



## **2019 Action Plan**

### **a Component of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan for the City of Pascagoula's Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program as Substantially Amended **May 2020****

The City is proposing to substantially amend its 2019 Action Plan during May-June 2020 to allocate **CDBG CARES COVID-19 supplemental funds totaling \$108,508** to public service organizations currently funded in the City's FY19 Action Plan. CDBG CARES supplemental funds must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. **The proposed changes are highlighted in yellow to facilitate public review.**

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

##### **1. Introduction**

The City of Pascagoula's 2019 One-Year Action Plan is a component of its 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and serves as the City's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for entitlement grants. For Program Year 2019, which begins October 1, 2019 and ends September 30, 2020, the City of Pascagoula (the City) received an allocation of \$183,709 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from HUD. The City has \$5,670 in unallocated carryover funds and it does not anticipate receiving any CDBG Program Income in the 2019 Program Year. Total CDBG funds available for Program Year 2019 are \$189,379.

The City is not a formula entitlement recipient under HUD's Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) or HOME Programs. This Action Plan identifies the City of Pascagoula's sources of Program Year 2019 funds and other resources available to plan and implement specific activities that are intended to primarily benefit low- to moderate-income residents by meeting their housing and nonhousing community development needs.

Through its citizen-based public planning process described in this Action Plan and the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the community's housing and nonhousing community development needs and priorities were identified. Input provided by citizens, citizen groups and nonprofit organizations, in particular those agencies structured to deliver housing and supportive services to Pascagoula's low- and moderate-income residents, and various residents and business owners provided oral input to assist the City in identifying community priorities that focus on: 1) improving the quality of life for residents, especially in areas where the majority of households qualify as low- to moderate-income; and 2) expanding public services for very low, low and moderate-income families, the homeless and qualified residents with special needs, such as the elderly, persons experiencing domestic violence and disabled persons.

The 2019 Action Plan is being substantially amended in May-June 2020 to allocate anticipated supplemental funds totaling \$108,548 from the CDBG CARES Act for Covid-19 response. As required by HUD, these funds will be allocated in order to benefit low-to-moderate income Pascagoula residents. A Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan is required for any newly funded activities, and usually a thirty (30) day public comment period is required however, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has waived this requirement provided that no less than five (5) days are provided for public comments on each substantial amendment. In addition, and for the purpose of an expedited use of the CDBG-CV funding, the bill eliminates the cap on the amount of funds a grantee can spend on public services, removes the requirement to hold in-person public hearings in order to comply with national and local social gather requirements, and allows grantees to be reimbursed for COVID-19 response activities regardless of the date the costs were incurred. The bill also allows grantees to apply the waiver of statutory regulations to 2019 and 2020 CDBG allocations. This amendment to the CDBG 2019 Annual Action Plan describes how these funds will be utilized locally to address urgent needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Community development programs recommended for funding in the Amended 2019 CDBG Action Plan include the public service programs administered in the original FY19 Action Plan: Open Doors Homeless Coalition to provide emergency non-congregate shelter for unsheltered persons who meet CDC criteria to be considered high risk for COVID 19 or have been exposed to COVID 19 and need to isolate or quarantine; The Salvation Army to cover emergency utility assistance, rental assistance and cost for increased staff required during the COVID 19 crisis; The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to provide relocation and rapid rehousing for individuals/families fleeing domestic violence during the COVID 19 crisis; Singing River Health System Foundation to provide home oxygen rental for low income Pascagoula residents who have tested positive for COVID 19; Singing River Health System Transportation to provide transportation to health care facilities for elderly patients who meet CDC criteria to be considered high risk for COVID 19 and require testing and monitoring. These activities will meet two of the three National Objectives as required by CDBG regulation: Benefit low and moderately income persons and meeting an urgent need.

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

As identified in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program is guided by the overarching goal of developing a viable community in which all

residents, but especially those in low- to moderate-income households and those who have special needs, enjoy:

- decent housing;
- suitable living environments/improved quality of life; and
- economic opportunities.

The City will continue to address its unmet housing and nonhousing community development needs by: supporting improved access to affordable housing; providing housing assistance services; implementing activities to provide an improved quality of life; and addressing unmet needs of the homeless and special needs populations through funded qualified public services. Working collaboratively with public and private agencies, organizations, community leaders, residents, business owners and other interested parties, the City strives to accomplish this goal by achieving objectives identified and prioritized as part of the annual CDBG Action Plan development process.

During development of the 2019 Action Plan, the City exceeded the outreach requirements of its Citizen Participation Plan to invite and encourage citizen input. Community priorities and unmet needs identified during development of the 2019 Action Plan supplement those identified in the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and guided identification of proposed CDBG-funded activities.

The City's ability to comprehensively address its unmet community needs, which are considerable, is constrained by the limited amount of CDBG resources annually allocated to it by HUD. Every effort is made to maximize public benefits by leveraging other funding resources. The City invests its limited CDBG resources to improve the quality of life for the greatest possible number of residents, particularly for those who reside in low- to moderate-income households, the homeless, and those who have special needs.

Activities identified for implementation in Pascagoula's 2019 Action Plan are intended to principally benefit low- to moderate-income residents by funding activities that improve the quality of life for those living in primarily residential areas in which the majority of residents qualify as low- to moderate-income. The outcomes of this effort will be improved public safety, healthier living environments and improved quality of life.

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

The City monitors its performance in terms of meeting HUD national objectives; spending CDBG funds on a timely basis; meeting identified goals with CDBG funds; and complying with HUD regulations and policies on an on-going basis through IDIS software tools, monthly reports and staff interaction.

The City also assesses its performance at least once annually and conducts a public hearing to inform the public of its progress in completing activities funded through the CDBG Program. The City reports past performance to HUD annually through its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Although the City's annual activity goals for CDBG-funded activities historically are achieved, as reported in its annual CAPER, unmet community needs are so great that continued CDBG funding of public service and public facility improvement activities is warranted. Formal and informal public input provided during development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Action Plan affirms the continued need to budget CDBG funds to support these activities in Pascagoula.

For example, the City was successful in its past performance in terms of achieving annual goals for public services that provided assistance to homeless individuals and families and also in terms of meeting all HUD compliance requirements. Based on this success and continued community need, Pascagoula budgeted the maximum allowed by HUD in PY2019 to support CDBG-eligible public service activities including the prevention of homelessness.

Similarly, previous years' success in achieving goals for CDBG-funded public facilities improvements to comply with ADA requirements and the City's ADA Transition Plan supported budgeting PY2019 funds to improve MCC Park access and to diversify its recreational amenities for the benefit of project service area multigenerational residents, especially the 55.16% low- to moderate-income residents and disabled and frail elderly persons.

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

Exceeding the outreach requirements of its Citizen Participation Plan, which identifies the process the City will follow to provide opportunity for citizens to participate throughout development of the One-Year Action Plan, the City used a variety of methods to invite and encourage residents and other interested parties to participate in a public hearing and/or to submit written comments regarding the draft 2019 Action Plan during a 30-day comment period.

In addition to posting notices on its website and Facebook page to share information about the development process and to encourage citizen participation, the City posted notices at City Hall, the Economic and Development Department Office and Pascagoula Public Library. The City also individually contacted area nonprofit agencies, organizations, the business community and individuals via email to encourage a broad range of participation. Additionally, the City consulted directly with regional housing and nonhousing community agencies and nonprofits, including the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII, the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and the Gulf Coast Center for NonViolence in developing the 2019 Action Plan.

Public service announcements were sent to local radio stations with the request that the information about the public hearing and comment period be broadcast; and local churches were sent notices inviting the congregation's participation in the public hearing or through written comments.

The public review draft 2019 Action Plan was posted on the City's website for public review; hard copies were printed and made available at City Hall, the Community and Economic Development Department Offices and at the Pascagoula Public Library.

A public hearing was held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 in the Pascagoula Senior Center, which is conveniently located and accessible to persons with disabilities; meeting notices provided information about how to request accommodations such as a translator or signing assistance. One person attended the public hearing. A 30-day comment period, June 19-July 19, 2019, was publicized to encourage public review of the Draft Action Plan and invite public input regarding the proposed use of CDBG funds and two residents submitted written comments in support of the MCC Park Improvements Project.

The City submitted the Pascagoula 2019 Action Plan to the City Council for consideration of adoption at its regular meeting on August 6, 2019 and the approved plan then was submitted to HUD via IDIS prior to the August 16, 2019 deadline.

A Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan is being proposed, with a public hearing being held at 5:15 p.m. on May 7, 2020 at City Hall. A meeting notice was posted on April 23, 2020. While amendments usually require a thirty (30) day public comment period, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has waived this requirement provided that no less than five (5) days are provided for public comments on each substantial amendment. Public comments regarding the activities funded to address COVID-19 prevention measures may be submitted to the Community Development Department at [araley@cityofpascagoula.com](mailto:araley@cityofpascagoula.com) or P O Drawer 908, Pascagoula, MS 39568. The Public Comment Period runs from Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15, 2020.

## 5. Summary of public comments

A public hearing to discuss the City of Pascagoula's 2019 Action Plan was held on June 18, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pascagoula Senior Center. Minutes from the meeting, as well as copies of the attendance roster, agenda, CDBG Fact Sheet and the official notices posted to advertise the hearing are attached to this document.

One citizen attended the public hearing and commented favorably about the proposed use of CDBG funds to diversify recreational amenities and improve ADA-compliant access at MCC Park, which will benefit frail elderly residents as well as the physically disabled. No written comments were submitted at the hearing. Two written comments expressing support for the MCC Park Improvements Project were submitted during the 30-day comment period.

There was one person in attendance at the May 7, 2020 public hearing regarding the substantial amendment to the FY19 Action Plan. The Action Plan Amendment will be updated with any comments received during the 5 day review period.

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

One citizen attended the June 18, 2019 public hearing regarding development of the 2019 Action Plan and expressed support for the use of CDBG funds as proposed. No written comments were submitted. Two written comments expressing support for the MCC Park Improvements Project were received during the 30-day comment period. All comments received were considered by the City. Lack

of funding to address all identified needs requires the City to prioritize use of limited CDBG funds to maximize benefits for the greatest number of low- to moderate-income residents possible.

## 7. Summary

The City received a Program Year 2019 allocation of \$183,709 in CDBG Entitlement funds from HUD to assist the City in addressing some of its unmet housing and nonhousing community development needs. To the extent possible, the City will leverage these CDBG funds to maximize public benefit to improve residents' quality of life, particularly for those who reside in low- to moderate-income households who are homeless or who have special needs.

The City will continue to work actively with local, regional and state nonprofit agencies and service providers that serve its low- to moderate-income residents, the homeless and those with special needs by supporting their applications for federal and state assistance when the programs proposed to be funded are consistent with Pascagoula's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Action Plan.

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		Department of Community and Economic Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Aleta Raley, Grants Administrator  
 Pascagoula Department of Community and Economic Development  
 email: araley@cityofpascagoula.com  
 phone: 228-938-2351

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

### 1. Introduction

The City encourages a high level of public participation, public communication and consultation to identify and prioritize community goals to maximize the use of limited CDBG Entitlement funding. In

keeping with this spirit of collaboration and coordination, the City developed its 2019 Action Plan with input from stakeholders that included nonprofit organizations and service providers, community leaders, businesses, senior citizens and other interested parties. Proposed activities and use of funds in the 2019 Action Plan are based on achieving community goals and priorities identified in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The City prioritizes use of limited CDBG resources to fund eligible projects that maximize benefit to the largest number of low- to moderate-income residents possible.

**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(l))**

The City actively works to enhance coordination and collaboration between the regional housing authority and regional and local housing and community development service providers. Regular communication among the City, the Regional Housing Authority VIII and local and regional housing and social service agencies minimizes duplication of efforts; maximizes effective use of limited resources; improves efficient delivery of services and management of client data; and encourages consideration of collaborative community-wide solutions to better meet residents’ housing and nonhousing needs.

On an on-going basis, the City of Pascagoula:

- Encourages coordination and communication between public and private sector agencies in the City’s institutional structure to minimize duplication of efforts.
- Supports the efforts of the Regional Housing Authority VIII and other organizations to meet the housing needs of the elderly and others with special needs with HUD program funding and other public/private resources.
- Supports the efforts of the social service agencies in the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi to address the full Continuum of Care.
- Encourages and considers citizen input regarding the use of HUD resources, in compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan.
- Supports efforts to improve delivery methods and institute systematic improvements of the Salvation Army, South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, Homes of Grace, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Gulf Coast Center For NonViolence, Boys and Girls Clubs, Public Housing Resident Councils, Stevens Center and other nonprofit agencies to meet the housing and nonhousing needs of the homeless, the elderly, the physically and mentally disabled, persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, and individuals with drug and alcohol addiction who reside in the City of Pascagoula.

In compliance with the Pascagoula Citizen Participation Plan, all known nonprofit service agencies and organizations were invited by emails from the City and through public notices posted in public places as well as on the City’s Facebook page and website, to participate in the 2019 Action Plan development process by attending the public hearing and submitting written comments during the formal 30-day comment period. The 2019 Action Plan incorporates and supplements the public input provided during development of the five-year Consolidated Plan.

In addition to encouraging participation into development of the 2019 Action Plan from publicly-funded institutions and systems of care that may discharge persons into homelessness, the City consulted with the Executive Director of Open Doors Homeless Coalition, the regional Continuum of Care, to update current, local homeless needs, including homelessness caused by institutions and systems of care that discharge persons into homelessness, and how best to address these needs in Pascagoula with limited resources. The City also contacted the Region VIII Housing Authority to consult about public housing needs and unmet needs. State and local health and child welfare agencies also were invited and encouraged to provide input into development of the 2019 Action Plan and to attend the public hearing.

**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.**

The City has a good working relationship with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and is an active participant in the multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for the homeless on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

While Pascagoula is not a formula entitlement recipient under HUD's Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) or HOME Programs, its partnership with the local continuum of care, the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, allows it to keep abreast of the needs of the homeless and chronically homeless populations in the City as well as with those at risk of becoming homeless.

In addition, the City also maintains a good working relationship with experienced housing service providers, including the Region VIII Housing Authority, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, and supports their efforts to address emergency, transitional and permanent housing needs by investing CDBG funds in eligible public service activities that benefit chronically homeless individuals and their families, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth and persons at risk of homelessness.

In its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City identified the need for additional emergency shelters, transitional housing units and permanent, affordable housing units. To address this priority need, the City will continue to:

- support applications for funding from local and regional homeless and housing services providers;
- work with local and regional partners to identify and secure other resources needed to fully address the needs of the homeless; and
- support other public agencies in their efforts to develop education and employment training programs for the homeless.

**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**

The City does not receive or administer any ESG funds, but it does provide input about the emergency shelter needs of the community to support the efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care, including programs and activities assisted with ESG funds.

**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:**

See information in chart on following pages

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

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Open Doors Homeless Coalition
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint 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>	On June 10, 2019, the City reached out to the Executive Director to request updated information about local homeless needs and determine how best to address these needs with limited resources. The Executive Director provided the requested update and additional input via telephone conversation. Anticipated outcomes include a better understanding of Pascagoula's homeless populations and affordable housing needs.

2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	GULF COAST WOMEN'S CENTER FOR NONVIOLENCE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth 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>	The City consulted with the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence via email in June 2019 to identify current needs of individuals in Pascagoula who are experiencing domestic violence. The anticipated outcome of on-going communication with this agency is expanded emergency and transitional housing services to address these needs.

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

The City is not aware of any agency types that it did not attempt to consult with. The City contacted the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII via email and telephone on June 10, 2019 to request input into the 2019 Action Plan. The City also exchanged emails with the Deputy

Director of the Regional Housing Authority during June-July, 2019 to clarify information and to ask follow up questions regarding availability of affordable housing in the City of Pascagoula.

Pascagoula also contacted social service agencies and other nonprofit agencies by email to encourage them to attend the public hearing and to provide input about the proposed use of Pascagoula’s 2019 CDBG allocation to meet the community’s housing and nonhousing community development needs. The public hearing and 30-day comment period were widely advertised to encourage input and the City did not exclude any known entity from participating in the planning process.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Open Doors Homeless Coalition	The goals are consistent.
Pascagoula Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing	City of Pascagoula	The City continues its efforts to address impediments to fair housing choice to support affordable housing for all residents. Pascagoula is participating in development of the statewide AI Update, spearheaded by the Mississippi HOME Corp.
Plan for Opportunity	Gulf Regional Planning Commission	The goals are consistent in terms of supporting efforts to address affordable, fair housing and public transportation service expansion.

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

**Narrative (optional)**

The City contacted the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII on June 10, 2019 to share information about the 2019 Action Plan development process and request input. The City exchanged emails with the Deputy Director during June-July to clarify information provided and to ask follow up questions.

The City has an active working relationship with the Continuum of Care and other agencies working with housing, health, employment, education and youth services. This partnership serves as a framework through which agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, CARE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi provide ongoing input to the City about activities that help address unmet needs of homeless, those about to become homeless and those with special needs in Pascagoula.

*The Plan for Opportunity*, the Regional Sustainability Plan for the Mississippi Gulf Coast, was a collaborative effort spearheaded by the Gulf Regional Planning Commission and was considered during planning efforts.

The City of Pascagoula's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, its Comprehensive Plan, and CDBG Entitlement Program 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan also were considered during development of the 2019 Action Plan. These documents were developed in consultation with Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII, with community-based agencies that represent protected class members, such as the Open Doors Housing Coalition, and organizations that advocate for fair housing laws, such as the Mississippi Center for Justice.

For the past several years, the Mississippi Center for Justice has collaborated with the City to conduct Fair Housing Workshops for Pascagoula residents and businesses; it provides input to the City on an on-going basis and actively assists with affirmatively furthering fair housing through educational outreach efforts. During 2018-2019, the City participated with the Mississippi HOME Corp., other CDBG Entitlement cities, public housing agencies and other nonprofit agencies to develop a statewide AI that defines and identifies actions for addressing impediments to fair housing choice.

## **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**

In compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan, the City encouraged citizen participation throughout development of its 2019 Action Plan. To encourage input from citizens, particularly low, very low and extremely low income persons, information about the 2019 Action Plan development process and availability of the draft was posted at City Hall, at the Community and Economic Development Department and in the Pascagoula Public Library; notices also were posted on the City's Facebook page and website to broaden outreach to residents.

The housing and social service agencies that provide direct services to low, very low, and extremely low income persons, the homeless and those with special needs were emailed the 2019 Action Plan development schedule and encouraged to share it with their clients.

Copies of all public notices are attached to this document. Specific steps taken by the City to broaden community input into development of the 2019 Action Plan include:

- Posting on its Facebook page and website a Notice of Availability of Information as it pertains to the City of Pascagoula's 2019 One-Year Action Plan;
- Emailing invitations to housing and social service agencies, civic organizations, churches and neighborhood associations to encourage attendance at the public hearing and to make them aware of the availability of information regarding the 2019 One-Year Action Plan;
- Posting Notices of the Public Hearing on the City's Facebook page and website to invite the public to attend and provide input into development of the 2019 One-Year Action Plan;
- On June 18, 2019, conducting a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed use of CDBG funds during the 2019 Program Year;
- Posting a Notice of the Availability of the Public Review Draft of the 2019 Action Plan for review and comment during the 30-day comment period; and
- Posting a Notice of Availability of the Draft of the substantially amended 2019 Action plan for review and comment from May 19-28, 2020.
- Sending public service announcements to local radio stations regarding the 2019 Action Plan development process and inviting citizens to provide input at the June 18, 2019 public hearing.

## Citizen Participation Outreach

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)
1	Public Hearing	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>One citizen attended the June 18, 2019 public hearing.</p> <p>One person attended the May 7, 2020 public hearing.</p>	<p>The minutes of the public hearing are attached to this document.</p>	<p>No written comments were received during the hearing.</p>	

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)
2	Posting of notices	Minorities  Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish  Persons with disabilities  Non-targeted/broad community  Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Notices were posted in public places to share information about availability of information regarding the CDBG Entitlement Program and 2019 Action Plan development process; to promote the public hearing and encourage attendance; and to advertise the availability of the draft for public review and input.	Two written comments expressing support for the MCC Park Improvements Project were received.	All comments were considered and accepted by the City.	



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)
3	Internet Outreach	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>The 2019 Action Plan development process was posted on the City's website as well as on its Facebook page. The notices and the draft document also were posted on the City's website.</p>	<p>Two written comments were received, expressing support for the MCC Park Improvements Project.</p>	<p>All comments were considered and accepted by the City.</p>	

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	Internet Outreach	Regional housing and nonhousing community development agencies	Emails were sent to known housing and non-housing community development agencies that provide services to Pascagoula residents, as well as business leaders and organizations to share information about the 2019 Action Plan development process, to invite them to attend the public hearing and encourage their oral and written comments, and to promote review and input about the draft document.	Two written comments were received, expressing support for the MCC Park Improvements Project.	All comments were considered and accepted by the City.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

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

The City is defined by HUD as an Entitlement City for the CDBG Program and, as such, receives an annual allocation of CDBG funds that is invested primarily to benefit low- to moderate-income residents and those with special needs by addressing unmet housing and nonhousing community development needs through CDBG-eligible activities.

The City received a Program Year 2019 allocation of \$183,709 in CDBG Entitlement Program funds and is carrying forward \$5,670 from a prior year for total CDBG resources of \$189,379 available in PY2019.

### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 5				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 Improvement Public Services	183,709	0	5,670	189,379	0	Expected amount is based on projections in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan.

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

The City developed its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan with the expectation that HUD would allocate \$935,060 to it in CDBG funding over the 5-year period of the Plan. The City will work with local, regional and state partners to leverage limited CDBG funds to meet its housing and nonhousing community development needs. However, the CDBG Entitlement Program does not require matching funds.

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

Not applicable

### Discussion

The City budgeted the majority of its limited Program Year 2019 CDBG resources to a public facilities improvement project that will benefit 6,190 people, 3,415 (55.16%) of whom are low- to moderate-income. The project will improve the quality of life for residents of the northeast Pascagoula project service area by diversifying recreational amenities and ADA-compliant access for the physically disabled and frail elderly in the only City Park located in the project service area, which is zoned for single family and neighborhood commercial activities. MCC Park improvements will maximize investment of limited CDBG resources to benefit a large number of low- to moderate-income residents while achieving the goal identified in the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan to improve their quality of life.

\$27,556.35, the maximum allowed by HUD, is budgeted in PY2019 for public service activities that also will improve low- to moderate-income residents' quality of life.

## 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	Assist Homeless With Services	2019	2019	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	NA	Homeless and Supportive Services	CDBG: \$27,556	Public Service activities other than Low/Mod income Housing Benefit 60 persons; Public Service activities Low/Mod income Housing Benefit 65 Households

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Increasing Access To Quality Public Facilities	2019	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	NA	Quality of Life Enhanced - Parks & Recreational Facilities Improvements; Special Needs Populations	CDBG: \$125,081	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6190 Total Persons Assisted (3,415 Low/Mod Persons)

**Table 6 – Goals Summary**

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Assist Homeless and Nonhomeless With Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>In compliance with HUD’s annual 15% public services cap, 2019 Program Year funding in the total amount of \$27,556.35 is budgeted for public service agencies to assist in addressing and preventing homelessness and assisting eligible low- to moderate-income residents with healthcare services.</p> <p>The agencies also will share fair housing rights information with housing providers, persons being assisted, and with related service providers throughout PY2019, in an effort to address the public’s lack of education about the Fair Housing Act, in compliance with the Pascagoula Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.</p> <p>The substantial amendment to the 2019 Action Plan will allocate CDBG CARES Covid-19 supplemental funds totaling \$108,548 to public services listed in the FY19 Action Plan: Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Salvation Army, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, Singing River Health System Foundation and Singing River Health System Transportation. The funds will be used to reimburse eligible costs to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting homeless, near homeless and low income persons.</p>
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Increasing Access To Quality Public Facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>The City will improve the access to and quality of a City-owned park during PY2019 in compliance with its strategic plan goal to increase access to quality public facilities. MCC Park, which serves a seven census block project area in northeast Pascagoula, will be improved to provide multigenerational recreation opportunities to residents as well as to provide ADA-compliant access throughout the park. This will improve the quality of life for the 6,190 residents in the primarily residential project service area, 55.16% of whom are low- to moderate-income.</p>

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

As part of the 2019 Action Plan development process, the City of Pascagoula considered all citizen input in terms of identifying and addressing unmet community development needs to achieve the goals identified in its Consolidated Plan with available CDBG resources.

Pascagoula substantially amended its 5-Year Consolidated Plan in PY2016 to include housing and nonhousing community development goals and community priorities that inadvertently were left out of the original document submitted to HUD. These goals and priorities more comprehensively reflect

Pascagoula's unmet needs and were identified through the citizen participation process during development of the Consolidated Plan, as well as the 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 Action Plans.

\$5,670 in unallocated funds carried forward from previous years is budgeted in PY2019 for the MCC Park Improvements Project.

Projects for which PY2019 CDBG funds are budgeted are:

- **Administration** - \$36,741.80 is budgeted to pay some of the costs associated with implementing the CDBG Entitlement Program, including a portion of staff costs; updating the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice; and educational outreach that addresses fair housing and predatory lending businesses. In compliance with outreach goals identified in its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, the City also will use administration funds to print flyers in English and Spanish for distribution as utility bill inserts that will be mailed to approximately 6,800 business and households;
- **Public service activities** - A total of \$27,556.35 is budgeted to assist five nonprofit agencies provide affordable housing and supportive services to eligible residents in Pascagoula; public service providers will make efforts to improve residents' understanding of fair housing rights; citywide benefit; and
- **CDBG CARES COVID 19 SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING-** A total of \$108,548 is budgeted to assist the nonprofit agencies listed in the current Action Plan to reimburse added costs to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **MCC Park Improvements** - \$125,081 (includes \$5,670 in unallocated carryover from a previous year) is budgeted to diversify recreational amenities and to provide ADA-compliant access in MCC Park, which serves a 55.16% low- to moderate-income project service area that is primarily residential. ADA improvements will comply with the Pascagoula ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan; Low/Mod project area benefit.

#	Project Name
1	Administration
2	Public Service - Open Doors Homeless Coalition
3	Public Service - Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence
4	Public Service - Salvation Army -
5	Public Service - Singing River Health System
6	Public Service - Singing River Health System Foundation
7	MCC Park Improvements

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

To meet underserved and unmet needs identified during development of the 2019 Action Plan and 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City has allocated \$27,556.35 in PY2019 CDBG funds for public service

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activities. This level of support for public service activities funding complies with HUD’s annual public services category cap.

The allocation of funds for eligible public service activities was determined by the City based on information provided in written requests submitted by nonprofit agencies and consideration of applicants’ past performance, professional capacity to provide the identified service, fiscal management experience, and program delivery achievements as they pertain to providing services to the homeless or to other special needs populations in the City.

Considering community goals and priorities identified in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, as amended, and offered by the public during Program Year 2018 and development of the 2019 Action Plan, the City identified implementation of the MCC Park Improvements Project as a high priority project to maximize use of limited 2019 CDBG resources to benefit the most low- to moderate-income persons possible while achieving the strategic plan goal to improve access to quality public facilities and resources. Use of CDBG funds for this public facilities improvement project will address a high priority, unmet need of residents in northeast Pascagoula for an improved quality of life through diversified, multigenerational recreational amenities and ADA-compliant access in an existing City park. The proposed improvements will encourage residents of all ages and physical abilities to enjoy the easily-accessible park either as participants or spectators.

As a result of on-going conversations between the City and citizens who live in the project service area, adding a basketball court and an ADA-compliant playground area, as well as improving access, in MCC Park was identified as the most cost effective and efficient way to address the stated need for expanded recreational resources in an underserved area. The project is consistent with public input provided during development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and during subsequent years, identifying quality of life improvements as a high priority in northeast Pascagoula. The project also supports the City's overarching goal of developing a viable community in which all residents, but especially those in low- to moderate-income households and those who have special needs, enjoy.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	NA
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	NA
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$36,742



	<b>Description</b>	CDBG-eligible activities and expenses required to administer the Pascagoula CDBG Entitlement Program, including updating the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and educational outreach that addresses fair housing and predatory lending businesses.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Location Description</b>	630 Delmas Avenue Pascagoula, MS
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CDBG-eligible activities required to administer the Pascagoula CDBG Entitlement Program, including assisting in the update of the HUD-required Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and educational outreach that addresses fair housing and predatory lending businesses. Flyers printed in English and Spanish also will be distributed as utility bill inserts to residents and businesses to affirmatively further fair housing.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service - Open Doors Homeless Coalition
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Assist Homeless With Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless and Supportive Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$7,000 ; CDBG CARES \$ 26,762
	<b>Description</b>	This public service project provided by the Open Doors Homeless Coalition will help address and prevent homelessness through rental, utility and security deposit assistance to homeless and near-homeless families and individuals. The agency also will participate in affirmatively furthering fair housing outreach efforts. ODHC will use CDBG CARES funds to provide non-congregate shelter (hotel stays) for unsheltered persons who are at high risk of COVID 19 or exposed to COVID 19 and need to isolate or quarantine. A portion of the funds may be used for rental assistance in order to prevent homelessness for persons who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/20

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City anticipates 16 eligible households will benefit from this public service activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Open Doors Homeless Coalition will work in cooperation with the SCORE Task Force, Pascagoula Police Department, and local nonprofit agencies and organizations to improve access to affordable housing and related supportive services to prevent and address homelessness on a citywide basis. Open Doors also will make efforts to improve housing and supportive service providers' understanding of fair housing rights, in addition to sharing this information with persons being assisted.
3	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service - Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Assist Homeless With Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless and Supportive Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$7,000; CDBG CARES \$26,762
	<b>Description</b>	This public service project will support existing activities of the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to provide emergency housing and related supportive services, including education about fair housing rights, to those who have experienced domestic violence. GCCN will use CDBG CARES funds to provide relocation and rapid rehousing for individuals/families fleeing domestic violence and facing possible homelessness during the COVID 19 crisis. A portion of the funds may be used to assist the shelter with power bills due to increased occupancy during the crisis.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/20
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This public service is anticipated to benefit 24 eligible low- to moderate-income, limited clientele families.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence will provide emergency housing and supportive services to LMC persons who have experienced domestic violence. The Center also will make efforts to improve supportive service providers' understanding of fair housing rights, in addition to sharing this information with persons being assisted.
4	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service - Salvation Army
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Assist Homeless With Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless and Supportive Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$7,000; CDBG CARES \$26,762
	<b>Description</b>	This public service activity will provide emergency utility, temporary housing and rental assistance for low- to moderate-income Pascagoula residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This public service activity is estimated to benefit 25 eligible low- to moderate-income families.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This public service activity will provide emergency utility, temporary housing and rental assistance for qualified low- to moderate-income Pascagoula residents to address and prevent homelessness. The agency also will make efforts to improve supportive service providers' understanding of fair housing rights, in addition to sharing this information with persons being assisted. The Salvation Army will use CDBG CARES funds to provide emergency utility assistance for power bills and/or rental assistance for those facing possible homelessness due to the COVID 19 crisis. A portion of the funds may be used to pay the cost for increased staff required during the COVID 19 crisis.
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service - Singing River Health System
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Assist Homeless With Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless and Supportive Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$3,278.35; CDBG CARES \$26,762

	<b>Description</b>	Funds will provide transportation services for an estimated 50 qualifying elderly residents to healthcare providers in Pascagoula. SRHS Transportation Services will use CDBG CARES funds to provide transportation to health care facilities for elderly patients who meet CDC criteria to be considered high risk for COVID 19 and require testing, monitoring and treatment.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This public service activity is estimated to benefit 50 low- to moderate-income elderly persons.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide benefit
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Transportation will be provided to eligible residents to and from healthcare appointments in Pascagoula.
6	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service - Singing River Health System Foundation
	<b>Target Area</b>	NA
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Assist Homeless With Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless and Supportive Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$3,278; CDBG CARES \$1,500
	<b>Description</b>	This public service activity will provide healthcare supplies and equipment to an estimated 10 qualifying residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 10 qualifying residents are projected to benefit from this public service activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Citywide benefit
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This public service activity will provide medical supplies and equipment to eligible low- to moderate-income residents. CDBG CARES funds will be used to cover the cost of home oxygen rental for COVID 19 positive patients.
7	<b>Project Name</b>	MCC Park Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	

<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increasing Access To Quality Public Facilities
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improved Access to and Quality of Parks & Recreational Facilities
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$125,080.85
<b>Description</b>	This project involves improving a City Park to diversify recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and to improve ADA-compliant access in the park so residents of all physical abilities may enjoy it. Located in a primarily residential area of northeast Pascagoula where 55.16% of residents are low- to moderate-income, MCC Park will be upgraded to improve the quality of life for residents through participation in expanded recreational activities, spectating (especially grandparents and the physically disabled) and/or engaging in improved community engagement in a public park setting.
<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2020
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 6,190 people, of whom 3,415 (55.16%) are low- to moderate-income, will benefit from the MCC Park Improvements Project. The seven census block project service area is primarily residential, zoned for neighborhood business and single family residential uses. See the attached project location map identifying the project service area with beneficiary information provided by census block.
<b>Location Description</b>	5701 Orchard Avenue, Pascagoula, MS
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities may include engineering/design services to reconfigure the park; developing an ADA-compliant playground area with fencing; installation of a basketball court and repair of another; installing water fountains, enhanced lighting and safety features and low maintenance landscaping; installing ADA-compliant access improvements throughout the park; and related recreational amenities. Diversifying recreational opportunities at this park will improve the quality of life for the 6,190 residents of the project service area by expanding participation in and/or observation of outdoor recreation activities in a public park setting.

**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**

Because its needs are so great throughout the City, it does not invest its CDBG dollars according to a geographic distribution. As in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City will continue to describe goals and objectives in its 2019 Action Plan primarily in terms of the functional components of a well-developed community that creates and supports neighborhood stability, rebuilding, and growth.

The City will continue to address its unmet housing and nonhousing community development needs by: supporting improved access to affordable housing; implementing activities to provide suitable living environments; and addressing unmet needs of the homeless and special needs populations through funded qualified public services.

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

**Introduction**

Providing a suitable living environment for its residents, especially those in low- to moderate-income households and special needs populations, is a primary goal of the City of Pascagoula, which it attempts to address through its limited CDBG annual allocation. The City does not receive HOME, ESG, or HOPWA funding.

In Program Year 2019, the City budgeted \$27,676.55 of its CDBG allocation to fund public service activities to help achieve its goal of preventing and addressing homelessness through improved access to affordable housing and related supportive services activities, which will benefit an estimated 65 homeless families. This goal will be achieved through CDBG-funded public service activities conducted by the Open Doors Homeless Coalition; the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence; and the Salvation Army.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	65
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	65

**Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	65
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	65

## **Table 8 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type Discussion**

The Open Doors Homeless Coalition and Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence will work in collaboration with the SCORE Task Force and Pascagoula Police Department to prevent and address homelessness by linking near-homeless and homeless individuals with affordable housing and related supportive services to better meet each person's specific housing needs. The Salvation Army will assist in providing emergency utility assistance, temporary housing, and rental assistance to help prevent homelessness.

To address fair housing goals identified in the Pascagoula Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.) during PY2019, the City will incorporate efforts to affirmatively further fair housing into its public service activities to educate housing and support service providers, as well as those being provided with housing and supportive services, about the Fair Housing Act, especially about the rights of tenants, prospective tenants and home buyers.

The City also will print flyers in English and Spanish that will be inserted into utility bills and mailed to residents and businesses. In compliance with the A.I., the flyers will summarize “basic fair housing rights, predatory lending, reasonable accommodations and modifications.” Information about how to file a complaint with HUD, including identification of local organizations that will assist with filing a complaint, will be included.

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

### **Introduction**

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII is the local public housing agency in the City and administers both the public housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII is considered a “High Performing Public Housing Authority” that serves a variety of tenants including the elderly, disabled, veteran, and family populations.

Three of the 21 projects that the housing authority owns and manages are located in the City and include a total of 198 units. The Housing Authority also administers 6,778 Section 8 housing vouchers, but it is not possible to identify the number of vouchers directly benefitting Pascagoula residents.

Six Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) properties, which provide a total of 589 federally-assisted housing units, also are located in the city.

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

Currently, there are no plans to rehabilitate any of the public housing complexes in the City of Pascagoula. The City will continue to support the Resident Councils at all three public housing complexes and will continue to provide residents with technical assistance regarding Section 3 training

and employment opportunities. The City also will continue to provide fair housing and predatory lending educational outreach information to public housing residents.

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

All three public housing complexes in the City have active Resident Councils. The City will continue to support efforts of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII to encourage public housing residents to be more involved in management and to participate in homeownership.

**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)**

**Introduction**

During Program Year 2019, the City will continue to work with regional and local nonprofit agencies to address and prevent homelessness in Pascagoula. The City budgeted \$27,556.75 (15%) of its 2019 allocation for public service activities to address homelessness, support emergency and transitional housing and related supportive services.

The City’s direct investment in affordable housing and associated services for vulnerable citizens led to eight homeless households moving from homelessness to housing in 2019. State funding targeted toward moving homeless persons living with mental illness from homelessness to housing, managed by Singing River Services and Open Doors Homeless Coalition, led to 16 households obtaining safe, decent, affordable housing. Federal funding for local programs administered by local nonprofit agencies assisted an additional 21 extremely low-income homeless households in successfully maintaining housing, according to the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, which manages regional homeless data by city.

**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**

Nonprofit organizations have coordinated services to effectively end homelessness among veterans in the Mississippi Gulf Coast Continuum of Care that includes the City of Pascagoula. Under the leadership of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Pascagoula and other partners will continue to collaborate to effectively end chronic homelessness in the City by the end of 2019 and effectively end homelessness among families and youth by 2020.



Other partners in this effort include the Salvation Army, Homes of Grace, the Gulf Coast Center for NonViolence, Church on the Rock, Power Ministries, Jackson County Community Action Agency and Catholic Community and Social Services. These partners provide a range of services that include emergency housing, transitional housing and permanent housing.

In spite of this collaborative effort, there is a gap in available funding to support effective outreach and coordinated entry, which would streamline access to homeless services for Pascagoula's most vulnerable citizens.

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

In 2019, there are 20 shelter beds in the City of Pascagoula primarily for single adults. The existing shelter would be more effective, according to homeless service providers, if renovated to include space for families with children needing shelter.

Through the CDBG public service category, the City of Pascagoula provides funding to experienced homeless and special needs population service organizations that provide emergency shelter and transitional housing for individuals and their families. Once homeless or special needs populations are housed, supportive service providers work to address physical and mental needs, such as food and clothing.

### **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**

The City will continue to seek additional resources to meet the housing needs of homeless persons, especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth.

The City also will continue to support the efforts of homeless service providers to help homeless individuals and their families maintain housing, employment, mental, and physical health. Pascagoula will continue to be an active partner with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition in its efforts to obtain and maintain data to document the extent of homelessness in the City of Pascagoula.

The City will continue its public educational outreach to homeless and special needs populations regarding fair housing and predatory lending.

### **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.**

The City will continue to support efforts of housing and supportive service providers to obtain federal and state funding for the continuation and expansion of services and facilities to bridge the gap that exists in fully addressing the needs of the homeless and to prevent homelessness.

To help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs, the City of Pascagoula will continue to support nonprofit agencies' applications for funding to continue and expand programs and facilities to meet the needs of these vulnerable populations. Agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi will continue to be supported.

This collaborative effort is projected to benefit a total of 40 persons during Program Year 2019. Those assisted with emergency and transitional housing and supportive services may include the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. Supportive services provided will include efforts to affirmatively further fair housing, especially in terms of improving the understanding of renters' and home buyers' rights under the Fair Housing Act.

As resources allow during Program Year 2019, the City of Pascagoula also will continue to work with state, regional and local agencies to support efforts to address housing and supportive service needs for persons who have special needs, including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and public housing residents.

Because the City's CDBG and nonCDBG resources are not adequate to address the housing and supportive needs of all residents, the City will continue to support nonprofit agencies' applications for funding to maintain and expand programs and facilities to meet the needs of these vulnerable populations. Agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, Gulf Coast Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Mississippi will continue to be supported.

## **Discussion**

By working collaboratively with regional and local nonprofit agencies and organizations, the City of Pascagoula maximizes the effective and efficient use of its limited CDBG resources to address the needs of the homeless.

During Program Year 2019, the partnership among the City of Pascagoula, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, faith-based leaders, local businesses and others will continue to reach out to unsheltered adults in Pascagoula. Case workers will conduct assessments and link people as quickly as possible to housing and services based on their needs. Funding will be provided by the Open Doors Homeless Coalition's ESG, Continuum of Care funds and CHOICE.

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

### **Introduction:**

Pascagoula’s 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice identify the need for additional federal funding to support development of affordable housing located in various neighborhoods throughout the City rather than clustering it in low-income and racially concentrated areas.

The Comprehensive Housing Strategy funded with 2016 CDBG resources recently was completed and will be used to improve the capacity of City staff to fund, coordinate and implement a diverse housing program that addresses the needs of tenants and homeowners to access and maintain affordable housing in a location of their choice.

During Program Year 2019, the City will continue to implement its fair housing and predatory lending public education outreach efforts and will support grant applications of local nonprofit agencies to access:

- local housing rehabilitation loan, grant and tax credit programs;
- emergency shelter and transitional housing services and programs; and
- various programs to expand homebuyer education programs; to assist first-time homebuyers with down payment assistance; and to provide funding assistance for rehabilitation of rental units.

### **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 most significant barriers to affordable housing in Pascagoula, as identified in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (MA-40) and 2015 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.) are: “the lack of down payment assistance for first time homebuyers; and the lack of work force development housing for those individuals who want to purchase but are unable due to the lack of housing inventory along with the financial resources to assist them in purchasing the housing.”

As identified in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (SP-55), the City has identified the following efforts as ways to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing in Pascagoula:

- The City will continue to support the Mississippi HOME Corporation in the mission to provide residents with down payment assistance and homebuyer education.

- The City will work with housing developers to build affordable workforce development housing units.
- The City will continue to support efforts of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII to improve the three public housing complexes located in the City.
- The City will continue to support nonprofit agencies and organizations which provide weatherization and LIHEAP support to Pascagoula residents.

The 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (MA-40) also identifies two public policies that the City recognizes as problematic:

- The need for increased funding with regard to affordable housing for the homeless and special needs populations; and
- The need for exceptions to existing funding rules and zoning rules to allow for the pursuit of demonstration projects to test the viability of alternative housing developments such as cottage housing, micro housing, etc.

PY2016 CDBG funds in the amount of \$25,000 were budgeted for preparation of a comprehensive housing strategy that recently was completed and will be used to assist the City in achieving its goal to address residents' short- and long-term affordable housing needs by:

- accessing multiple funding sources for grant, loan and tax credit programs;
- maximizing efficient coordination and concurrent implementation of multiple housing activities;
- identifying and developing related housing resources; and
- enhancing collaboration with existing state, regional and local agencies and organizations.

**Discussion:**

The City will continue to take the actions identified in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and current Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice to eliminate impediments to fair housing, including providing educational outreach regarding fair housing rights.

The 2018 and 2019 Action Plans include using a portion of CDBG administration funds to assist in developing an update to the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and to print flyers summarizing the Fair Housing Act, which will be mailed as a utility bill insert to residents and businesses.

**AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

**Introduction:**

To meet other housing and nonhousing community development needs identified during development of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Action Plan, the City budgeted \$27,556.35 (15%) of its 2019 CDBG funds for public service activities. The Open Doors Homeless Coalition will receive \$7,000 to

support activities to address and prevent homelessness in Pascagoula and \$7,000 is budgeted to assist in funding housing and supportive services provided by the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to benefit persons experiencing domestic violence. The Salvation Army also will receive \$7,000 during PY2019 to assist in providing emergency and transitional housing to support efforts to address homelessness in the City of Pascagoula.

CDBG-eligible public service activities provided by Singing River Health System (SRHS) and Singing River Health System Foundation (SRHSF) also will be supported with PY2019 CDBG funds. SRHS will receive \$3,278.35 to provide roundtrip transportation services to eligible elderly residents for healthcare appointments in Pascagoula; \$3278 is budgeted for SRHSF to provide healthcare supplies to eligible low-to moderate-income persons.

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

The City of Pascagoula will continue to facilitate development of a regional social service collaborative to meet underserved needs. This collaborative will:

- coordinate the schedules and service delivery of local and regional organizations;
- share limited resources and information;
- reduce or eliminate duplication of efforts; and
- implement community-wide solutions to address local and regional needs.

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

The City will continue to invest CDBG public service funds to support experienced nonprofit agencies in moving homeless individuals and their families from shelters to transitional and permanent housing. The City will continue to work with local and regional housing agencies to pursue a comprehensive array of residential loan, grant and tax credit resources as part of its comprehensive efforts to meet the affordable housing needs of Pascagoula residents.

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

During the 2019 Program Year, the City will continue to work with the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII and other housing providers in the City to reduce residential lead-based paint hazards.

- The City will continue to require that substantial rehabilitation of housing units in the City test for lead-based paint and abate it, if necessary, in compliance with EPA regulations.
- The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII will continue its home inspection program requiring owners of housing units inspected for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program eligibility scrape and repaint any surface areas where paint is chipping or peeling.
- The Housing Authority also will continue its lead-based paint hazard educational program by providing educational information to Section 8 families with children aged 6 years and younger living in public housing.

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

The City of Pascagoula has the following programs and policies in place to reduce the number of poverty-level families:

- The City will continue to invest available resources and support public and private efforts to revitalize, rebuild and redevelop deteriorating neighborhoods and especially in neighborhoods where a majority of residents are low- to moderate-income.
- The City will pro-actively promote and encourage economic development and redevelopment in areas throughout the City.
- The City will continue to recruit new businesses and support expanded job opportunities for residents.
- The City will continue to work with housing developers to expand and diversify local affordable housing options.
- The City will maintain public street improvements (such as curbs, gutters and sidewalks) in accordance with its infrastructure maintenance policy.
- The City will support efforts to expand affordable child care services (both day care and after hour care) to allow parents of young children to maintain employment.
- The City will continue to support efforts to expand public transportation services to improve residents' access to employment, education and training opportunities.

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

Below are strategies to develop Pascagoula's institutional structure identified in its 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, which the City will continue to use and build upon:

- Improve coordination and communication between public and private sector agencies to avoid duplication of efforts;
- Support efforts by the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII and other housing organizations to expand the inventory of affordable housing for the elderly through HUD Programs and other public/private resources.
- Continue to support the efforts of the Salvation Army, Homes of Grace, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Gulf Coast Center for NonViolence, Boys and Girls Clubs, Public Housing Resident Councils, Stevens Center and others in their work to address the unmet needs of the homeless, the elderly, the physically and mentally disabled, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and the drug and alcohol addicted individuals who live in the City of Pascagoula.
- Support efforts to meet the public transportation needs of Pascagoula residents, especially of residents who are unable to access social services critical to their overall health and wellbeing.
- Continue to support on-going efforts of local and regional housing and service agencies to address the full continuum of care for Pascagoula residents.
- Continue to adhere to its Citizen Participation Plan so that the City may benefit from diverse input that fully reflects the opinions of its residents so local needs may be identified comprehensively and appropriately prioritized.

- Continue to conduct an annual mailout to local and regional housing and community service agencies to encourage participation in developing and implementing Pascagoula’s Consolidated and Annual Action Plans.

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

The City has significantly increased its efforts to coordinate development of a regional housing and community services collaborative that will coordinate the work of both local and regional social service agencies. The City recognizes that improved service coordination will help eliminate duplication of efforts, maximize the effective use of limited public resources, improve communication and education about “best practices”, and identify community-wide solutions to meet basic housing and community needs.

The City will continue to participate as an active member in the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and to adhere to its Citizen Participation Plan.

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

**Introduction:**

The City invests its CDBG funds to provide public services to address unmet community needs; to provide its residents with suitable living environments; and to expand economic opportunities, particularly for low- to moderate-income residents and for those with special needs.

Not less than 70% of the city’s CDBG allocation is used for low- to moderate-income individuals and their families and each of the activities meets at least one of the National Objectives for the CDBG program.

**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 |

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**Total Program Income:** **0**

**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: 2017, 2018 and 2019 **100.00%**



## **ATTACHMENTS**

### **Citizen Participation**

#### **Maps**

#### **HUD SF-424 and Certifications**