesses assisted: 50 Businesses Assisted
5	Planning and Administration	2020	2024	Planning and Administration			CDBG: \$120,531	

Table 6 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Citywide Administration of the CDBG Grant
2	Goal Name	Creating Livable Communities
	Goal Description	

<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Goal Description</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Planning and Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

City Response:

The City of Kankakee has identified the following projects to be implemented in PY2024-2025 to advance the goals established in the Consolidated Plan.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Administration & Planning
2	Matching Costs
3	Demolition and Clearance
4	Single-Family Rehab Program - SFRP
5	Emergency Rehab Program
6	Public Service
7	Kankakee Housing Incentive Program - KHIP
8	Special Economic Development Activities
9	Public Facilities
10	Emergency Rental Assistance (CV)

Table 7 - Project Information

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

City Response:

Allocation priorities were determined by the continuous and persistent need to improve our housing, create livable communities, increase access to public services, and spur economic development, especially for small businesses. ECDA plans to introduce a down payment assistance program in conjunction with housing counseling in the new program year.

The ECDA develops programs in response to desires and needs expressed by the community, and looks for new ways to acquire more feedback from a larger pool of residents. Frequently, residents are



unwilling to attend public meetings or express their personal opinions.

Developing and administering programming at the level required is difficult, as there will always be more needs than can be met with the funding available. ECDA continues to work to develop programs in such a way that resources and assistance are distributed equitably and to as many individuals as possible.

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing Creating Livable Communities Public Services Economic Development Planning and Administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Owner Occupied Repair Economic Development Public Facilities Public Infrastructure Public Services Homeownership Clearance and Demolition
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$120,531
	<b>Description</b>	Citywide Administration of the CDBG Grant
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	200 E Court Street, Suite 410, Kankakee, IL 60901
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administration and planning
	<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>
<b>Target Area</b>		Citywide
<b>Goals Supported</b>		Affordable Housing
<b>Needs Addressed</b>		Owner Occupied Repair
<b>Funding</b>		CDBG: \$65,000
<b>Description</b>		This project will pay for some eligible activity delivery costs for the City of Kankakee's Lead Hazard Control grant and Healthy Homes Projection grant through matching funds.
<b>Target Date</b>		4/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project will serve approximately 10 LMI households.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	These funds will be used for eligible activity delivery costs to support other City of Kankakee rehab programs.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Demolition and Clearance
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Clearance and Demolition
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$242,000.29
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund the demolition and clearance of properties that are a health and safety concern in the community.
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Buildings Demolished: 5 buildings
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This activity will help to reduce blight and in communities where burned out buildings are still standing and pose a life-safety threat, as well as other properties which are abandoned and beyond rehabilitation.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Single-Family Rehab Program - SFRP
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Owner Occupied Repair
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$459,137.80
	<b>Description</b>	The project will fund the rehabilitation of single-family homes in Kankakee
	<b>Target Date</b>	

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 homes
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will assist LMI families to address home health hazards.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Emergency Rehab Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Owner Occupied Repair
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$175,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund emergency repairs in owner-occupied housing
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 12 homes
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$75,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund public service activities in the City of Kankakee
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Public Service Activities other than low-/moderate-income housing benefit: 40 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 100 Persons Assisted
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will fund public service activities in the City of Kankakee
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Kankakee Housing Incentive Program - KHIP
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeownership
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$200,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund housing counseling and down payment assistance for low- to moderate-income individuals in Kankakee.
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 15
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will provide potential homeowners with housing counseling and down payment assistance if eligible.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Special Economic Development Activities
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$130,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund special economic development activities in the City of Kankakee.
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Businesses assisted: 50 businesses
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This activity will provide technical assistance to businesses
9	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facilities
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Creating Livable Communities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$230,625
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund needed public facility improvements in the City of Kankakee
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Public facility or infrastructure activities other than low-/moderate-income housing benefit: 300 Persons Assisted
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will provide public facility improvements, specifically to the fire departments infrastructure, to improve access to services.
10	<b>Project Name</b>	Emergency Rental Assistance (CV)
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG-CV: \$226,362
	<b>Description</b>	
	<b>Target Date</b>	4/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	We anticipate assisting 10 households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Addresses will be entered upon completion of the project and detailed records of each project will be kept.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will prevent evictions/foreclosures and homelessness through emergency rental and mortgage assistance.



## **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**

City Response:

The City of Kankakee is the geographic area of entitlement. It is divided into seven wards, each with neighborhoods of low- to moderate-income individuals. As such, funding is distributed across the city based on income limits rather than geographic location.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Citywide	100

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

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

City Response:

The City of Kankakee does not have a priority for allocating investments geographically. Assistance is provided based on income eligibility requirements.

### **Discussion**

City Response:

In an effort to provide assistance to as many low- to moderate-income individuals as possible, funding is allocated based on income rather than geographic location.

# Affordable Housing

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

### Introduction

City Response:

The following section highlights the City's one-year affordable housing goals. During the PY2024-2025, ECDA intends to launch a new housing counseling and down payment assistance program to help support households in their search for affordable housing.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	50
Non-Homeless	10
Special-Needs	0
Total	60

**Table 9 - 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	10
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	10

**Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

### Discussion

City Response:

These goals will be met with our SFRP, KHIP, and Public Service programs in 2024-2025. SFRP will address the need for rehabilitation in existing units, KHIP will help both homeless and non-homeless individuals with housing counseling services, and our Public Service program has a number of housing initiatives which support homeless individuals and those at risk of homelessness who need safe and affordable housing.

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

### **Introduction**

#### City Response:

The Kankakee County Housing Authority is responsible for public housing programs in the City of Kankakee. According to the Housing Authority's 2023 Annual Plan, they operate a total of 199 public housing units and a total of 827 housing choice vouchers (HCV). The Housing Authority made further progress in rehabilitating units when vacant. Site and building improvements were made to Midtown Towers and some Family Site units as vacancies occurred.

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

#### City Response:

Given the vast need for quality, affordable housing locally, the Kankakee County Housing Authority continues to investigate opportunities for acquisition and building additional units. KCHA is looking at adding housing through the development of tax credit mixed-income properties and replacing older public housing units once they are fully operational. One of these tax credit projects has received State of Illinois approval.

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

#### City Response:

The City of Kankakee provides outreach materials to KCHA, and will encourage participation in relevant ECDA programming, especially our homebuyer education classes and down payment assistance programs. The KCHA also participates in a Self-Sufficiency program.

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

#### City Response:

The Kankakee County Housing Authority is not designated as a troubled Public Housing Authority. It is

continuing to improve its PHAS and SEMAP scoring, with it being 90 and 93 respectively.

**Discussion**

City Response:

Not applicable

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

### **Introduction**

#### City Response:

The City of Kankakee has become more involved in the support and coordination efforts of the Kankakee Regional Planning Group (KRPg) of the Central Illinois Continuum of Care. Following the struggles of PATH Crisis Center to lead the CCoC, the City of Kankakee has made every effort to demonstrate a willingness to lead the charge in homeless services that impact not only the city, but also the county.

Alongside the other community agencies within the KRPg, Kankakee is working to develop a map of community services and identify gaps where support for homeless individuals is lacking. It plans to utilize this information to craft a comprehensive housing and anti-homelessness strategy for the City, and subsequently direct available funding - including CDBG public services and available American Rescue Plan Act funds - toward addressing these gaps and bolstering the strengths.

The City of Kankakee has begun discussions with PATH and KRPg to potentially establish a new Continuum of Care to cover Kankakee, Ford, and Iroquois counties. This would reduce the stress on PATH's network, as well as allow for coordinated services much closer to our community.

In the next year, we hope to develop a more solid plan to pursue this, with HUD's guidance and blessing. In the pursuit of this, the ECDA would hire a new staff member to manage homeless services and provide technical assistance to our CoC member agencies. The ECDA also hopes to begin providing housing counseling services, including homeless, eviction and foreclosure counseling.

### **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**

#### City Response:

Assuming the ECDA is able to hire a homeless services lead, this individual will perform client-centered work, spending time in our local shelters and working on street outreach to communicate with as many homeless individuals as possible and distribute programming information and resources. The ECDA has not historically had the capacity to perform this kind of work before, but has contributed financially to

homeless prevention and services through the Public Service program.

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

#### City Response:

Since the ECDA does not itself provide direct services, its greatest strength for addressing emergency shelter and transitional housing needs is to advocate for social service agencies in our community. In the upcoming year, this will be done most through our attempt to create and maintain a local Continuum of Care. Through data collection and collaboration, we will be able to more accurately determine the needs of our homeless neighbors and our social service agencies that provide services.

**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**

#### City Response:

The establishment of a local Continuum of Care and hiring of a homeless services lead will contribute to our ability to assist homeless service agencies. The ECDA is also looking forward to gathering more comprehensive, localized data for determining how long it takes for individuals to go from intake to housing and where the most significant bottle necks are.

The ECDA is also looking forward to becoming a HUD-certified housing counseling agency and providing housing counseling to individuals facing or experiencing homelessness, foreclosure, and eviction. These services may provide valuable knowledge about saving, resources, and how to move forward from their situation.

**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.**

### City Response:

Similar to the above section, the ECDA working to develop a local Continuum of Care and develop more a more comprehensive understanding of current service offerings and gaps. We are also working to bring more diverse service organizations to our local CoC meetings to ensure that the wrap around services LMI individuals have access to are able to address and meet their needs.

Providing housing counseling services for those who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure will hopefully also reduce the number of individuals that do ultimately experience homelessness.

## **Discussion**

### City Response:

The City of Kankakee is currently in the process of synthesizing data obtained from surveying all homeless services and related providers within the city and plans to use this data to identify service gaps. It then plans to use available funding, including through CDBG public services, to address these gaps. Working with KRPG and the CCoC are integral parts of this process, which ECDA plans to diligently continue.

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

### **Introduction:**

#### City Response:

In the City of Kankakee’s Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, the following barriers were identified:

- Lower incomes of many households and a lack of quality affordable housing creates high cost burdens, especially for renters
- Aging housing stock creates a need for at times costly rehabilitation
- There is a limited supply of subsidies for rental housing.
- The predominance of single-family zoning and number of nonconforming uses create challenges for affordable housing.
- Property taxes and utilities create additional housing costs for residents.
- Difficulty accessing credit due to limited income, poor credit and rental history creates challenges for accessing homeownership and quality rental units.
- Limited availability of shelter beds, affordable units, and upfront payments to transition out of homelessness are barriers for homeless individuals and families.

**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**

#### City Response:

The ECDA is developing programs and policies, alongside the general City of Kankakee government, to remove and ameliorate some of the above-mentioned barriers. These actions include:

- The development of a housing counseling program to provide renters with knowledge of their rights
- The administration of the SFRP program to help with potentially costly rehabilitation of units that



are often nearly 100 years old

- The rezoning of improperly zoned properties across the city
- The development of a down payment assistance program, in conjunction with housing counseling, to make homeownership an affordable option for low- to moderate-income individuals

**Discussion:**

City Response:

While these actions do not address all the needs established by the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, they demonstrate a concerted effort to evolve and expand ECDA's program offering based on established need. We look forward to continuing to change and add programs in the future, and continue to improve access to affordable housing.

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

### **Introduction:**

#### City Response:

The ECDA works diligently to support all low- to moderate-income individuals in Kankakee and reduce the barriers they experience in acquiring and maintaining affordable housing, and increase the livability of the community.

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

#### City Response:

The readily identifiable obstacles observed in meeting the underserved needs are a lack of adequate financial resources and limited occupational opportunities suitable to the education and skill levels of the low- to moderate-income individuals in Kankakee.

ECDA intends to develop workforce programming for the community, allowing low- to moderate-income individuals to increase their knowledge and abilities, and ultimately job placement.

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

#### City Response:

Affordable housing is one of the greatest needs in the Kankakee community. The City commits itself to fostering and maintaining affordable housing by applying for and receiving funding for various state and federal grants.

The Single-Family Rehab Program (SFRP) is used to address homes that need assistance to be brought back from deterioration to viable living spaces. This program is used to bring eligible items up to the City of Kankakee Code standards, and thereby maintaining affordable housing.

ECDA's Executive Director also played a founding role in the Kankakee County Land Bank, which is working to begin moving tax delinquent and abandoned properties back into productive use in Kankakee, thereby increasing affordable housing options.

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

#### City Response:

Lead-based paint hazards are a significant concern for the City of Kankakee, as 93% of homes built before 1978 contain lead paint, and 92% of the homes in Kankakee were built before 1978. The City of

Kankakee has administered a HUD-funded Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control grant program for the past twenty years. The ECDA administers a Lead Hazard Reduction grant through HUD's Department of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

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

#### City Response:

The City of Kankakee recognizes that housing, particularly its cost, is one of the most critical economic problems faced by persons in poverty. The City continues to seek additional housing resource for very low income persons, and will continue to educate and advocate for the fair and impartial treatment of persons in poverty who seek clean, sanitary, decent, safe, and affordable housing.

The introduction of housing counseling through the ECDA office will allow for increased education in identifying predatory lending practices and protecting themselves from predatory lenders. The City has many vacant and boarded properties due to a growing foreclosure rate caused primarily by the financing methods of predatory lenders. Foreclosure prevention will help lessen this rate, as well as reduce the number of individuals who fall into a period of homelessness as a result.

In addition to the City's housing efforts, there is a large network of agencies in Kankakee County that are currently providing a wide variety of human services. It is the policy of the City of Kankakee to continue to support and utilize these existing agencies to alleviate poverty in the community. The City of Kankakee is actively seeking various avenues of public/private assistance to help alleviate our growing affordable housing needs.

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

#### City Response:

The ECDA intends to hire several new employees to facilitate several CDBG activities, including a Construction Field Officer and a Housing Counselor. These two new roles will exclusively administer specific programs outlined in this Annual Action Plan, and will contribute to the capacity of the ECDA to meet both its AAP and Consolidated Plan goals.

The City of Kankakee also has many collaborators in executing the projects and activities outlined in Annual Action Plans, including non-profit agencies and local government institutions, including the Kankakee County Health Department and the Kankakee County Land Bank.

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

## **service agencies**

### City Response:

The City is committed to continuing its partnership and coordination with public and private housing and social service agencies. The ECDA's Community Outreach Coordinator works as the lead for the Kankakee County Community Outreach Leadership Team, which is a group of agencies that gather monthly to distribute program and event information. The CDBG Program Manager participates in monthly Continuum of Care meetings.

The ECDA also maintains an internal list of program availability for distribution to residents who need assistance that the City is unable to provide.

### **Discussion:**

### City Response:

Not applicable.

# Program Specific Requirements

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

### Introduction:

All staff is responsible for ensuring compliance with all program-specific requirements, as well as for program monitoring and reporting. In addition, the staff ensures that federal cross-cutting requirements, including Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, Uniform Relocation Act, and Section 3, are met.

### 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%



