City of Canton
Department of Development

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report - FY 2019

Grant Numbers: B19MC390002 – CDBG
              M19MC390203 - HOME
              E19MC390002 - HESG

Mayor, Thomas Bernabei

Rollin Seward, Director of Development
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount Expended During Program Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDBG</td>
<td>2,982,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>574,476</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESG</td>
<td>263,794</td>
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In 2019, the City continued its efforts toward improving housing conditions and providing beneficial public services and community development activities. By continually evaluating its HUD funded programs, partnerships with City departments, area non-profits and for-profit organizations; the City prioritizes programs that primarily benefit the Canton’s low-mod income residents.

Because the City’s program year runs April 1st to March 31st, the COVID-19 pandemic has been immensely disruptive. The majority of HUD funded programs were put on hold in March, affecting outcomes. Many City-funded agencies were shut down or down-sized for up to 3 months. Some agencies received CARES Act funding from other sources and are currently addressing the emergency needs of area residents. These issues caused delays in programing. One agency was unable to submit invoices in time for funds to be drawn in the 2019 program year. Additionally, a Tenant Based Rental Assistance program did not begin as scheduled. These delays resulted in the City not meeting some goals on paper.

**Affordable Housing**

In 2019, the City addressed the priority needs of the community. These needs are to maintain and improve the quality of existing housing, expand affordable housing opportunities and to reduce housing cost burden. They were outlined in the City’s 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan.

The City’s housing programs provide affordable housing for residents through funding home maintenance and repairs that the homeowner(s) cannot afford. The City expands affordable housing opportunities with projects that build safe, affordable, new homeowner or rental housing. Canton also provides down payment assistance to help reduce the housing cost burden of becoming a new homeowner.

**ICAN Preservation Project** - The project rehabbed 14 formerly vacant properties for use as permanent supportive housing. The last five homes were completed and occupied in 2019.

**ICAN Roof Replacement** – A roof was replaced at a 4-unit permanent supportive housing site.

**In-house Rehab Programs** - Housing assistance was provided to low/moderate income homeowners to repair and maintain their homes. Work was completed on 131 houses; 30 were located in the Eastside NRSA and 14 in the Central NRSA.

32 Roofs were replaced, 27 Minor home repair projects were completed, and 69 Emergency repairs were completed. One project was completed to correct code violations and two homes were provided with handicap accessibility improvements.

**Habitat Preservation Project** – Six scattered site homes were rehabbed and sold to qualifying households.

**Habitat NE Renewal Project** – Four formerly vacant houses were rehabbed and sold to qualifying households. Two were located in the Eastside NRSA.
**Habitat SE Renewal Project** – One formerly vacant house in the Eastside NRSA was rehabbed and sold to a qualifying household.

**Community Building Partnership (CBP) Down Payment Assistance** - This program provided CDBG grants for down payment assistance to 16 households through a program that was completed in 2019.

**ICAN New Rental Housing** – HOME funds were expended for 14 units of permanent supportive housing. The project was completed in the fall of 2019 and all units were occupied.

**Habitat New Homeowner Housing** – A HOME grant was provided to Habitat for Humanity to construct new affordable housing units for low/moderate income households. Funds were expended for five single family homes. Two were in the Eastside NRSA.

**Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences**

**Clearance & Demolition** - One structure in the Central NRSA that was a blighting influence and a health & safety hazard was demolished using CDBG funds. The majority of demolitions in the city were performed through a grant from the State of Ohio.

**Expand Economic Opportunities**

**Economic & Community Development Institute (ECDI)** – The City provided funding to an organization that offers a variety of services, including loans, to help small businesses succeed. Two businesses were assisted with CDBG funds. ECDI provided loans to other businesses in the city with funds from other sources.

**Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC)** – A business development grant was provided to assist Canton residents become childcare workers. The program helps individuals establish their own business to provide childcare to families in their neighborhoods. Funds help pay for state licensing and Child Development Associate (CDA) credentials. Five women completed the program in 2019.

**Improve Public Facilities serving low and moderate income neighborhoods**

**Domestic Violence Project** – A CDBG grant was awarded as part of a project providing improvements and updates to a facility that offered housing and services for domestic violence victims. HVAC improvements were performed in 2019.

**Community Treatment & Correction Center** – CDBG funds assisted with the purchase of furniture for an agency that offered a re-entry program for men coming out of prison.

**ABCD Richmond Homes** – The city provided CDBG funding for infrastructure in a project building housing for the elderly. The project is still underway.

**South East Community Center** – HVAC improvements were provided to a neighborhood recreational facility in a high poverty census tract located in the Eastside NRSA. The facility is owned by the City and operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. Fitness, recreation and educational programs are operated in the center year round.

**Job and Family Services Children’s Network** – CDBG funds were used to purchase office furniture for a
program which benefitted children who may be victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, human trafficking or had witnessed homicide.

**Canton City Schools** – A CDBG grant was awarded to purchase a washer and dryer for an elementary school serving a low income neighborhood. A lack of clean clothing contributes to high absentee rates. 96% of the children attending the school qualified for free or reduced price lunches.

**Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health** – A CDBG grant provided renovations to a gym for a non-profit, full service mental health organization that specialized in the emotional and behavioral needs of children, adolescents, young adults and their families.

**JRC Family Services** – CDBG funds assisted with kitchen improvements for a Learning Center which held pre-school and adult day care programs as well as before and after school programs. The center provides activities that help children maintain and improve their academic skills.

**Provide Canton's Special Needs and Low-income Residents with Services to improve their Self-sufficiency**

**Heritage Christian School** – CDBG funding was provided for a summer enrichment program for low income youth which served 56 youth. The program provided educational and recreational activities.

**Canton Ex-Newsboys** – A CDBG grant was awarded to an organization that provided shoes and clothing for school children. 311 low income students, grades K-12, received clothing needed to attend school.

**The First Tee** - A CDBG grant provided an opportunity for low-mod income youth to receive golf instructions and learn core value lessons that help build character, instill values and promote healthy choices. 24 youth participated in this program.

**Beacon Charitable Pharmacy** – A CDBG grant was awarded to provide access for the most vulnerable populations to pharmaceuticals and education. 138 City residents who are uninsured or underinsured received assistance.

**Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery** - 1,646 households received information and referral assistance through the Homeless Hotline. The hotline provided 24 hour assistance for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

**Malone University** 15 youth participated in a Wildlife Careers Program at a college located in the City. The program provided exposure to careers in the fields of Zoo Management and Veterinary Science.

**George Dunwoody Foundation** – A CDBG grant funded an enrichment camp that provided mentoring and academic enrichment. The camp was attended by 115 youth from low income households

**The Stock Pile** – 917 persons were assisted through a program which provided used furniture and surplus building supplies. The Stock Pile’s Welcome Home program provided participants with furniture and home essentials at no cost. At that time, Welcome Home focused on participants who were transitioning out of homelessness, out of a domestic violence situation or aging out of foster care.

**StarkFresh** – CDBG funds assisted a mobile farmers market which provided fresh produce to 328 persons in low-mod income neighborhoods. Stops included senior and public housing sites.
**Habitat for Humanity Homeowner Maintenance Education (H.O.M.E.)** – Through this program, Habitat offered an opportunity for homeowners from the City of Canton to participate in their award-winning Homeowner Maintenance Education (H.O.M.E.) classes. This program provided hands-on educational courses that taught basic, yet vital, home maintenance skills. Through a CDBG grant from the City of Canton, this one-day course is offered free for Canton homeowners.

**Malone University Stepping Off to College** – The Stepping Off to College program which was supported by Canton City Schools, Malone University, Fifth Third Bank and the City of Canton. 34 high school seniors who have been accepted to college were part of the 2019 program. Upon completion, the student received a laptop computer, printer and a voucher to purchase clothing. The program discussed college financial literacy, career and vocational pathways and life on campus.

**Severe Weather Program** – CDBG funds were expended to provide shelter and meals at homeless facilities and a city-owned neighborhood center for homeless persons or persons without sufficient heat during severe weather. One hundred and fourteen (114) people were assisted.
The Workshops, Inc. – A CDBG grant provided funding for a program that provides art instruction to people with disabilities. Funds were used to purchase cameras and art supplies, as well as provide lessons in ceramics, photography and wood cutting.
NRSA Activities

Shiloh Baptist Church – A CDBG grant allowed 31 youth to participate in an after school enrichment program in the Central NRSA. The program provides a safe place for youth from low income households. The program offers tutoring and provides an afterschool snack.

En-Rich-Ment – CDBG funds help provide a program for youth ages 5-18 that creates opportunities for participation in fine arts programs. The program offers experiences in music, art, dance, choir, and education to underserved youth. Children plant and care for a community garden, attend leadership classes and perform through various art forms. The program’s drum line performs at numerous local area events. The program also provides meals for the youth and a food pantry for families whose children participate in the program. Ninety seven (97) youth participated.

Girls Think Tank – CDBG funds were awarded to a mentoring program for female youth that helps build resiliency and self-determination. Program leaders received training and developed plans for the program scheduled to begin in the spring, but the program is on hold due to COVID-19.

Stark County Community Action Agency Camp 707 – 61 school aged youth participated in a program offering fun, educational activities along with a meal program.

Stark County Community Action Agency Youth Career Exploration Program – 59 youth participated in a program offering mentoring and teaching soft skills for a variety of career paths though classroom activities as part of the agency’s workforce development program. A CDBG grant was awarded to help fund the program.

Tiqvah Hands of Hope – CDBG funds provided an opportunity for 32 underprivileged school age children, grades 1-12, to participate in an after school program that provides mentoring and tutoring in a safe environment. Students are also provided nutritious meals, offered hygiene opportunities and products as well as enrichment and recreational opportunities.

PAX, Inc. – Funding provided for 24 youth to attend a summer STEM program.

Emergency Solutions Grant

CommQuest - Funding was awarded to a homelessness prevention program offering assistance with rent, utilities, and case management to residents living in the City of Canton. The program served 284 persons in the 2019 program year.

Domestic Violence Project – Funding was provided to a program offering domestic violence victims a safe place to stay and assistance getting their lives back in order. 292 persons were assisted.

StarkMHAR – Stark Mental Health and Addicion Recovery’s mission is to “support wellness and recovery through innovation in funding, collaboration, education and advocacy.” StarkMHAR operates the Homeless Management Information System for the County CoC and the County Homeless Hotline. ESG funds were awarded for operation of the HMIS.
Refuge of Hope – Funding was awarded for an emergency shelter that provides hot showers, meals, clothing, and access to counseling to homeless men and hot meals to men, women and children in a family-style setting eight times every week. 429 Men were provided with shelter.