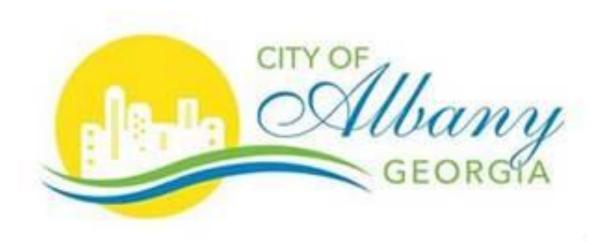
## City of Albany, Georgia



# FY 2020-2021 CAPER

Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report

Reporting Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 Submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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#### **Executive Summary**

The City of Albany, GA seeks to submit its Fifth Year Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) of the 2016-2021 Consolidated Plan to report program activities from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. As a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Funds, annually by September 30th, the city required to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a CAPER as an end-of-year report review. The program year 2020-2021 CAPER will be submitted electronically to HUD vis the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS).

The CAPER's primary purpose of this year's report is to summarize and measure the performance activities funded by the City of Albany during program year 2020-2021 against the goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2016-2021). The Consolidated Plan presents the City's strategy for using federal funds to meet identified housing and community development needs and serves as a guide for providing funding un the following HUD entitlement grant programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME).

During the Development of the Consolidated Plan, a number of priority needs were identified. The City's nine priority needs, all ranked as high priorities are:

- 1. Neighborhood Revitalization
- 2. Maintain Affordable Housing Stock
- 3. Increase Access to Affordable Housing
- 4. Support the Needs of Homeless and At-Risk Persons
- 5. Public Services Supporting Low-Income and Special Needs Populations
- 6. Acquire, Develop, or Improve Public Facilities
- 7. Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Choice
- 8. Program Administration and Planning
- 9. Urgent Need/ Emergency Grants/ Subsistence Payments

Measurable progress was made on the majority of the annual goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Minimal delays were encountered by activities enabling services to commence as scheduled. Additionally, any activities that were not completed by June 30, 2021, remain underway and accomplishments will be reported in the 2021-2022 CAPER.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, \_68\_families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are 0 pending applications. According to PR26 CDBG-CV, a total of \$536,635.94 is the unexpended balance, and this funding will be used to partner with local nonprofits in carrying out vital public services to address the priority needs of lowand moderate-income households impacted by COVID-19.

#### The CAPER

- Provided HUD, residents, and taxpayers with a summary of the City of Albany's resource allocation, program achievements, and encumbrances encountered throughout the program year. The report aims to provide HUD with and illuminating perspective from which they can provide feedback, guidance, and technical assistance to the City of Albany to ensure greater performance.
- Informs residents and taxpayers and encourage their participation in DCED's short- and long-term planning, efficient resource allocation, and program implementation now and into the future.
- Provides a self-evaluation of the City's progress made towards reaching priority goals outlined in the 2016-2021 Consolidated Plan and 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan to include key challenges faced throughout the program year and how the City seeks to address these challenges in the future.
- Highlights key accomplishments and objectives achieved during the program year.

The City of Albany received the following funds from HUD for the PY 2020-2021

CBDG: \$890,595 Grant Award and program income was \$673,971.68, totaling \$1,564,566.68

HOME: \$501,964 Grant Award and program income was \$123,468.68, totaling \$625,432.68

The activities undertaken in the PY 2020-2021 are guided by the following HUD National Objectives:

- Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons.
- Elimination of slum and blight; and
- Meeting a particular urgent community need

According to HUD IDIS Report PR 54 with the exception of planning and administration and repayment of the Section 108 Loans, the City expended 100% of its funding on low and

moderate income persons and areas. The City of Albany focused and targeted its federally funded CDBG and HOME activities in its Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) which are defined as areas that contain the City's highest shares of low to moderate-income persons. As such the City sought to focus its funding in these areas to address priority community needs as identified in the 2016-2021 Consolidated Plan.

The city focuses its funding in the strategic planning areas to reduce persons in poverty and improve the quality of life for residents; either directly or indirectly. Programs that directly influence the poverty level include employment training and development, homeless services, public services, rental assistance, and economic development such as microenterprise assistance. Projects that indirectly affect poverty include those that provide improvements to the community and produce affordable housing. The Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas include:

- Enterprise Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 8 and 114)
- South Albany Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 14.03, 15, 106.01, and 106.02 to the city limits)
- East Albany Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 1, 2, 103.02, and 107)

Activities such as TBRA provided affordable, rental housing opportunities outside of the NRSAs.

#### **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Accomplishments**

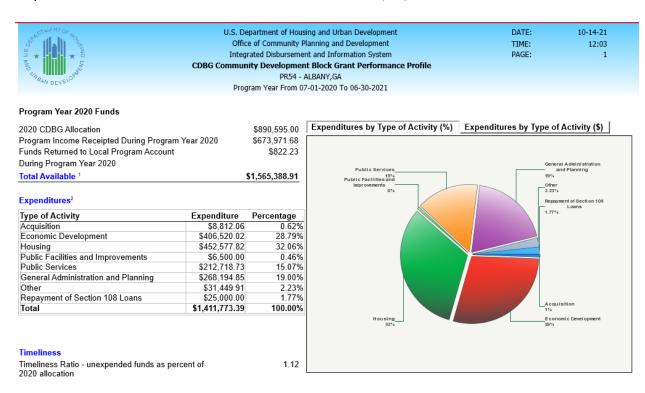
In the fifth year under its 2016-2021 Con Plan, the City made significant progress toward its planned goals and strategies. Program income of \$673,971.68 was added to the City's 2020 CDBG allocation of \$890,595.00 for a total of \$1,564,566.68 in available CDBG Funds. IDIS Report PR26, a total of 1,436,644.17 was expended with use of CDBG entitlement funds and program income. According to PR 50 and PR54, CDBG expenditures included: \$452,577.82 in housing services; \$212,718.73 in public services; 11 businesses/ microenterprise assistance; and repayment of Section 108 Loans. According to the IDIS Report PR26, a total of 100% of the CDBG Funds were used to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The percent of funds obligated for public service activities was 12.86%.

According to PR03, PR 10, PR23, and PR51 accomplishments include:

• <u>2</u> homeowner completed rehabilitations; 7 underway to be completed by 6/30/22.

- <u>36,995</u> persons were educated on Fair Housing Laws through workshops and community events.
- <u>211</u> persons were provided financial literacy/housing counseling through housing counseling services.
- <u>15</u> homeless or persons at-risk of homelessness were served under Rapid Re-Housing Program.
- 66,873 persons were assisted under public services (youth, victims of domestic violence, and others).

According to PR54 and PR56 for 2019, the City's timeliness adjusted ratio of unexpended funds as percent of 2020 allocation was <u>1.12 as</u> of test date 09/23/2021.



### **HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program Accomplishments**

The City's HOME allocation was \$501,964 and program income were estimated as \$123,468.68; thus total HOME funding was \_\$625,432.68. \_\$50,196.40 was used for general administration which included prior year funding. However, the total amount expended was \$183,793. According to PR23, housing disbursements include: A total of \$581,055.14 for Rentals, TBRA and Homebuyer Activities.

Matching requirements associated with the City's HOME program are waived due to the City's qualification as an area of "severe fiscal distress." HUD HOME Match Reducations apply when

the following is applicable: "If a local jurisdiction satisfies both of the distress criteria, it is determined to be in severe fiscal distress and receives a 100% reduction of match."

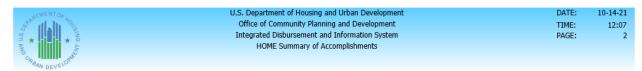
#### **COVID-19 Accomplishments**

#### **Small Business Relief Assistance Program**

According to PR26, the City's CDBG-CV Grant allocation was \$1,032,732.00, from HUD. A total of <u>63</u> businesses were awarded between <u>\$2,500-</u> \$10,000 to assist with operational expenses. Total amount awarded was \$496,096.06 with the City providing a \$350,000 match to the CARES Act funding allocation.

#### **TBRA Program**

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date,  $\underline{68}$  families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are  $\underline{0}$  pending applications.



Program Year: 2020 Start Date 01-Jul-2020 - End Date 30-Jun-2021 ALBANY

#### Home Unit Completions by Percent of Area Median Income

Activity Type						Units Completed
Activity Type	0% - 30%	31% - 50%	51% - 60%	61% - 80%	Total 0% - 60%	Total 0% - 80%
Rentals	0	0	2	2	2	4
TBRA Families	65	20	7	1	92	93
First Time Homebuyers	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total, Rentals and TBRA	65	20	9	3	94	97
Total, Homebuyers and Homeowners	0	0	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	65	20	9	4	94	98

Home Unit Reported As Vacant

Activity Type	Reported as Vacant
Rentals	0
TBRA Families	0
First Time Homebuyers	0
Total, Rentals and TBRA	0
Total, Homebuyers and Homeowners	0
Grand Total	0

#### **Homeless Program Accomplishments**

Since the City is not a recipient of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the CAPER will not reflect data in sections CR-65, CR-70, and CR-75.

#### **HOME Match Requirements**

According to the HUD HOME Match requirement (24 CFR Part 92.222(i) and (ii)) and HUD Report PR33, the City of Albany, Georgia is not required to provide a match for FY 2020-2021. As such, the tables below regarding HOME Match and HOME Contributions will not display any match data.

The City of Albany recognizes the importance that local and private funding and initiatives of public and private partnerships play in the provision of vital housing and community development services needed within its communities. The City will continue to explore ways to improve program efficiencies, increase the total number of LMI households served, and address priority community needs while lowing programmatic costs.

#### **Impediments to Fair Housing**

Through the City's TBRA Program, residents are able to obtain affordable housing within the City limits, which includes non-LMI areas considered to provide greater opportunities and amenities to residents. The TBRA program's vouchers are a vehicle toward deconcentrating low-and moderate-income households, diminishing the effects of racially concentrated areas of poverty. Fair housing education is held as part of housing counseling, one-on-one, and group workshops.

Based upon impediments identified in the City's 2016-2021 Impediments to Fair Housing, the following are actions undertaken by the City in addressing them.

#### **Impediment 1** – Lack of Fair Housing Education

For 2020-2021, a total of <u>\$4,959.20</u> individuals were educated on fair housing during workshops/trainings to include radio broadcasting.

#### **Impediment 2 –** Cost of Housing Limits Housing Choice

- Developers and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) were solicited to develop affordable housing within Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) and other areas within the City. Due to the pandemic Zero (0) CHDOs projects was completed.
- The City promoted its Affordable Homeownership Program and provided mortgage financing to one (1) low- and moderate-income household.
- Thirty-Seven (37) housing units were rehabilitated to help maintain the existing housing stock for LMI households.
- Eighty-one (81) low-income residents were provided TBRA assistance to maintain affordable and quality housing.
- One (1) housing unit were acquired and rehabilitated for occupancy by LMI persons.

 Financial literacy and one-on-one counseling is provided by two HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agencies within the City. The housing counseling program faced some of the biggest challenges this fiscal year due to COVID-19. Despite the challenges DCED served eighty-one households. One-on-one Pre-Purchase-19, Rental-15, Post Purchase-2 and Default/Loss Mitigation-3 and Group Homebuyer Education-42. Five out of 19 oneon-one purchased a home (26%). The established housing counseling goals were met for FY 2019/2020. (PR03)

#### **Impediment 3** – High Concentration of Low-Income Housing

- The City targets its CDBG and HOME Funds to low-income census tracts within the City to include NRSAs and other low-income neighborhoods.
- De-concentration of LMI households is aided with issuance of Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) vouchers which enables LMI households to reside in non-LMI neighborhoods. A total of \_81\_\_\_ households were provided TBRA rental housing vouchers to be used within the City of Albany limits.

#### COVID -19 Accomplishments wi/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

According to PR26, the City's CDBG-CV Grant allocation was \$1,032,732.00, from HUD. A total of 63 businesses were awarded between \$2,500- \$10,000 to assist with operational expenses. Total amount awarded was \$496,096.06 with the City providing a \$350,000 match to the CARES Act funding allocation.

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, 68 families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are 0 pending applications.

#### **Impediment 4 –** Lack of Accessible/Special Needs Housing

- The City has ten (10) handicapped-accessible rental units were maintained and made available to seniors at Broadway Villas and one (1) rental unit located at Jefferson Place. All of the units are currently occupied.
- Through the City's Rental Program, reasonable accommodations are made to housing units to make them more accessible by disabled persons.

#### **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.

In the fifth year under its 2016-2021 Con Plan, the City made significant progress toward its planned goals and strategies. Program income of \$673,971.68 was added to the City's 2020 CDBG allocation of \$890,595.00 for a total of \$1,564,566.68 in available CDBG Funds. IDIS Report PR26, a total of 1,436,644.17 was expended with use of CDBG entitlement funds and program income. According to PR 50 and PR54, CDBG expenditures included: \$452,577.82 in housing services; \$212,718.73 in public services; 11 businesess/ microenterprise assistance; and repayment of Section 108 Loans. According to the IDIS Report PR26, a total of 100% of the CDBG Funds were used to benefit low and moderate income persons. The percent of funds obligated for public service activies was 12.86%.

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According to PR54 and PR56 for 2019, the City's timeliness adjusted ratio of unexpended funds as percent of 2020 allocation was <u>1.12</u> as of test date 09/23/20210.

#### **HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program Accomplishments**

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#### **COVID-19 Accomplishments**

#### **Small Business Relief Assistance Program**

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#### **TBRA Program**

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date,  $\underline{68}$  families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are  $\underline{0}$  pending applications.

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	P
Acquisition / Disposition of Existing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$5000	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	0	0	
Acquisition / Disposition of Existing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$5000	Other	Other	0	0	
Affordable Rental Housing	Affordable Housing	HOME:	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	250	190	7
Build Community Capacity	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Other	Other	50	41	8
Code Enforcement	Non-Housing Community Development		Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	0	0	

CV-Emergency Grant/Subsistence Payments	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG- CV: \$	Other	Other	50	0	0.
CV-Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG- CV: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	40	488	1,
CV-Small Business Assistance	Business Assistance	CDBG- CV: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	35	63	18
Demolition and Clearance	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	10	0	0.
Direct Financial Assistance	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	25	2	8.
Economic Development	Economic Development	CDBG:	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	25	96	38
Economic Development	Economic Development	CDBG:	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	10	276	2,
Fair Housing Education	Fair Housing	CDBG:	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	375	670	17
Homeless Services	Homeless	CDBG:	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	150	0	0.
Housing Counseling	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	250	233	9:
Loan Servicing	Affordable Housing	CDBG:	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	250	300	12
Loan Servicing	Affordable Housing	CDBG:	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	30	22	7:

Planned Section	Economic	CDBG:	Other	Other	2	2	1
Planning and Administration	Non-Housing Community Development	\$ CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Other	Other	0	0	1
Production of New Housing Units (CHDO)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	3	3
Production of New Housing Units (CHDO)	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	0	0	
Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1	0	0
Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	1	0	0
Public Improvements / Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1	0	0
Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG:	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	978	1
Rehab / Repair of Existing Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	75	20	2
Rehab / Repair of Existing Housing Units	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	75	86	1
Rehabilitation Administration	Affordable Housing	CDBG:	Other	Other	0	53	

E	ection 3 mployment raining	Economic Development	CDBG:	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	100	61	61
Е	ection 3 imployment iraining	Economic Development	CDBG:	Other	Other	0	0	

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.

During the development of the Consolidated Plan, a number of priority needs were identified. The City's nine priority needs, all ranked as high

priorities, are:

- 1. Neighborhood Revitalization
- 2. Maintain Affordable Housing Stock
- 3. Increase Access to Affordable Housing
- 4. Support the Needs of Homeless and At-Risk Persons
- 5. Public Services Supporting Low-Income and Special Needs Populations
- 6. Acquire, Develop, or Improve Public Facilities
- 7. Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Choice
- 8. Program Administration and Planning
- 9. Urgent Need/ Emergency Grants/ Subsistence Payments

Measurable progress was made on the majority of the annual goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Minimal delays were encountered by activities enabling services to commence as scheduled. Additionally, any activities that were not completed by June 30, 2021 remain underway and accomplishments will be reported in the 2021-2022 CAPER.

COVID-19 Accomplishements w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being <u>\$2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications. According to PR26 CDBG-CV, a total of <u>\$536,635.94</u> is the unexpended balance, and this funding will be used to partner with local nonprofits in carrying out vital public services to address the priority needs of low and moderate income households impacted by COVID-19.

# 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	202	3
Black or African American	1,522	92
Asian	0	0
American Indian or American Native	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Total	1,724	95
Hispanic	102	3
Not Hispanic	1,724	95

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

#### **Narrative**

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

The total number of households assisted by racial and ethnic composition for FY 2020-2021 according to HUD Report PR23 for both CDBG and HOME is above. This includes housing and non-housing services.

#### 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	1,316,856	1,436,644
HOME	public - federal	646,144	183,793

**Table 3 - Resources Made Available** 

#### **Narrative**

The table above provides a comparison between expected amounts of funds available from each resource to the amount actually expended in the program year. Affordable housing projects are often initiated during one program year but span multiple reporting periods, thus not all funds made available in a program year will be expended during that same year. By extension, total expenditures may exceed the amount of new resources made available due to the expenditure of funds received in prior program years. Also, resources made available may not include funding made available through substantial amendment of the Annual Action Plan, which may also result in the total amount expended being greater than the total amount of resources made available by the award for a program year.

COVID-19 Accomplishements w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

The City was awarded \$1,032,732 as CARES, Round 1 Funding, and funding was used to undertake programs such as a Small Business Relief Assistance Program and provide TBRA-CV and public services to low and moderate income persons.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
			No activities were
			accomplished in East Albany
East Albany NRSA	40	0	NRSA
ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY			Approximately six activities
NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGY			were projects located within
AREA	30	1	the Enterprise NRSA.
			Approximatly ten activites
SOUTH ALBANY URBAN			were projected in South
REDEVELOPMENT AREA	30	4	Albany URA

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

#### **Narrative**

According to the HUD IDIS Report PR54, with the exception of planning and administration and repayment of the Section 108 Loans, the City expended 17.62% of its funding on low and moderate income persons and areas. The City of Albany focused and targeted its federally funded CDBG and HOME activities in its Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) which are defined areas that contain the City's highest shares of low to moderate-income persons. As such, the City sought to focus its funding in these areas to address priority community needs as identified in the 2016-2021 Consolidated Plan.

The City focuses its funding in these strategic planning areas to reduce persons in poverty and improve the quality of life for residents; either directly or indirectly. Programs that directly influence the poverty level include employment training and development, homeless services, public services, rental assistance, and economic development such as microenterprise assistance. Projects that indirectly affect poverty include those that provide improvements to the community and produce affordable housing. The Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas include:

- Enterprise Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 8 and 114)
- South Albany Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 14.03, 15, 106.01, and 106.02 to the city limits)
- East Albany Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (composed of Census Tracts 1, 2, 103.02, and 107)

Activities such as TBRA provided affordable, rental housing opportunities outside of the NRSAs.

#### 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.

Fiscal Year Summary — HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	0
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	0
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0

**Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report** 

	Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year									
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contributio n	Cash (non- Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructu re	Site Preparation , Constructio n Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match		
General										
Funds	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	0	0		

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	0	0	0	0		

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	
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Non- Hispanic
Contracts						
Dollar						
Amount	600,931	0	0	87,751	0	513,180
Number	9	0	0	3	0	6
<b>Sub-Contra</b>	cts					
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar						
Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprise s	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar						
Amount	450,891	450,891	0			
Number	3	3	0			
<b>Sub-Contra</b>	cts					
Number	0	0	0			

**Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises** 

0

**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				
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Non- Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Dollar							
Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0	

**Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property** 

Dollar Amount **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	0	0
Businesses Displaced	0	0
Nonprofit Organizations		
Displaced	0	0
Households Temporarily		
Relocated, not Displaced	0	0

Households	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White
Displaced		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Non- 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	60	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to		
be provided affordable housing units	30	0
Number of Special-Needs households to		
be provided affordable housing units	1	0
Total	91	0

**Table 11 – Number of Households** 

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through		
Rental Assistance	50	81
Number of households supported through		
The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through		
Rehab of Existing Units	10	36
Number of households supported through		
Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	60	117

Table 12 - Number of Households Supported

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

Measurable progress was made on the majority of the annual goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Delays regard construction projects (rehabilitations) as the availability of participating contractors prove to be a barrier. Although several projects were underway, they were not completed as scheduled but will be completed by December 30, 2021 and accomplishments will be reported in the 2021-2022 CAPER. According to PR22 HOME Report,

HOME expenditures were associated with the City have <u>0</u>Rental Rehab Projects, <u>0</u> Acquisition Rental Rehab Projects completed by the City, and <u>0</u> CHDO's. <u>1</u> Acquistion Homebuyer project, <u>9</u>completed Homeowner Rehab Projects, with <u>5</u> underway <u>1</u> homebuyer new construction. The City completed <u>82</u> TBRA Activities and <u>40</u>underway. According to PR23 total households served include: Extremely Low-income HOME Actual <u>4</u>, Low-income HOME Actual <u>85</u>, Moderate-income HOME Actual <u>9</u>, Totaling 98.

Additionally, the City was designated a "hot spot" for the Coronavirus, and a Shelter-in-place Order was issued that impacted service delivery. Although services continued virtually, some activities encountered barriers for several weeks.

COVID-19 Accomplishements w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$<u>2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications.

Despite challenges, the City has significant outcomes with respect to activities as identified within its 2020-2021 Action Plan.

#### Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City's affordable housing outcomes for the 2020-2021 program year are closely aligned with its fifth-year action plan goals contained in the 2016-2021 Consolidated Plan; in most cases, the City met or exceeded its goals. However, two areas where the City will devote extra attention in future annual action plans are the provision of affordable special needs housing in partnership with local nonprofits. With the City being identified as a "hot spot" for the Coronavirus, it received CARES Funding to assist in addressing needs. Outcomes from the City's regular CDBG, HOME, and CARES Funding will aid in meeting deliverables as identified in the Action Plan. Thus, LMI persons will receive vital services and assistance as planned.

#### Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderateincome 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	<b>HOME Actual</b>
Extremely Low-income	29	4
Low-income	131	93
Moderate-income	43	1
Total	203	98

Table 13 - Number of Households Served

#### **Narrative Information**

### 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

The City of Albany made progress to aid in the reduction of homelessness through TBRA and Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-Housing with a state ESG grant allowing the City to serve 15 households through housing vouchers. The total number served was impacted by the shelter in place mandate due to the pandemic. The Albany Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness (ADCTEH), as the primary vehicle for addressing issues of homelessness, spearheads a coalition of local providers in addressing homeless priorities and is responsible for identifying support services and providing referrals to agencies which could assist with the needs of those homeless. The ADCTEH has obtained 501(c) 3 nonprofit status with the State and continues towards completion of identified 10-Year Plan goals:

- ADCTEH should organize around a structure that enables them to raise funds and not merely serve in an advisory role. This goal is ongoing.
- The Public should be engaged through public service announcements, creative
  marketing channels (Brochures, Weekly or Monthly E-Newsletters, Website, YouTube,
  Facebook, Twitter, etc.). The Homeless Coalition has formulated a website for informing
  the general public of activities, services, and events. Additionally, flyers are distributed,
  media advised, and email blasts to inform the community of upcoming homeless
  activities.
- Monthly meetings should involve actions and accountability. Subcommittees and a Planning Committee of the Homeless Coalition were formed to address particular tasks associated with the 10 Year Homeless Plan and homeless activities to ensure active engagement of the members.
- Identify and foster a relationship with all homeless service agencies and faith based institutions by explaining the mission and vision of the Coalition and how synergies can be realized by working together. Service providers of the homeless population meet monthly during the Homeless Coalition to share upcoming agency activities and general information sharing to advise other agencies of homeless services and activities.
- Work with Albany Area Chamber of Commerce's Strive2Thrive Initiative and host "Rise and Shine Breakfast". The breakfast was not held in 2020 due to the pandemic.
- Build on past successes, such as the Homeless Resource Fair, Homeless Summit, and the Place 4 Hope day resource center, additional fairs should explain the Coalition's mission and engage volunteers. An annual homeless event, Project Connect was not held in November 2020 due to the pandemic which impacted Albany/Dougherty

County.

- Create and name an elite group, i.e. (Partners at the Bridge). The goal has not been addressed to date.
- Create "Homeless Resources Guide" that organizations can edit and update online, perhaps through Wikipedia or another open source site. Albany State University (ASU) has created a Resource Guide which identifies contact information and available services of local nonprofits and service providers. Additionally, a pocket-sized resource guide was created for quick access to a list of service providers.

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

Agencies and programs such as the Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, Faith Community Outreach, Liberty House of Albany, Strive to Thrive, HUD VASH, and Open Arms, Inc. provided emergency shelter and transitional housing to homeless persons (to include youth) and homeless families. Housing consists of shelters and scattered site, single-family homes throughout Albany-Dougherty County. Daily services include personal hygiene care, warm meals, clothing, and access to mental health, medical services, and other needed services. As the homeless population increases due to increased poverty, it is essential in meeting the immediate needs of homeless persons and families to transition each into more permanent and stable housing while also providing the necessary resources and services to ensure that stable housing is provided or maintained. Additionally, it is critical that the prevention of homelessness is a primary focus to reduce the continual need for sheltering of homeless persons and families.

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

Agencies and programs such as the Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, Faith Community Outreach, Liberty House of Albany, Strive to Thrive, HUD VASH, and Open Arms, Inc. provided emergency shelter and transitional housing to homeless persons (to include youth) and homeless families. Housing consists of shelters and scattered site, single-family homes throughout Albany-Dougherty County. Daily services include personal hygiene care, warm meals, clothing, and access to mental health, medical services, and other needed services. As

the homeless population increases due to increased poverty, it is essential in meeting the immediate needs of homeless persons and families to transition each into more permanent and stable housing while also providing the necessary resources and services to ensure that stable housing is provided or maintained. Additionally, it is critical that the prevention of homelessness is a primary focus to reduce the continual need for sheltering of homeless persons and families.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are 0 pending applications.

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

Agencies and programs such as the Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, Faith Community Outreach, Liberty House of Albany, Strive to Thrive, HUD VASH, and Open Arms, Inc. provided emergency shelter and transitional housing to homeless persons (to include youth) and homeless families. Housing consists of shelters and scattered site, single-family homes throughout Albany-Dougherty County. Daily services include personal hygiene care, warm meals, clothing, and access to mental health, medical services, and other needed services. As the homeless population increases due to increased poverty, it is essential in meeting the immediate needs of homeless persons and families to transition each into more permanent and stable housing while also providing the necessary resources and services to ensure that stable housing is provided or maintained. Additionally, it is critical that the prevention of homelessness is a primary focus to reduce the continual need for sheltering of homeless persons and families.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$<u>2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications.

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

#### Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Albany Housing Authority (AHA) is an independent entity that provides affordable housing known as public housing for low-income families. The affordable housing program is supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The AHA works with the City of Albany and other agencies to provide affordable housing to the City's low-income residents.

The Albany Housing Authority is responsible for the management of 1,125 public housing units located in six housing complexes. All units managed by the AHA are renter occupied, and virtually all the units are currently occupied. The Albany Housing Authority (AHA) owns and manages 1,085 conventional public housing units and is a partner in a mixed income development that includes an additional 40 public housing units for a total of 1,125 units. During the program year, AHA also managed 61 Section 8 Vouchers. Residents of public housing pay rent based on their income. The bedroom sizes of Albany Housing Authority public housing units range from studio apartments to 4-bedroom apartments. The housing authority's public housing inventory includes: 0.6% studio apartments, 24.9% 1-bedroom apartments, 35.09% 3-bedroom apartments and 6.77% 4-bedroom apartments.

Because of budget cuts from HUD funding for the production of new public housing, AHA has been unable to develop new public housing. Instead, AHA has focused its efforts on the management and rehabilitation of existing public housing units. In August 2020, Hunt Capital Partners, in collaboration with Pennrose Properties, Hunt Development Group, Boulevard Group, and AHA have initiated a Rental Assistance Demonstration project that will include redevelopment of existing housing units to rehabilitate and improve public housing stock through leverage of public and private debt and equity. AHA is in the process of converting its entire public housing portfolio to Project-Based Section 8 housing through RAD over the next several years.

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

The City continues to partner with the Albany Housing Authority. Outreach was made by DCED's housing counselor to AHA residents to inquire on homeownership interests. Residents were provided with housing counseling services to advise particularly on the City's HUD-approved housing counseling program, lease-purchase program, down payment assistance program, and other community resources. Residents of AHA are provided with case management for participants of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. Several residents have initiated housing counseling with one of Albany's HUD-approved housing counseling agencies and will be closer to homeownership in the coming year.

#### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The Albany Housing Authority is designated a "Standard Performer" under the Public Housing Assessment System per the PHA Plan and is not considered a troubled PHA.

#### 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)

The City of Albany provides developer subsidies to reduce housing development costs and encourage development of housing for low- and moderate-income households. Additionally, downpayment assistance is provided to eligible low- and moderate-income families. The Zoning Ordinance permits variances and rezoning requests where feasible and consistent with surrounding land uses to promote affordable housing development.

The City also makes vacant land and vacant single-family homes available from its property inventory via donations or sales at less than Fair Market Value to nonprofits, CHDOs, and developers whose mission is affordable housing development. Over the past year, <u>fourteen (14)</u> City-owned, single-family homes were sold to a nonprofit for rehabilitation and rental to LMI households. These efforts are to assist in removing any potential barriers to affordable housing opportunities for LMI persons.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

According to PR26, the City's CDBG-CV Grant allocation was \$1,032,732.00, from HUD. A total of 63 businesses were awarded between \$2,500- \$10,000 to assist with operational expenses. Total amount awarded was \$496,096.06 with the City providing a \$350,000 match to the CARES Act funding allocation.

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

Underserved households include homeless, elderly, disabled, and very low-income households. The City, in partnership with other agencies, targets these households through administration of its Homeless Program and rental housing Program which primarily houses low-and very low-income residents from these special populations. The Tenant Based Rental Assistance and Rapid Re-housing Programs, in partnerhsip with local nonprofits whose mission is to assist special populations, have been instrumental in providing affordable housing and other valuable community resources and services in meeting underserved needs of very low and low income households. The City and the Albany Housing Authority both provide affordable housing to disabled and elderly persons.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$<u>2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications.

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

The Department of Public Health takes actions to reduce lead-based paint (LBP) hazards in accordance with federal regulations. Approximately 64 percent of housing units in Albany, were built before 1978 when use of lead based paint was banned. With approximately 52 percent of occupied units being rentals, this is a risk factor for lead-based paint exposure for household members. Because of the number of housing units constructed before 1978, the City of Albany Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) continues to educate residents during its application process on health dangers of lead and encourage screening of children for elevated blood-lead levels. As part of the City's Rehabilitation and Minor Repairs Programs, applicants are provided with a LBP brochure to be advised of hazards. LBP tests are conducted on each assisted housing unit by an independent LBP inspector to advise on LBP findings. In the event of positive findings in construction areas, the City encapsulates the area or works towards clearance.

Additionally, the City administers a Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) which provides substantial rehabilitations for homeowners. As part of application intake, applicants of housing repair program are provided with a LBP brochure to be advised of hazards. LBP tests are conducted on each assisted housing unit by an independent LBP inspector to advise on LBP findings. In the event of positive findings in construction areas, the City encapsulates the area or works towards clearance.

According to PR89,  $1\underline{6}$  housing units were inspected for LBP:  $\underline{5}$  required abatement;  $\underline{5}$  lead safe work practices,  $\underline{1}$  visual assessments/paint stabilization; and other actions required by local/state codes.

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

The City is working with its Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Commission, institutions of higher learning, Board of Education, and public and private agencies to spur economic development which will generate employment opportunities for its residents. Through the provision of a skilled labor workforce and increased educational attainment, this attracts businesses to the area. Although prior manufacturing facilities plant closings and lay-offs has only exacerbated poverty conditions within the City over recent years, the City remains ambitious in its efforts to attract businesses of all types to create employment opportunities for its residents and improve the lives of its residents.

The Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program is a manner in which LMI households are

provided with opportunities to reside in safe and affordable housing, gain access to employment and higher learning opportunities, and create savings to aid in reducing household poverty. The provision of this funding has permitted \_81\_\_ homeless households or households at-risk of homelessness with housing and economic empowerment and sustainability. The City partners with Strive2Thrive, Liberty House, and other local nonprofits that provide one-one-one case management services to low income households and affordable housing vouchers to lower poverty.

COVID-19 Accomplishments w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$<u>2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications.

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

The City of Albany, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Director provides supportive direction and guidance to the department in effectively implementing the City's mission and primary objectives. The Director is responsible for developing and maintaining strong supportive relationships with elected officials, community leaders, public and private businesses, board of education, institutions of higher learning, other levels of local, state, and federal government. It is the Director's responsibility to maintain fiscal integrity, to develop strategic partnerships with housing advocates, private and nonprofit organizations, business and community groups and residents, and to exercise visionary and innovative leadership to ensure that the City maintains a leading and proactive position in responding to external environmental factors that impact the future of the organization and its ability to successfully address the City's housing and community development needs.

DCED administers housing, community and economic development programs, as well as public facility programs which require interdepartmental coordination. Many City departments coordinated efforts to provide program delivery of services and projects. DCED contracts with private developers and nonprofit agencies to develop affordable rental and homeownership opportunities and conduct emergency repairs of owner-occupied homes to provide suitable living environments for its residents.

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

To enhance coordination between the public, private housing, health, and social service agencies during the program year, the City coordinates with a variety of nonprofit organizations, including key stakeholders and organizations such as the Albany-Dougherty Homeless Coalition, Aspire Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Services, Salvation Army/A Place for Hope, Liberty House of Albany, Open Arms, Inc., Strive2Thrive, HUD VASH,

Albany Second Chance, Albany Area Primary Health Care, Albany Community Together, Neighborhood Service Center, Southwest Georgia Community Action Council, Flint River Habitat for Humanity, R & M Market Place, SOWEGA Council on Aging, Haven of Hope, Inc., Alma's Baby World, Regional Development Commission, Turner Job Corps, Albany Housing Authority, and institutions of higher learning. In addition, the City maintains working partnerships with the Department of Labor, financial institutions, private community businesses, and public agencies and nonprofits. To better link services to the targeted low to moderate income population, the City also maintains relationships with various organizations, and local, state and federal agencies including but not limited to, the Dougherty County Department of Health and Human Services. The City will continue to work closely with these organizations to overcome gaps and enhance coordination efforts to address critical housing needs within the community and also eliminate fragmented services and service delivery, lack of affordable transportation, and a lack of adequate organizational staffing for public agencies and private organizations.

Over the past year, the City has provided funding to Strive2Thrive for administration of a rental assistance program (TBRA). The agency provides counseling, trainings, and case management services to LMI households and the City provides housing vouchers to eligible participants. Additionally, the City partnered with local nonprofits by providing public service funding to address priority community needs to youth, elderly, special populations, and other LMI persons. Additionally, the City has partnered with United Way and Strive2Thrive to assist with application intake of households impacted by COVID-19 and case management services.

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

Through the City's TBRA Program, residents are able to obtain affordable housing within the City limits, which includes non-LMI areas considered to provide greater opportunities and amenities to residents. The TBRA program's vouchers are a vehicle toward deconcentrating low-and moderate-income households, diminishing the effects of racially concentrated areas of poverty. Fair housing education is held as part of housing counseling, one-on-one, and group workshops.

Based upon impediments identified in the City's 2016-2021 Impediments to Fair Housing, the following are actions undertaken by the City in addressing them.

#### **Impediment 1** – Lack of Fair Housing Education

For 2020-2021, a total of <u>\$4,959.20</u> individuals were educated on fair housing during workshops/trainings to include radio broadcasting.

#### **Impediment 2 –** Cost of Housing Limits Housing Choice

Developers and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) were solicited

to develop affordable housing within Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) and other areas within the City. Due to the pandemic Zero (0) CHDOs projects was completed.

- The City promoted its Affordable Homeownership Program and provided mortgage financing to one (1) low and moderate income household.
- Thirty-Seven (37) housing units were rehabilitated to help maintain the existing housing stock for LMI households.
- Eighty-one (81) low income residents were provided TBRA assistance to maintain affordable and quality housing.
- One (1) housing units were acquired and rehabilitated for occupany by LMI persons.
- Financial literacy and one-on-one counseling is provided by two HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agencies within the City. The housing counseling program faced some of the biggest challenges this fiscal year due to COVID-19. Despite the challenges DCED served eighty-one households. One-on-one Pre-Purchase-19, Rental-15, Post Purchase-2 and Default/Loss Mitigation-3 and Group Homebuyer Education-42. Five out of 19 oneon-one purchased a home (26%). The established housing counseling goals were met for FY 2019/2020. (PR03)

#### **Impediment 3** – High Concentration of Low Income Housing

- The City targets its CDBG and HOME Funds to low income census tracts within the City to include NRSAs and other low-income neighborhoods.
- De-concentration of LMI households is aided with issuance of Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) vouchers which enables LMI households to reside in non-LMI neighborhoods. A total of \_81\_\_\_ households were provided TBRA rental housing vouchers to be used within the City of Albany limits.

#### COVID-19 Accomplishements w/Round 1 and Round 3 Funding

According to PR26, the City's CDBG-CV allocation was \$1,032,732.00, and the City provided a match with General Funds totaling \$350,000. To date, a total of 63 businesses were awarded assistance under the Small Business Relief Assistance Program, and total awards were \$738,872.

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date, <u>68</u> families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$<u>2723</u>. Currently, there are <u>0</u> pending applications.

#### **Impediment 4** – Lack of Accessible/Special Needs Housing

- The City has ten (10) handicapped-accessible rental units were maintained and made available to seniors at Broadway Villas and one (1) rental unit located at Jefferson Place. All of the units are currently occupied.
- Through the City's Rental Program, reasonable accommodations are made to housing

units to make them more accessible by disabled persons.

#### 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

On July 1st of each year, HUD requires that the City have no more than 1.5 times the entitlement in its account by the timeliness test date of May 2nd. The City met this timeliness requirement with a draw ratio of **1.28** as found in the HUD Report PR56. To ensure compliance, as DCED Staff reviews and processes requests for payment, it monitors expenditures and activities prior to processing of payment. Additionally, DCED Staff performs monthly reviews of program expenditures in requesting drawdowns from HUD.

Additionally, DCED Staff monitors monthly for contract compliance, financial management systems and programmatic activity. In order to ensure that subrecipients are able to attain program objectives within established time periods, DCED has developed a system of monitoring. The monitoring system enables the Compliance Staff to determine problems, delays or adverse conditions that may materially affect the subrecipients' ability to complete the work outlined in the contract. Compliance Staff are able to recommend corrective actions or provide technical assistance to the subrecipients to resolve the problem. Monitoring also provides an opportunity for Compliance Staff to share effective and efficient models of program administration for subrecipients to replicate.

The Annual Monitoring Plan establishes policies and procedures for program oversight of subrecipients, activities undertaken by the City, and applies to all written agreements involving private non-profit organizations and written agreements involving the provision of services to low and moderate-income clients. These include projects funded through the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) program, Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP), and the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program. Please see **Appendix 3** for the City's Monitoring Plan.

The City of Albany has a Small Business Service Program to ensure that women, minority, and other businesses are included to the maximum extent possible in solicitation of bids for projects and services. The City of Albany Central Services Department conducts bid solicitation and encourages application by minority and women-owned businesses as the City does not discriminate. All contracts entered into by the City of Albany and bid documents identify

outreach efforts. This is applicable to contracts for all local, state, and federally funded projects within the City of Albany.

Also, collaboration between the University of Georgia (UGA), Small Business Development Center, Albany Community Together (ACT!), Albany State University (ASU), SWGA Regional Development Center, and the Department of Community and Economic Development ensures adequate outreach and marketing to minority and women-owned businesses as these agencies promote small business development for minorities. Collaborations have been forged to better inform entrepreneurs and businesses of bid opportunities, availability of funding, services, and programs. Additionally, the City conducts informative meetings with minority contractors, neighborhood watch groups, and other groups to educate on available resources. Because of the City's marketing efforts, the City has entered into contracts with minorities with use of CDBG Program and HOME Funds.

#### 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.

The City of Albany acknowledges that a well-engaged community is a successful community; finely attuned to its needs for positive development and growth. As part of the evaluation for the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, the CAPER requires feedback from residents regarding performance and measurable deliverables.

#### 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 City of Albany seeks to maximize its financial resources and serve as many LMI persons and households as possible with the HUD funding provided by HUD. Community priorities have been identified within the 5-Year Consolidated Plan which will serve as the basis for allocation of program funding. Efforts will continue in affordable housing development, rehabilitation, and access to decent, safe, sanitary, and lead-free housing. Challenges that combat these efforts include staffing capacity and funding allocated towards activities which impede the City's ability to meet community needs. The City will continue to be good stewards of the funding allocated by HUD and seek partnerships with capable agencies that can administer programs on behalf of the City. The objectives will remain to serve LMI households with areas of highest poverty and LMI individuals to create sustainable communities within the City.

Measurable progress was made on the majority of the five-year goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. With exception to rehabilitation projects, minimal delays were encountered by activities enabling services to commence as planned. Any activities not completed by June 30, 2020 remain underway and accomplishments will be reported in the 2021-2022 CAPER.

While the City was deemed a "hot Spot" for COVID-19 in April 2020, it has provided immediate financial assistance to impacted households with use of CARES, Round 1 and Round 3 Funding. According to PR26, the City's CDBG-CV allocation was \_\$1,032,732.00. The City provided a match with General Funds for the Small Business Relief Assisitance Program totaling \_\$350,000, CDBG-CV allocations were \$1,032,732.00. To date, a total of 63 businesses were awarded assistance under the Small Business Relief Assistance Program, and total awards were \$496,096.06.

Under the TBRA-CV Program to date,  $\underline{68}$  families have been served for an average assistance per family being \$2723. Currently, there are  $\underline{0}$  pending applications.

A total of \$536,635.94 remains unexpended to date.

### 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 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 §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.

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in §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.

The results of HOME Program rental unit inspections can be found as Appendix 4 to this CAPER.

### Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

Per HOME regulations, the City of Albany has developed and adopted affirmative marketing procedures and requirements for rental and homebuyer projects to ensure fair housing is promoted by ensuring outreach to all potentially eligible households, especially those least likely to apply for assistance.

The City of Albany also utilizes a directory of area service agencies to provide referrals for housing assistance throughout the City. The City has educational materials, which are updated on an on-going basis, disseminated at DCED and community events and social service agencies, and are readily displayed in DCED's office lobby. The City also has a community partner who provides information on available housing assistance and services to the Hispanic population.

Subrecipients of the City that are awarded HOME funds are required and to formulate and adhere to the agency's Affirmative Marketing Plan to ensure outreach to those least likely to apply for housing or housing assistance. File documentation of these efforts should be maintained for impending monitorings by the City or HUD. Also, community awareness is strongly encouraged to include dissemination of literature on availability of assistance and contact information at community events, faith-based institutions,

neighborhood meetings, and trainings throughout Albany-Dougherty County.

# 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

HOME program income receipted for the 2020-2021 program year totaled \$\_625,432.68. The primary sources of this program income were HOME note revenue from homeowner, developer, and CHDO loan repayments with the remaining originating from fee income for the City's TBRA program. This program income was used to fund primarily the TBRA program activities and the rehabilitation of previously LMI rental properties.

According to PR22 HOME Report, HOME expenditures were associated with the City have <u>1</u> Rental Rehab Projects, <u>1</u> Acquisition Rental Rehab Projects completed by the City, and <u>0</u> CHDO's. <u>4</u> Acquistion Homebuyer project, <u>3</u>completed Homeowner Rehab Projects, with <u>7</u> underway <u>1</u> homebuyer new construction. The City completed <u>82</u> TBRA Activities and <u>40</u> underway. According to PR23 total households served include: Extremely Low-income HOME Actual <u>4</u>, Low-income HOME Actual <u>85</u>, Moderate-income HOME Actual <u>9</u>, Totaling 98.

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

During the program year, the City of Albany remained committed to the goal of providing decent, safe, and affordable housing and improving the quality of life for its residents. A majority of the housing stock within the strategic planning areas of the City of Albany is aged and classified as being in "deteriorated" condition. As a result, the City continued programs to preserve the existing housing stock through homeowner rehabilitations, first-time homebuyer opportunities, acquisition/rehabilitation for resale, and new construction of affordable housing. These programs increase affordable housing of suitable size and type for very low, low, and moderate-income households.

Additionally, the City's Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) point supported a LIHTC project planned within one of the City's NRSAs – South Albany NRSA. An 80-unit, senior development is being proposed as affordable housing.