

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Economic Opportunities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	50	0	0.00%			
Homeless	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	2000	324	16.20%	400	324	81.00%
Homeless	Homeless	ESG: \$	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added	Beds	0	0				
Homeless	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	50	100	200.00%	50	100	200.00%
Homeowner Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	1	20.00%	1	1	100.00%

Homeowner Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ / ESG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	1	10.00%			
Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	5000	6805	136.10%	3000	6805	226.83%
Public Services	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	242		0	242	
Public Services	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	250	47	18.80%			
Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	10	0	0.00%	3	0	0.00%
Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	5	2	40.00%	1	2	200.00%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan,

giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The County used funds for activities and projects of the highest priority or that had a positive impact on low and moderate income persons.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME
White	50	2
Black or African American	16	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or American Native	1	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Total	67	2
Hispanic	22	1
Not Hispanic	45	1

Describe the clients assisted (including the racial and/or ethnicity of clients assisted with ESG)

	HESG
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	5
Asian or Asian American	0
Black, African American, or African	313
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	71
Middle Eastern or North African	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	7
White	359
Multiracial	7
Client doesn't know	4
Client prefers not to answer	0
Data not collected	0
Total	766

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

N/A

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	2,288,524	4,202,668
HOME	public - federal	671,923	446,576
ESG	public - federal	208,384	209,878

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Armorcast Redevelopment Area		0	N/A
Boroughs & Townships		0	N/A
County-wide	100	100	Funded activities benefitted person countywide.
Downtown Sinking Spring		0	N/A
Penn Avenue R.A. - West Reading		0	N/A
Second Street Redevelopment Area		0	N/A
Tannery Redevelopment Area		0	N/A

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Actual allocation was consistent with planned allocations.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Federal funds leveraged very little private, state, or local funds.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	157,477
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	200,000
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	357,477
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	89,208
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	268,269

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
Veterans Housing	08/01/2024	200,000	0	0	0	0	0	200,000

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
0	507,546	318,919	0	188,627

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
Number	0	0	0			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired		3		546,500		
Businesses Displaced		0		0		
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0		0		
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0		0		
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	50	45
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	1	1
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	51	46

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	3	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	1	3
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	4	3

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Berks County Nonprofit Development Corporation (BCNDC) completed rehabilitation and sold an existing house to a I/m income family using CDBG Program funds. There were no new units produced in 2024. During 2024, BCNDC acquired a 4-unit rental property which will be rehabilitated and occupied with I/m income people during 2025. BCNDC also acquired a single-family house which will be rehabilitated and sold to a I/m income family in 2025. Berks Counseling Center completed its rehabilitation of 7 rental units of which 2 were HOME-Program funded.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Prices of materials and exisiting houses increased substantially during 2024 with the result of limiting the amount of funds available for acqusition and rehabilitation or new construction. The lack of for-sale exisiting units or available land has also impacted the production of units. The new BABA requirements with no substantial increase in CDBG and HOME Program entitlement grants has also impacted the amount of units that can be produced.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	2
Low-income	0	0
Moderate-income	1	0
Total	1	2

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

N/A

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

On an annual basis, the County does not receive sufficient ESG Program funds, state funds, or local funds to be able to adequately address the homeless and homeless prevention needs, goals, and specific objectives established in the Consolidated Plan. Thus little progress was made to reduce or end homelessness. The Berks Coalition to End Homelessness contacts unsheltered persons and assesses their individual needs as part of the annual PIT count.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The projects funded by Berks County's ESG Program are an integral part of the projects and programs outlined in the Strategy to End Homelessness of the Berks Coalition to End Homelessness. In 2024, 358 persons were directly assisted with ESG Program funds.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Using ESG Program funds, the County provided funds to Family Promise for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities.

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

None

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

No actions or activities were undertaken in 2024 to address the needs of public housing. Due to the fact that HUD provides direct funding to public housing through a variety of programs, the County feels there is no need to allocate CDBG, HOME, or ESG Program funds to the needs of public housing.

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

No such actions or activities were undertaken by the County in 2024. It is the County's belief that actions such as these are best undertaken by the local public housing authorities.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Neither the Reading Housing Authority nor the Berks County Housing Authority are troubled PHAs.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Under Pennsylvania law, counties have no control over land use. Such power lies with the individual municipalities. The County Planning Commission continued to review new or amended zoning ordinances and land use ordinances for possible negative effects on affordable housing.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The greatest obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the continuing lack of adequate funds at the federal, state, and local level. The County continued its search for additional funds to address underserved needs.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The County continues to seek funds to reduce lead-based paint hazards in areas that qualify for federal or state funding. All nonprofits that are provided CDBG, HOME, or ESG Program funding are required to abate lead-based paint as part of the rehabilitation of existing properties which were built prior to 1978..

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

A number of different County agencies serve the population below the poverty line. Among them are the Area Office on Aging, Children and Youth Services, Community Service, Domestic Relations, Employment and Training Office and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Office. These agencies in turn have many affiliations with private non-profit services who also serve the persons with incomes below the poverty line. A catalogue of activities of these agencies seems beyond the scope of this document. Their collective efforts, however, constitute the County's anti-poverty strategy.

The County believes that the housing priorities which emphasize priority for very low households, development of a transitional housing arrangements and the development of programs like family self-sufficiency which link housing and social services will assist in reducing the number of households with incomes below the poverty line.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

In 2014, the Berks County Redevelopment Authority has been assigned the task of carrying out the Consolidated Plan for the County. During 2024, the Authority worked with municipalities, non-profit

organizations, and public institutions to implement the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

In 2014, the County designated the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks as the lead entity to administer its federal, state, and local community development and housing programs. In 2022, the County adopted a 5-year economic development plan entitled "Imagine Berks". The Authority was designated as the lead agency to undertake the housing component of the Plan.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

In 2024, the County completed an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH). The County provided funds to Berks Coalition to End Homeless to implement its housing database, for operations, and to develop an emergency shelter for homeless families. As fair housing complaints were received, the County made referrals to appropriate agencies. The Berks County Planning Commission continued to review zoning ordinance revisions or amendments for potential conflicts with the Fair Housing Act. Using the County Redevelopment Authority, the County provided funds for rehabilitation and new construction of affordable housing units.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The County is responsible for monitoring those funds it receives directly from HUD. The three programs for which the County enters into contracts with HUD are the HOME Program, the CDBG Program, and the ESG Program. Monitoring will occur in accordance with these agreements, the certifications the County signs and the regulations for these programs. Monitoring responsibility will continue to be assigned to the Berks County Redevelopment Authority.

The County exercises a high degree of control over the projects and activities of sub-recipients and sub-grantees of the HOME, CDBG and ESG Program. Therefore, minimum monitoring procedures consist of day to day contact either by telephone or in person, copies of all project documents in County files, written documentation of expenditures for reimbursement of costs by the County, and the submission of written progress reports. For the ESG Program, the County conducts on-site monitoring at least once during the term of the subrecipient agreement. For the CDBG Program, the County selects a representative sample of completed projects for on-site monitoring. For the HOME Program, the County follows the schedule at 24 CFR Part 92.504(e) for on-site monitoring.

The County's monitoring standards and procedures ensure that statutory and regulatory requirements are being met and that information submitted to HUD is correct and complete.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

Copies of the CAPER were sent to municipal offices, nonprofits, and libraries. It was also posted on the County's web site. An ad about the availability of the CAPER was placed in the local newspaper.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The County did not change its program objectives during 2024.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

No rental projects required on-site monitoring during 2024.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

No projects during 2024 were subject to affirmative marketing actions.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

The County's HOME Program received \$507,545.95 in PI during 2024. Of that amount, \$318,919.00 was used for 4 projects leaving a balance of \$188,626.95.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

No other actions were undertaken during the program year.

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	1	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	27,498	0	0		
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0	0		
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	2,750	0	0		

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	0	0	0		
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	0	0	0		
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	1	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	0	0	0		
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	1	0	0		
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	0	0	0		
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	0	0	0		
Held one or more job fairs.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents with finding child care.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	0	0	0		
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	0	0	0		
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0	0		
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	0	0	0		
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	0	0	0		
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0	0		

Other.	0	0	0		
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

In 2024, no HOME or ESG Program funded activities required Section 3 compliance. The work funded by the CDBG Program did not require the contractors to hire any employees.