

2016-2017

## Executive Summary

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

#### **1. Introduction**

St. Tammany Parish proposes to target its CDBG entitlement funds in areas to support on-going community development programs in PY 2016-2017. We will continue to partner with local non-profits and governmental partners to deliver the needed services to our residents. As well, we propose to invest CDBG funds in projects and activities that have a direct correlation in quality of life. Through our partnerships with other St. Tammany Parish Government departments, we will continue to address the concerns of our citizens in the areas of affordable housing, behavioral health and wellness, homelessness, neighborhood stabilization, self-sufficiency, suicide intervention, transportation, and infrastructure improvements. Through our engagements with the public and partnerships with local non-profits, we are committed to an improved quality of life for our families and neighborhoods.

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

Homeless: The Parish's Action Plan strategically targets initiatives to prevent, or ameliorate, the social and community factors attributing to homelessness and affordable housing. In program year 2015-2016, as a part of a community wide effort, St. Tammany Parish Government addressed the growing demand for homeless services. For the 2016-2017 CDBG program year, a few innovative programs will address the community concerns of homelessness and homelessness prevention.

The Homeless Census examines the housing and health conditions of those persons who are literally homeless. Sheltered counts include persons residing in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Motels accepting vouchers. Unsheltered counts are places not intended for human habitation or where persons experiencing homelessness may access assistance such as abandoned buildings, retail parking lots, parks, under bridges, churches or "Soup" kitchens.

The information gleaned from the shelter count is useful for agencies and service providers to understand changes in homelessness within the community; adjust services available to better meet the needs of homeless persons; raise public awareness about the issue of homelessness; and measures community progress towards preventing and ending homelessness. The Northlake Homeless Coalition, as part of a nationwide effort, conducted its annual count of persons experiencing homelessness in the Northshore region. The annual count was conducted

during the week of January 25th, 2016, wherein 21 partnering organizations surveyed individuals and families to identify those who are without permanent, stable housing on the night of January 26th. In conjunction with the 2016 statewide Homeless Census in Louisiana, Region Nine (9) counted two hundred seventy five (275) men, women, and children who were literally homeless. The total number of persons who were identified as literally homeless on the night of the 2016 Homeless Census was a slight increase of 12% from the 2015 count. Since 2011, the count varies at a range of 14% since the high count of 281 was reported. However, the conditions for unsheltered persons are increasing: in 2016, a reported of 33% increase in extreme homelessness situations from 25% in 2015. Approximately 60 persons were identified in the category of “unsheltered” which qualifies as living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, and areas not fit for human habitation. Persons in this category include the chronically Homeless, Veterans, Adult Victims of Domestic Violence, Serious Mental Illness, Substance Abuse Disorder, and Persons with HIV/AIDS. For St. Tammany Parish, the total count of 170 is: 43 persons unsheltered, 62 in emergency shelter and 65 in transitional housing. As the most populated parish in the region, it accounted for 61% of the total count. A copy of the Point in Time Count - Region 9 is located in the appendix.

#### Affordable and Workforce Housing

A recent Urban Land Institute Advisory Services Panel Report identified a deficiency in housing choices as a key area needing improvement. The vast majority of the housing constructed since 1990s is single family homes. As well, 19.3% of households experience the high cost burden of home ownership costs including mortgages, real estate taxes, insurance, utilities, fuels and other associated fees above the 35% threshold for measuring affordability. Renters are experiencing an even higher cost burden of 44.1%. The limited housing choices has resulted in a scarcity of rental housing. As a consequence, LMI residents are most impacted by the few choices of affordable housing.

Few options are currently available to LMI households and CDBG program support reach only a small portion of the LMI households. The Northshore Housing Initiative and Habitat for Humanity have programs that subsidize home ownership. In an effort to be congruent with HUD’s Housing First Initiative, the Housing & Homeless Assistance Program, is a three month Rapid Rehousing program for families that are able to achieve self-sufficiency.

A recent report issued by the United Way of Southeast Louisiana addresses the concerns of working families struggling to survive. **ALICE** is an acronym for “**Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**” and describes residents across Louisiana, including St. Tammany Parish, that are employed, yet challenged to achieve financial stability. The **ALICE** individual or family is employed at a low-paying job, little or no savings, and is one emergency from falling into poverty - usually called “the working poor”. The United Way **ALICE** Report for Louisiana

reveals 695,719 households—40 percent of the state’s total—are **ALICE**. While St. Tammany ranks as one of the most affluent parishes, the population falling below the **ALICE** threshold ranking is 31%, or approximately 17,378 persons in St. Tammany Parish.

### Safe Haven

The Safe Haven campus will serve as a comprehensive multi-faceted program, utilizing the “single point of entry” concept into the behavioral health continuum of care for service providers: law enforcement, the judiciary and local area hospitals. The facility, designed as a collaborative healing environment, will create a high-quality, coordinated, sustainable and humane network of care anchored in St. Tammany Parish.

The Safe Haven Campus is the end product of many years of community and stakeholder planning and consultation in response to growing a behavioral health crisis. Beginning in 2007, St. Tammany Parish experienced a spike in suicides. As a result, Parish administration formed a suicide crisis committee. In 2011, utilizing St. Tammany Parish Public Health Millage funds, a VOA Crisis Response Team was initiated to provide emergency response to persons experiencing mental health or behavioral crisis. In 2012, the 60 year old state run Southeast Louisiana Hospital closes as a result of cuts in Medicaid funding. A Behavioral Health Task Force is organized in response to hospital closure and increased behavioral health demands. In 2015, the Task Force proposed a redevelopment plan for behavioral health system redesign to the Parish administrators and the community.

A combination of private and public funds have been identified for investments in the site. CDBG funds were used to demolish three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings in the NAMI residential section. Additional funds supported the renovation of NAMI St Tammany Peer Run Drop in Facility for the chronically mentally handicapped. In 2016-2017, CDBG will finance the renovation of a residential structure to be used as a homeless center for persons released from parish prison as part of a community re-entry program who exhibit addiction disorders or mental illnesses. And in the spirit of community volunteerism, the local home builder’s association has agreed to donate their services to construct the Family Promise of St Tammany Day Center, for homeless families.

### Infrastructure Improvements- Sewer & Water

Based on the findings of the **2014 Watershed Management Study**, St. Tammany Parish has developed multiple strategies to address the issue of water quality. Due to the acceleration of urban development, many of the streams and bayous are registered on EPA’s 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies. The result is the introduction of many types of pollutants into our rivers

and streams, ultimately flowing into Lake Pontchartrain. Currently, CBDC funds are available for home owners to repair or replace non-compliant residential wastewater systems in the Ozone Woods neighborhood (near Slidell), and throughout unincorporated St. Tammany Parish. Plans and specification are underway for infrastructure improvements in Slidell Manor, Ben Thomas and Alton.

A partnership established with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF) implements the Decentralized Management Approach including the cleaning of thousands of individual septic plants in selected watersheds throughout the parish. LPBF, St. Tammany and other partners have identified key subdivisions in the Abita River, Ponchitolawa Creek, and Bayou Liberty watersheds that are lacking community treatment plants. In this new initiative, LPBF and St. Tammany Parish will partner to educate homeowners about their home wastewater plants, inspect home wastewater plants for compliance, counsel homeowners regarding the danger of untreated sewage and the need to bring their plant into compliance, and document the water quality improvements to ditches and streams.

Non-Homeless Special Needs Populations: The HUD definition of “special needs” includes the frail and non-frail elderly, persons with physical, mental, or behavioral disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with alcohol or drug addictions. According to the 2013 American Community Survey, 36,085 individuals, (or 15%) of the Parish’s population are classified as having a disability. Many members of this population are primarily low-income, and are in need of services that include but are not limited to case management, supportive services, transportation, and affordable housing assistance. The Department of Health and Human Services maintains a directory of service providers for disabled families seeking assistance.

Non-Housing Community Development: The non-housing community development needs of the Parish include but are not limited to infrastructure improvements, social and supportive services, and public facilities improvements.

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

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

Name of Program	Finding Source	Finding Amount	Manager	Description	Program Accomplishments
go STAT Voucher Program	CDBG	\$29,312.00	STPG	Free transportation vouchers are distributed to local non-profit and government agencies who distribute the vouchers to their LMI clientele.	1165 daily and 105 unlimited monthly go STAT vouchers were distributed during the reporting period
World Changers – Minor Home Repair	CDBG	\$29,315.00	STPG	Provided minor home repairs in collaboration with a summer youth program.	12 households served.
Residential Rehabilitation-Sewer	CDBG	\$32,35646	STPG	Provided health and safety home repairs and rehabilitation for LMI residents through Volunteers of America and Northshore Disaster Recovery Inc.	34 unduplicated residents received 67 units of home repair services.
Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West-Homeownership Center	CDBG	\$45,000.00	STPG	Homebuyer and money management training, pre-purchase counseling and other homeownership services. In addition 10 Habitat West homebuyers received down payment assistance.	705 units of services were delivered to 124 clients/ unduplicated residents.
New Day Homeownership Services	CDBG	\$36,087.02	STPG	Homebuyer and money management services as well as pre purchase counseling. In addition New Day assistance 1 homebuyer received down payment assistance.	1275 units of services were delivered to 44 clients/ unduplicated residents.
Transportation Services for the Disabled-STARC	CDBG	\$30,000.00	STPG	Free vouchers for twice daily services are given to disabled adults for transportation to and from facilities.	1489 units of services utilized and 8 clients received services.

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

The three branches of the Department of Health and Human Services – CDBG, Public Health, and Community Action Agency (CAA) and St. Tammany Parish staff maintain consistent communication throughout the year with local organizations that have specific interests in on-going efforts to address the community's concerns regarding workforce housing, neighborhood improvement, and economic opportunities. The data gathering process occurs throughout the year. In preparation of the Annual Action Plan, public hearings, emails, dialogues, formal and informal gatherings, and one-on-one meetings were utilized to generate discussions and comments which ultimately facilitated the development of the plan.

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

Minutes from the public hearing and written comments are included in Appendix B. *(To be added. Public meeting is July 13.)*

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

All comments were accepted.

#### **7. Summary**

All comments were accepted.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Program Manager	ST. TAMMANY PARISH	Department of Health and Human Services
CDBG Project Manager	ST. TAMMANY PARISH	Department of Grants

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

The Parish has appointed its Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as the lead agency to coordinate the Annual Action Plan preparation process. The three branches of DHHS, possessing extensive experience in social service delivery, project planning, grant administration, and community outreach and advocacy, are charged with creating and implementing programs which directly and indirectly improve the quality of life for Parish residents. DHHS has managed CDBG entitlement funds since the Parish was designated an entitlement community in 2008. DHHS also receives the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) from HUD through the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) since 1990.

#### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

### **1. Introduction**

St. Tammany Parish staff members have extended the public input process to many local organizations that would typically have an interest in the Annual Action Plan's statutory goals of providing decent housing, neighborhood improvement, and economic opportunities. This process took place through a series of public hearings, emails, conversations, requests for information and comments received during the time of plan development.

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

St. Tammany Parish employees continue to participate in coalitions organized to address the needs of underserved populations and are struggling to fulfill their daily requirements. Two groups, "St. Tammany Behavioral Health Task Force" and the "St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance" have become excellent planning tools and resource agents for service coordination for mental health, homelessness, and housing needs in St. Tammany. For the regional perspective, staff regularly attend meetings and events at the United Way, the Workforce Investment Board, and the Commission on Families to gain a comprehensive understanding of the unmet needs in the metropolitan area. Populations challenged with mental and behavioral health issues, as well as the lack of decent, affordable housing and homelessness are three of the most important and most visible needs of our community. The interaction with community groups play a significant role to ensure that service gaps are identified, and that efforts made to address those gaps are non-duplicative and coordinated. The result is enhanced communications and coordination between DHHS and its partners: The Northlake Homeless Coalition, Continuum of Care, Northshore Housing Initiative, and the Florida Parish Social Services Authority.

In June 2016, a consultant was retained to develop a Community Needs Assessment. Focus groups, email surveys, and community meetings will be utilized to capture the public's opinions regarding needed improvements and future investments in housing and social services. Deep information and analysis obtained from these outreach activities will be used by the Parish to direct future community serve programs and will provide up to date statistics to complete the upcoming HUD studies: 5 year Consolidated Plan and an Analysis of Fair Housing.

#### **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.**

Staff members attend both Northlake Homeless Coalition (NHC) monthly meetings and meetings with the NHC co-chairs. Through discussion at the NHC meetings, the specific needs of the homeless community that have been evaluated by the NHC for future program planning. The NHC collects and maintains data that provides the Parish with the best available evaluation of the needs of the homeless in our region, the demographics of that population, and how the available services are able or unable to meet those needs.

**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**

Aside from administering the CDBG program and the Parish Public Health millage, the Department of Health and Human Services manages and supports the Community Action Agency (CAA). CAA is responsible for administering ESG funds received from the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC). In 2015, CAA applied for and received an increase in the amount of its award for ESG funding, which is determined by LHC and is measured by Homeless counts.

CAA staffers play a key role with the Northlake Homeless Coalition (NHC). The two organizations readily share information, and coordinate services and program development. NHC Board is responsible for the Continuum of Care that participates in HMIS and develops performance standards and outcomes, policies and procedures, and identifies funding availability.

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

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

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving services and opportunities for homeownership.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	New Day Homeowner Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Needs Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls, and emails, discussions centered on improving services and opportunities for homeownership.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Northlake Homeless Coalition
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Continuum of Care
	<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
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls, and emails, discussions centered on improving services to prevent homelessness and addressing the needs of homeless populations.

4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Volunteers Of America Greater New Orleans
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Needs Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving sustainability of housing rehabilitation, and addressing the needs of and services for homeless populations.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Covington Food Bank
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	LMI Services
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy Homeless prevention
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls, and emails, discussions centered on improving services to prevent homelessness, addressing the needs of homeless populations and anti-poverty programs.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Christian Concern
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty 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>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls, and emails, discussions centered on improving services to prevent homelessness and addressing the needs of homeless populations, and anti-poverty programs.
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	City of Covington
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving economic conditions, sustainability of housing rehabilitation and anti-poverty programs.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	St. Tammany Community Health Center
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty 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>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving homeless needs and conditions, and anti-poverty programs.
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	National Alliance on Mental Illness St. Tammany
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Mentally Ill

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving homeless conditions, services for the homeless and mentally ill, and anti-poverty programs.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Catholic Charities Archdiocese Of New Orleans
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services – LMI
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty 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>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, discussions centered on improving homeless conditions, services for the homeless and anti-poverty programs.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Northshore Housing Initiative
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls and emails, discussions centered on improving services and opportunities for homeownership.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	World Changers
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Affordable Housing

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, general community meetings, telephone calls and emails, discussions centered on improving the sustainability of housing rehabilitation.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	New Orleans Mission "Giving Hope Retreat"
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Needs – Veterans Anti-poverty
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through formal and informal meetings, public hearings, and general community meetings, telephone calls and emails, discussions centered on improving homeless conditions, services for the homeless and anti-poverty programs.

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

Parish staff made an effort to alert all local agencies and organizations about our public hearings and the availability of needs surveys. We have developed an extensive email list to utilize advertise public meetings and notices. No one was prohibited from submitting a public comment or survey to the Parish in regards to this Annual Action Plan.

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

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	Northlake Homeless Coalition	Plans created to identify gaps in services for the homeless and present projects, partnerships, and initiatives that may help to address those gaps.
Future Directions for St. Tammany Parish	St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation	The Parish anticipates utilizing CDBG funds to assist in its economic development initiatives by providing support for affordable housing in an effort to stabilize the workforce.
St. Tammany Parish Housing and Homeless Coalition	St. Tammany Parish	Coalition meeting attended by more than 35 stakeholders and representatives of agencies that have a invested interest in addressing the issues of housing, homelessness and quality of life in the Parish.

Behavioral Health Task Force	St. Tammany Parish	Ongoing discussions related to the mental and emotional health of Parish residents.
Community Assessment Steering Committee	St. Tammany Parish	Community meeting attended by more than 40 stakeholders and representatives of agencies that have a invested interest in addressing the issues of housing, homelessness and quality of life in the Parish with the goal of creating a Community Needs Assessment.
Urban Land Institute Advisory Panel	St. Tammany Parish	A five day intensive study of one on one interviews and community meetings generated an understanding of the development strategies and opportunities for growth facing St. Tammany Parish.
Hazard Mitigation Plan	St. Tammany Parish	This hazard mitigation plan is a comprehensive plan for disaster resiliency in St Tammany Parish. Produced by LSU, with participate from all municipalities and parish administration, this plan identified the natural hazards that threaten communities and the likely impacts of those hazards.
Safe Haven Campus Master Plan and Implementation Strategy	St. Tammany Parish	Parish hires a consultant to develop a master plan and implementation strategy to accommodate a comprehensive, multi- pronged behavioral health facility with defined services.

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

The Parish publicized the date and time of the public hearings so that any representatives from local governments who were interested in attending were able to do so. Notice regarding the hearing was run in the local newspaper, on the Parish’s Website, and through E-mails distributed by partner agencies and contacts.

## **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**

The Parish of St. Tammany adopted a Citizen Participation Plan in 2008 (and amended it in 2016). On July 6, 2016, a public hearing was held to provide opportunities for public input into the Annual Planning process. An overview of St. Tammany Parish's CDBG program and a summary of the Annual Action planning process was presented. A discussion session allowed for citizen input. Written, phone-in, and E-mailed comments were also encouraged. Public hearings were held in order to solicit community input:

- July 13, 2016 at the St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers
- December 14, 2015 at the St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers

In accordance with the planning process, public hearings were held during the Plan development and evaluation stages. Meeting notices for the public hearings were publicized in the ***St. Tammany Farmer*** (the official St. Tammany Parish journal) and on the Parish's website. E-mails were also distributed to local government agencies and nonprofit organizations to alert them of the hearings as well. The hearings were in the afternoon and evening hours on different days of the week in an effort to accommodate both those who attended during working hours on behalf of their employers and those who attended after working hours as Parish citizens. An additional 30 day public review process was provided for the public to review and comment upon the Annual Action Plan document before it was sent to HUD.

Input from the community contributed to the establishment of housing and community development goals. Parish staff reviewed public input and comments as they were submitted. Staff weighed the priorities of Parish administration in concurrence with citizen input, and then presented a proposed project plan to Parish administration for consideration and approval. A draft of the Annual Action Plan and the projects proposed for the Annual Action Plan were posted on the Parish's Website on July 6, 2016. A 30-day comment period will run through August 6, 2016. Citizens, public agencies, or other interested parties wishing to comment on the plans can do so by E-mail, or by mail to the Department of Health and Human Services.

## 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 Meeting	Non-targeted/ broad community	A public hearing was held at St. Tammany Parish Council Chamber. 11 people were in attendance.	See attachments included with hard copy	All comments were accepted.	
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/ broad community	St. Tammany Farmer public notice	See attachments included with hard copy	No comments	
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/ broad community	An E-mail invitation was sent out to 72 representatives from local nonprofits alerting them to the public hearings and the Annual Action Plan process.	No Comments received	No comments	
4	Website	Non-targeted/ broad community	An announcement of the public Hearing and invitation to comment was posted on the St. Tammany Parish website.	No comments received	No comments	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

**AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2) Need info from Grants Dept**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b>Uses of Funds</b>	<b>Expected Amount Available Year 4</b>	<b>Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$</b>
Community Development Block Grant	HUD	Home Rehabilitation, public improvements, administration, public services	899,361 YR 4	949,764.00 YR4
Supportive Housing Program	HUD	Housing and additional support for homeless families with children	154,427 YR 4	121,404 YR 4
Community Services Block Grant	Louisiana Workforce Commission	Utility, rent or mortgage, tuition and employment assistance for low income families	352,582.00 YR 4	0
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	Louisiana Housing Corporation	Energy assistance	875,000 YR 4	754,152 YR 4
Weatherization Assistance Program	Louisiana Housing Corporation	Energy efficiency improvements to LMI households	250,000 YR 4	159,587 YR 4
Emergency Solutions Grant Program	Louisiana Housing Corporation	Assistance for homeless shelters and homeless individuals	97,181 YR4	0
Northlake Homeless Coalition/ Continuum of Care	HUD	HMIS, Permanent Supportive Housing, Transitional Housing	2.29 million YR 3 2.17 million	4.46 million YR 3 ??
goSTAT – St. Tammany Area Transportation	FTA	Transportation services and facilities	2.2 million YR 3 2.22 million	4.42 million YR 3 ??
Northshore Housing Initiative	LA Office of Community Development Disaster Recovery Unit	Land trust/homebuyer assistance	777,121 YR 3 ??	400,000.00 YR 3 ??
Hurricane Isaac Recovery	HUD-DRU	Program management, infrastructure improvements and homeless day center	5,697,791 YR 3 ??	5,217,125 YR 3 ??

**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**

There are currently no entitlement fund matching requirements to be addressed. However, CDBG funds have been used to administer the St. Tammany Transit (formerly go STAT) voucher program and contribute to the programs' FTA match requirements.

In March 2016, the parish submitted an application for Home Repair to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas for a grant in the amount of \$210,000.00 with the goal of leveraging CDBG home repair funds and Weatherization funds to increase the amount of the home repair investment for each home.

In 2015, the Parish applied for and was awarded \$1.2 million from the Louisiana Housing Corporation to complete a Home Repair Program for owner occupied properties damaged by Hurricane Katrina. CDBG funds will be used to cover the construction management staff and will be leveraged to support this Home Repair Program.

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

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

- Acquisition of the former Southeast Louisiana Hospital site, renamed Safe Haven
- Accessibility improvements for the Trace
- Expansion of an agricultural facility in Covington
- Development of St. Tammany Advanced Campus
- Public Right of Ways for Infrastructure Improvements for sewer/water upgrades
- Development of Cultural Arts Center

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

#### Goals Summary Information (Preliminary estimates pending STPG approval)

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Residential Rehabilitation	2013	2018	Affordable Housing	Highway 190/433 Area; Browns Village Road Area; West 30's	Affordable Housing	\$335,488.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: Household & sewer repairs & salaries.
2	Homeless Prevention	2013	2018	Homeless prevention	parishwide	Homeless Prevention	\$75,000.00	Households will receive rental/utility assistance
3	Affordable housing	2013	2018	Affordable Housing	parishwide	Affordable Housing	\$30,000.00	Households will receive homeownership counseling & home buying assistance
4	Homeless Prevention	2013	2018	Homeless prevention	parishwide	Homeless Prevention	\$279,073.00	Repairs to the Homeless/Handicap Re-entry Center
5	Program Administration	2013	2017	Administration & Planning	Parishwide	Planning	\$179,800.00	Administrative salaries, Fair Housing Analysis

**Table 6 – Goals Summary**

## Goal Descriptions

<b>1</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Residential Rehabilitation
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Affordable housing
<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Homeless Prevention
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Homeless Prevention
<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Homeless Prevention

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

DRAFT

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

At this time, the Parish is not a recipient of HOME funds. CDBG funds will be used for rehabilitation of low to moderate income owner occupied residences and homeless facilities. The parish has submitted two Home Repair applications. LHC Awarded \$1.2 million for Hurricane Katrina damaged homes. A second application was submitted to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas for a grant in the amount of \$210,000.00 with the goal of leveraging CDBG home repair funds and Weatherization funds to increase the home repair investment for each home.

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## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

This year the Parish’s Action Plan will take a more strategic and targeted approach to preventing or ameliorating the social and community factors attributing to homelessness.

#	Project Name
1	Residential Rehabilitation
2	Rehabilitation of Homeless Facilities
3	Homeownership Center
4	2016-2017 Program Administration
5	Homeless and Housing Assistance Program

**Table 8 – Project Information**

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

The Parish will extend the successful programming undertaken in 2015-2016 addressing the issues of homelessness, transitional assistance, life skills training, and homelessness prevention; affordable housing including home rehabilitation for low to moderate income families; public infrastructure improvements; and homeownership center to provide counseling and guidance for families seeking a strategy out of poverty; and program planning and administrative oversight. Multi-year infrastructure improvements initiated in 2015-2016 will be extended into 2016-2017.

Home rehabilitation addresses the challenges of sustainability, affordability, and substandard housing issues that affect low to moderate income homeowners. St. Tammany Parish will contract with local non-profits to deliver housing solutions. Investments in infrastructure improvement, specifically in the area of sewer/water rehabilitation and replacement, will target for water quality improvements throughout the parish. For the third year, funding will be provided to Community Action Agency (CAA) to enhance the existing homelessness programs to create a pathway out of poverty by achieving self-sufficiency, and ultimately housing stability. These activities will also increase sustainability of affordable housing.

With an 80% home ownership rate, the Parish has historically attracted buyers who are above average income. As a result, local builders respond to the demand for homes with higher price points. This scenario presents several obstacles to affordable housing such as a limited stock of affordable rental and single family homes which make home buying out of reach for some first time home buyers. As well, the high cost of developable land can be an inhibitor for potential LMI buyers. Furthermore, residential areas which abut water bodies or bayous and streams are subject to experience high flood insurance premiums which add significantly to the monthly mortgage and insurance payment. The affordability of rental units is also impacted as landlords pass on the rising cost of insurance to the

monthly rent. All total, these examples of burdensome costs make home ownership beyond the reach of LMI buyers.

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**Project Summary Information**

**Table 9 – Project Summary Pending Parish Admin Approval**

<b>1. Project Name</b>	<b>Residential Rehabilitation</b>
<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area Browns Village Road Area West 30's
<b>Goals Supported</b>	Residential Rehabilitation
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$335,488.00
<b>Description</b>	LMI owner-occupied housing units will receive home repairs
<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2016
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	50 households will receive assistance (15 house repairs & 35 sewer repairs).
<b>Location Description</b>	Households will be scattered across St. Tammany Parish
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Provide health and safety repairs to homes; repair or replace non-compliant septic systems.
<b>2. Project Name</b>	<b>Safe Haven Rehabilitation</b>
<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area
<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homeless Prevention
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless Prevention
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$279,073.00
<b>Description</b>	Funds will be provided for renovation to a currently vacant building to be used as a Re-Entry residential facility.
<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2017
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Five (5) persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction disorders, mental illness or co-occurring disorders will be housed in a residential facility.
<b>Location Description</b>	Hwy 190, Mandeville, LA 70448

<b>Planned Activities</b>	Rehabilitation of a currently vacant building to be used as a Re-Entry residential facility.
<b>3. Project Name</b>	<b>Homeownership Center</b>
<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area Browns Village Road Area West 30's
<b>Goals Supported</b>	At least 40 LMI individuals/families will receive home buyer education and counseling services.
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000.00
<b>Description</b>	Funds will be used for the salaries and operating expenses for home buyer counselors and educators. The home buyer education and counseling services will be delivered in conjunction with existing home buyer assistance programs that include IDA Programs, the St. Tammany Community Land Trust, a Soft Seconds Program, and other homeowner programs.
<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2017
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	40 LMI individuals/families will receive home buyer education and counseling services.
<b>Location Description</b>	Hwy 190, Mandeville, LA 70448
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Home buyer education and counseling services
<b>4. Project Name</b>	<b>2016-2017 Program Administration</b>
<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area Browns Village Road Area West 30's
<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and Administration
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Infrastructure Improvements Non-Housing Community Development
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$179,872.00
<b>Description</b>	Funds used to support program staff, technical assistance and housing study.

<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2017
<b>Location Description</b>	St. Tammany Parish Government, PO Box 628, Covington, LA 70434
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Fair Housing Study and Analysis; Technical Assistance; Salaries and benefits for CDBG staff
<b>5. Project Name</b>	Homeless and Housing Assistance Program
<b>Target Area</b>	Highway 190/433 Area Browns Village Road Area West 30's
<b>Goals Supported</b>	Homeless Prevention
<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$75,000
<b>Description</b>	Case management and rent/mortgage/utility assistance payments will be provided to recently homeless or near-homeless families. The rent/mortgage/utility assistance payments will be provided directly to the applicable vendor and for a period of no more than 3 consecutive months.
<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2017
<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	At least 15 LMI families will receive case management services and up to 3 consecutive months of rent/mortgage/utility assistance.
<b>Location Description</b>	The program will be administered by the Parish's Community Action Agency offices located at 520 Old Spanish Trail, Slidell, LA 70458.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Funding support for rapid re-housing program.

Table 9 – Project Summary

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

Parish-Wide: 100%

**Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Hwy 190/Hwy 433	31%

**Table 10 - Geographic Distribution**

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

CDBG have been invested in planning, engineering and design of infrastructure improvements in Hwy 11 area. St. Tammany identified two neighborhoods requiring upgrades to sewer and water systems. In the Ben Thomas neighborhood, master planning and design work for sub surface drainage are in process. “Shovel ready plans” for a community treatment plant were completed and the project will be constructed in phases, pending availability of funds. A waterline redundancy study is nearing completion for Ben Thomas and Alton communities.

St. Tammany Parish has signed a contract with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation to study the Hwy 433/Thompson Road for the purposes of improving the water quality. CDBG funds are currently allocated for replacement of outdated and non-compliant septic systems, and the repair non – functioning aerator treatment units and pump out of exiting tanks.

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located near Hwy 190 in Mandeville. The Hospital was formerly operated by the State of Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals which served as a respite and rehabilitation facility for the mentally ill. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to fund the demolition and clearing of four Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive within the Hospital site. A section of the Hospital campus is operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness-St. Tammany for sheltering severely disabled and chronic, behaviorally ill patients. As part of the Parish’s long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a building for use as a homeless center for persons recently released from parish prison with addiction or mental illness.

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

## Affordable Housing TBD

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

#### Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	20
Non-Homeless	90
Special-Needs	0
Total	110

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	15
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	55
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	70

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

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

### **Introduction**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Not applicable.

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

### **Introduction**

**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**

#### Safe Haven Center

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located in Mandeville, from the State of Louisiana. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to pay for the demolition of three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive in a residential area of the Hospital campus. These residential units are operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for sheltering chronically behaviorally ill patients. For program year 2015-2016, additional CDBG funds were invested to rehabilitate one of the vacant buildings for use as a day center. As part of the Parish's long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a facility for use as a homeless center for persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction disorders, mental illness or co-occurring disorders.

#### Giving Hope Retreat

In May 2015, the former K- Bar B facility was acquired by Mission Properties Foundation - New Orleans Mission to create the "Giving Hope Retreat". Upon acquisition, renovations to the site commenced to accommodate homeless individuals who will gain respite and recovery before embarking on a full assessment and recovery program. This "Giving Hope Retreat" is a rehabilitation and respite center to support unsheltered persons and transitioning individuals to enable them to return to self-sufficiency and productivity.

#### Homeless and Housing Assistance Program

The Homeless and Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) is a rapid re-housing program designed to assist homeless families and individuals of St Tammany Parish to become stably housed. Clients must be within CDBG income limits and meet HUD's definition of literally homeless. The ultimate goal of the program is housing stability. Families confronted with homelessness will be able to participate in the program and receive assistance such as deposits, rent, utilities, life skills education, and money management. The HHAP program will leverage the existing CAA programs by augmenting the total funding available to provide services. The Homeless and Housing program will continue its third year of CDBG funding with great success in meeting goals in homeless prevention.

The current Supportive Housing Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants strive to deliver

homeless prevention solutions. ESG received an additional \$75,000.00 from the State to expand the program. Clients will continue to achieve and create collaborative self-sufficiency goals. These goals will include life skills classes, job search, and gainful employment for every working-age member of the family provided they are not disabled. Identifying additional resources will be tapped with the goal of increasing household income by determining eligibility for SSI, SSA, Medicaid, and/or unemployment. The case manager will be also responsible for communicating and interfacing with the local school system to make sure each school age child is enrolled and attending regularly. Finally, clients will be assessed for eligibility in Section 8 and other income-based housing programs. Case management data will be gathered and used as the basis of a development strategy to be incorporated into the Community Needs Assessment study.

#### Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

In April 2015, the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance launched a local affiliate of the national "Family Promise" organization. As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure children attend school, families stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities were provided through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

DHHS and CDBG staff continues to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information is posted on the Parish's website and is regularly updated.

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

#### Homeless and Housing Assistance Program

The Homeless and Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) is a rapid re-housing program designed to assist homeless families and individuals of St Tammany Parish to become stably housed. Clients must be within CDBG income limits and meet HUD's definition of literally homeless. The ultimate goal of the program is housing stability. Families confronted with homelessness will be able to participate in the program and receive assistance such as deposits, rent, utilities, life skills education, and money management. The HHAP program will leverage the existing CAA programs by augmenting the total funding available to provide services. The Homeless and Housing program will continue its third year

of CDBG funding with great success in meeting goals in homeless prevention.

The current Supportive Housing Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants strive to deliver the homeless prevention solutions. ESG received an additional \$75,000.00 from the State to expand the program. Clients will continue to achieve and create collaborative self-sufficiency goals. These goals will include life skills classes, job search, gainful employment for every working-age member of the family provided they are not disabled. Identifying additional resources will be tapped with the goal of increasing household income by determining eligibility for SSI, SSA, Medicaid, and/or unemployment. The case manager will be also responsible for communicating and interfacing with the local school system to make sure each school age child is enrolled and attending regularly. Finally, clients will be assessed for eligibility in Section 8 and other income-based housing programs. Case management data will be gathered and used as the basis of a development strategy to be incorporated into the Community Needs Assessment study.

#### Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

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#### Safe Haven Center

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located in Mandeville, from the State of Louisiana. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to pay for the demolition of three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive in a residential area of the Hospital campus. These residential units are operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for sheltering chronically behaviorally ill patients. For program year 2015-2016, additional CDBG funds were invested to rehabilitate one of the vacant buildings for use as a day center. As part of the Parish's long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a facility for use as a homeless center for persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction disorders, mental illness or co-occurring disorders.

#### Support for Homeownership Center

Residents successfully completing the Homeless and Housing Assistance Program will be directed to the Homeownership Center (HOC) as part of the pathway from homelessness to self-sustainability and home ownership. The HOC will provide home buyer training and Individual Development Account (IDA) information to families seeking to stabilize their housing situation and aid in the prevention of

homelessness. These services include pre-purchase counseling, credit repair, money management classes, and home buyer training classes. The Homeownership Center will receive CDBG for the third year.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings.

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations that contact the office looking for resources. This information is posted on the Parish's website and is regularly updated.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the DHHS website.

**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**

#### Safe Haven Center

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located in Mandeville, from the State of Louisiana. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to pay for the demolition of three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive in a residential area of the Hospital campus. These residential units are operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for sheltering chronically behaviorally ill patients. For program year 2015-2016, additional CDBG funds were invested to rehabilitate one of the vacant buildings for use as a day center. As part of the Parish's long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a facility for use as a homeless center for persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction disorders, mental illness or co-occurring disorders.

#### Homeless and Housing Assistance Program

The Homeless and Housing Assistance Program is a rapid re-housing program designed to assist homeless families become stably housed. Clients must be within CDBG income limits and meet HUD's definition of literally homeless. Families confronted with homelessness will be able to participate in the program and receive assistance such as deposits, rent, utilities, life skills education, and money management. The HHAP program will leverage the existing CAA programs by augmenting the total

funding available to provide services. Case management data will be gathered and used as the basis of a development strategy to be incorporated into a needs assessment study. The program will enhance CAA's ability to respond to the needs of the homeless with St. Tammany Parish and its revitalization areas and targeted census tracts.

The current Supportive Housing Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants strive to deliver the homeless prevention solutions. ESG received an additional \$75,000.00 from the State to expand the program. Clients will continue to achieve and create collaborative self-sufficiency goals. These goals will include life skills classes, money management, job search, and gainful employment for every working-age member of the family provided they are not disabled. Identifying additional resources will be tapped with the goal of increasing household income by determining eligibility for SSI, SSA, Medicaid, and/or unemployment. The case manager will be also responsible for communicating and interfacing with the local school system to make sure each school age child is enrolled and attending regularly. Finally, clients will be assessed for eligibility in Section 8 and other income-based housing programs. Case management data will be gathered and used as the basis of a development strategy to be incorporated into needs assessment study.

#### Support for Homeownership Center

Residents successfully completing the Homeless and Housing Assistance Program will be directed to the Homeownership Centers (HOC) as part of the pathway from homelessness to self-sustainability and home ownership. The HOC will provide home buyer training and Individual Development Account (IDA) information to families seeking to stabilize their housing situation and aid in the prevention of homelessness. These services include pre-purchase counseling, credit repair, money management classes, and home buyer training classes.

#### Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

In April 2015, the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance launched a local affiliate of the national "Family Promise" organization. As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure children attend school, families stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities are funded through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

#### Community Land Trust

The State Office of Community Development- Disaster Recovery Unit is providing CDBG –DR funds to St. Tammany Parish to underwrite the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative. This organization makes affordable housing opportunities available to income-eligible clients. NHI has

received a HOME grant to develop a mixed income neighborhood.

#### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

DHHS and CDBG staff continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance.

#### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the DHHS website.

**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.**

#### Safe Haven Center

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located in Mandeville, from the State of Louisiana. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to pay for the demolition of three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive in a residential area of the Hospital campus. These residential units are operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for sheltering chronically behaviorally ill patients. For program year 2015-2016, additional CDBG funds were invested to rehabilitate one of the vacant buildings for use as a day center. As part of the Parish's long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a facility for use as a homeless center for persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction disorders, mental illness or co-occurring disorders.

#### Infrastructure Improvements- Sewer & Water

St. Tammany Parish targeted infrastructure improvement in 2013-2014's CDBG program year during which a watershed study was commissioned to evaluate the most needed projects. Once the study was completed in June 2014, an internal review was implemented to identify LMI neighborhoods where infrastructure improvements were needed. The LMI neighborhoods of Bayou Liberty, Ben Thomas, and Slidell Manor were selected for improvements.

#### Giving Hope Retreat

In May 2015, the former K- Bar B facility was acquired by Mission Properties Foundation - New Orleans Mission to create the "Giving Hope Retreat". Upon acquisition, renovations to the site commenced to accommodate homeless individuals who will gain respite and recovery before embarking on a full

assessment and recovery program. This “Giving Hope Retreat” is a rehabilitation and respite center to support unsheltered persons and transitioning individuals to enable them to return to self- sufficiency and productivity.

#### Homeless and Housing Assistance Program

The Homeless and Housing Assistance Program is a rapid re-housing program designed to assist homeless families and individuals of St Tammany Parish to become stably housed. Clients must be within CDBG income limits and meet HUD’s definition of literally homeless. The ultimate goal of the program is housing stability. Families confronted with homelessness will be able to participate in the program and receive assistance such as deposits, rent, utilities, life skills education, and money management. The HHAP program will leverage the existing CAA programs by augmenting the total funding available to provide services, thereby enabling more residents to receive assistance and increase the leveraging of Parish and community resources.

The current Supportive Housing Programs and the Emergency Solutions Grants strive to deliver homeless prevention solutions. ESG received an additional \$75,000.00 from the State to expand the program. Client will continue to achieve and create collaborative self- sufficiency goals. These goals will include life skills classes, money management, job search, and gainful employment for every working-age member of the family provided they are not disabled. Identifying additional resources will be tapped with the goal of increasing household income by determining eligibility for SSI, SSA, Medicaid, and/ or unemployment. The case manager will be responsible for communicating and interfacing with the local school system to make sure each school age child is enrolled and attending regularly. Finally, clients will be assessed for eligibility in Section 8 and other income-based housing programs. Case management data will be gathered and used as the basis of a development strategy to be incorporated into needs assessment study. The program will enhance CAA’s ability to respond to the needs of the homeless with St. Tammany Parish and its revitalization areas and targeted census tracts.

#### Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

The St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance is developing a local affiliate of the national “Family Promise” organization. As a sheltering system for families, this program would provide shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure that children can attend school that families can stay together, and that assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities were funded through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

#### Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repair targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non- profit & for profit organizations to perform health and safety related

repairs. CDBG funds will also pay for the salaries of the construction team to supervise LHC's Home Repair Program and Weatherization Program.

For the second year, CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of non-compliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement is very needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition and the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance.

Giving Hope Retreat

In May 2015, the former K- Bar B facility was acquired by Mission Properties Foundation - New Orleans Mission to create the "Giving Hope Retreat". Upon acquisition, renovations to the site commenced to accommodate homeless individuals who will gain respite and recovery before embarking on a full assessment and recovery program. This "Giving Hope Retreat" is a rehabilitation and respite center to support unsheltered persons and transitioning individuals to enable them to return to self-sufficiency and productivity.

Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the DHHS website.

**St Tammany Parish does not received HOPWA funds**

<b>One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:</b>
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family: 0
Tenant-based rental assistance: 0
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated: 0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds: 0
Total: 0

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

### **Introduction**

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

### The Biggert-Waters Act (BWA)

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

### Impact Fees

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

### NIMBYISM

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

### High Cost of Land

The Parish is collaborating with the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, by providing them with non-entitlement CDBG funds received from the State Office of Community Development. These funds will assist NHI's Community Land Trust Program which will provide assistance to qualified homebuyers for the purchase of homes by covering the cost of and retaining ownership of the land on which the home resides. This effort decreases the purchase price for the homebuyer and makes the home more affordable to future buyers.

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

### **Introduction**

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

##### Provide Information and Referral

DHHS will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources such as job training, education, and employment assistance. A new referral directory is available on through DHHS Website.

##### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

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

##### Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

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

##### Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repair targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non- profit & for profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs. CDBG funds will also pay for the salaries of the construction team to supervise LHC's Home Repair Program and Weatherization Program.

For the second year, CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of non-compliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement is very needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

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

##### Attend NHC and STHHA Meetings

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

the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system and the STHHA's plan to develop a faith-based sheltering system for families.

#### Provide Information and Referral

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

#### Support Local Organizations that Provide Affordable Housing

The Parish is collaborating with the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, by providing them with non-entitlement CDBG funds received from the State Office of Community Development. These funds will assist NHI's Community Land Trust Program which will provide assistance to qualified homebuyers for the purchase of homes by covering the cost of and retaining ownership of the land on which the home resides. This effort decreases the purchase price for the homebuyer, making the home more affordable to future buyers and for families who are at risk of homelessness. The Parish will also continue to work with home buyer counseling organizations St. Tammany, as a means to provide affordable housing opportunities to residents as well.

#### Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repair programs targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs and make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish is again funding local non-profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs. In previous years the Parish has successfully partnered with Volunteers of America, Northshore Disaster Recovery Initiatives, World Changers and Habitat for Humanity St Tammany West. In an effort to leverage resources and provide the maximum amount of support, the Parish has submitted an application to the Louisiana Housing Corporation for additional rehabilitation funds to reach out to more families in 2014-2015.

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

#### Provide LBP Educational Information to the Public

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

#### Provide Affordable Housing Program Information to Affected Households

Households that are affected by LBP are able to contact the Parish for information regarding affordable

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

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

#### Provide Information and Referral

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

#### Development of the St. Tammany Advanced Campus

On Hwy 424 in North Lacombe, Parish government has planned the St. Tammany Advanced Campus to provide educational, employment, and job training opportunities to residents of St. Tammany and the surrounding areas. Ideally, the creation of the center and business park will lead to a more educated and skilled workforce and the creation of new jobs as well. This will help individuals become more qualified to earn better wages and gradually increase their household income so that they are no longer considered to be poverty-level.

#### Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repair targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non-profit & for profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs. CDBG funds will also pay for the salaries of the construction team to supervise LHC's Home Repair Program and Weatherization Program.

For the second year, CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of non-compliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement is very needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

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

#### Safe Haven Center

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located in Mandeville, from the State of Louisiana. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to pay for the demolition of three Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive in an area of the Hospital site. The location is operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for sheltering chronically behaviorally ill patients. For program year 2015-2016, additional CDBG funds will

be invested to rehabilitate one of the buildings for use as a day center. As part of the Parish's long term investment in the Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a facility for use as a homeless center for persons recently discharged from a parish correctional institution with addiction or mental illness.

#### Development of Single Point of Entry System

The NHC is finalizing its work to create a single point of entry system for homeless housing and service providers. The NHC collected information and feedback from providers so that the new system will address the concerns and needs of those who provide hands-on services to the homeless. The system will give all providers access to the same information, enhance communication, and homeless persons will receive expedited assistance and information when accessing services.

#### Family Promise Affiliate- Sheltering System for Families

A local affiliate of the national "Family Promise" organization has been operational since April 2015. As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure that children can attend school, families can stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities are funded through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development. A permanent day center is planned for the Safe Haven campus. The local home builder's association has agreed to donate their services to construct the Family Promise of St Tammany Day Center, for homeless families.

#### Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

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

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

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

A \$3 million Public Health Millage is collected annually. Several social services agencies are supported through this funding. National Alliance for Mental Illness-St. Tammany received funds to provide training, educational, and support services to individuals with mental illness and their families; a mental health case manager servicing the Behavioral Health Court clients of 22nd JDC, and support for

a Group Home (operations and maintenance) for transitional housing and access to services for individuals with severe behavioral health issues. Louisiana Public Health Institute maintains a “Dashboard” with up to date behavioral health information accessible to the public. Access Health supports two full time Licensed Clinical Social Workers and a part time Psychiatrist, who provide counseling services to uninsured individuals at a Medicaid cost. Youth Service Bureau supports case plans, drug screens and counseling for at-risk youth who are receiving behavioral health services at the Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany. STOPS provides support to groups and services to families of suicide victims. VOA - Crisis Response provides support to law enforcement by providing mental health assessments and support to individuals in crisis along with their families.

In 2008, two coalitions were formed to address the predominant social issues: “St. Tammany Behavioral Health Task Force” and “St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance.” These two groups have become excellent planning tools for service coordination for mental health, homelessness, and housing needs in St. Tammany. Mental health and housing/homelessness have become the most important and visible needs of our community; the Alliance and Task Forces have played a role in ensuring that service gaps are identified and that efforts made to address those gaps are non-duplicative and coordinated.

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

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

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction

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

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

#### Other CDBG Requirements

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities   | 0       |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. | 100.00% |