

## **Executive Summary**

### **ES-05 Executive Summary - 91.300(c), 91.320(b)**

#### **1. Introduction**

A Consolidated Plan is a strategic document developed by entitlement communities, including the State of Arkansas, in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. The state must prepare and submit both the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to HUD once every five years. Entitlement status enables the State of Arkansas to receive formula grant assistance from HUD for various programs, including Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG); HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME); Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG); Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA); and the National Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

The assessment of needs and intended application of federal resources to address priorities are detailed in the Consolidated Plan for HUD review pertaining to funding provided by CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, HTF, and Competitive or supplemental fund allocations.

HUD Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance), a HUD 424B, and the required certifications are submitted as part of the plan to request federal funding for the State of Arkansas.

The CDBG Program is administered through the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) and AEDC is the lead agency responsible for coordinating the development of the Consolidated Plan. The HOME, ESG, and HTF programs are administered through the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA). The HOPWA program is administered by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). ADFA and ADH work in conjunction with AEDC in developing the Consolidated Plan.

The HOME funds received by ADFA for the state exclude the entitlement cities Fort Smith, Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Pine Bluff, as these cities are responsible for distribution and administration of their own HOME award. HOPWA funds received by ADH for the state exclude the entitlement city of Little Rock, who is responsible for their own HOPWA award. Allocations are based on a formula. The formula is determined using a minimum funding amount for all regions, population base, poverty data, and pro-rata percent. The formal and funding process emphasizes equitable distribution as well as quality projects and programs.

The Arkansas 2025 Annual Action Plan affirms the goals and objectives of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, which relate to major commitments and priorities of the four agencies.

## **2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview**

This Consolidated Plan contains a range of goals, objectives, and outcomes formulated to address needs identified for homelessness, other special needs, affordable housing, non-housing community development, barriers to affordable housing, lead-based paint hazards, institutional structure, and coordination. These objectives include:

- Continue to Plan, Monitor and Administer Entitlement Grant Programs and ensure compliance with Federal Regulations.
- Increase the availability and affordability of supportive services offered to homeless families and individuals in Arkansas.
- Increase the availability and affordability of decent housing and supportive services offered to homeless families and individuals by preventing homelessness.
- Expand Emergency Shelter Facilities, particularly shelters serving homeless families.
- Improve the availability and affordability of decent housing and supportive services through transitional housing.
- Provide homeownership opportunities through Homebuyer Assistance Programs.
- Increase housing supply for homebuyers by supporting the development of new Single-Family Housing.
- Provide Rental Assistance Programs for low- and moderate-income renters.
- Provide funding for Rental Housing Development Programs.
- Preserve Homeowner Occupied Housing through the Rehabilitation of Single-Family Housing.
- Preserve Rental Housing through Rental Rehabilitation Programs.
- Provide Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) Assistance.
- Provide support in conjunction with HOPWA-funded housing assistance.
- Enhance living environment for senior citizens.
- Enhance and support a suitable living environment for the citizens of Arkansas by improving availability, accessibility, and affordability of childcare services.
- Enhance and support a suitable living environment for the citizens of Arkansas by improving availability, accessibility, and affordability of community facilities and improving the availability of affordable fire protection services.
- Enhance and support a suitable living environment for the citizens of Arkansas through improved access to public facilities and public infrastructure.
- Enhance living conditions through the construction of water and sewer systems.
- Improve Economic Opportunities by identifying and funding projects which provide access to new jobs.

These objectives are supported by a collection of associated strategies and performance goals. These strategies seek to work toward meeting the objectives stated, addressing the need for more affordable

housing, housing rehabilitation, public facilities and infrastructure improvements, and public services. Specifics programs and actions can be found in the Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan.

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

The State of Arkansas demonstrated notable achievements in the past 5 years as summarized in its 2020 - 2024 Consolidated Annual Performance Reports (CAPERS), effectively leveraging HUD resources to meet its housing and community development goals. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC), Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA), Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), and Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) collectively administered critical federal programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and HTF. Over the previous five-year period, Arkansas focused on providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, particularly for low- and moderate-income (LMI) populations.

Key accomplishments for the previous 5-year Consolidated Plan period include the construction of 144 new rental housing units, the rehabilitation of 130 units, and the provision of tenant-based rental assistance to 367 households under the HOME program. CDBG funds significantly improved public infrastructure, benefitting over 19,000 residents, and provided essential fire protection services to 9,187 rural Arkansans. The State also exceeded targets in homeless services, with 27,118 individuals benefiting from overnight shelter programs and 1,389 individuals receiving homelessness prevention assistance under the ESG program. HOPWA funds supported 681 households with rental assistance and provided supportive services to 697 individuals.

Despite challenges, such as economic disruptions and the COVID-19 pandemic, Arkansas demonstrated resilience through adaptive measures, including CDBG-CV and ESG-CV funds to address pandemic-related needs. Moving forward, the state plans to build on its successes by enhancing affordable housing programs, expanding economic development initiatives, and improving homeless services infrastructure, ensuring sustained impact and alignment with HUD priorities.

### **4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process**

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

Public comments are attached in the Appendix.

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

Comments will be inserted following the 30-Day Public Comment Period and noted within the Final 2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan.

### **7. Summary**

The Arkansas Economic Development Commission served as the lead agency for the 2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan.

## The Process

### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.300(b)

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

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	Arkansas	Arkansas Economic Development Commission
HOPWA Administrator	Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Health
HOME Administrator	Arkansas	Arkansas Development Finance Authority
ESG Administrator	Arkansas	Arkansas Development Finance Authority
	Arkansas	Arkansas Development Finance Authority

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

#### Narrative

The lead agency for the development of the Consolidated Plan is the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC), with the close support of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, and the Arkansas Department of Health. AEDC has contracted with the consulting firm of J-QUAD Planning Group, LLC. The State and J-QUAD consulted with other agencies including a variety of services providers and the agencies involved in the Balance of State Continuum of Care to address homelessness.

#### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

##### Jean Noble – Plan Coordinator - CDBG Contact

Grants Division Director

Arkansas Economic Development Commission

1 Commerce Way, Suite 601

Little Rock, AR 72202

Ph: 501-682-7389

Fax: 501-682-7499

E-mail: jnoble@arkansasedc.com

**Lori Brockway - HOME, HTF and ESG Contact**

Arkansas Development Finance Authority  
1 Commerce Way, Suite 602  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
Ph: 501-682-3339  
Fax: 501-682-5859  
E-mail: lori.brockway@adfa.arkansas.gov

**Dr. Cinthia Castro - HOPWA Contact**

Ryan White Program Manager  
Infectious Disease Branch  
Arkansas Department of Health  
4815 W. Markham Street, Slot 33  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
Office: 501-661-2862 Fax: 501-280-4877  
Email: cinthia.castro@arkansas.gov

## **PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.200(l) and 91.315(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

The State of Arkansas works with a wide variety of agencies, organizations, and service providers to bring various viewpoints to bear in the identification of local housing and service needs. Ongoing relationships focused on specific needs and targeted meetings designed to bring public input into the Consolidated Plan process are two of the ways that the state utilizes outside organizations in the consultation process. A number of those agencies are listed in the tables that follow, but others were invited and/or participated that were not found in the HUD database. Other organizations participating in the Consolidated Plan forums include: Planning and Economic Development Districts, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Arkansas Rural Water Association, USDA - Rural Development, Communities Unlimited, Arkansas Municipal League, Arkansas County Judges Association, County and City elected and appointed officials, Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, Arkansas Rural Development Commission, Arkansas Economic Development Council, Arkansas State and Congressional legislators, consultants, contractors and businesses.

Cooperation and coordination among the State of Arkansas or lead agencies and all units of general local government are of primary importance to helping the State develop priorities for funding under the Consolidated Plan. Through focus group meetings, surveys, public comment periods, public hearings, and the input of Mayors and County Judges are taken into primary consideration by the State.

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

The state has ongoing relationships with housing providers working on housing development activities. The state also works with public housing authorities to address the housing needs of the state's lowest income households. Through the Continuum of Care (CoC) processes throughout the state, the State of Arkansas maintains relationships with mental health providers, homeless shelter and services providers, and local governmental agencies with specific responsibilities for homeless individuals and families. The state also participates in a variety of other coalitions that seek to address other issues that relate to housing and service needs.

### **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**

State staff work actively with the Balance of State Continuum of Care, the umbrella consortium responsible for the development of the Continuum of Care for smaller communities throughout the

state. Staff participate in regularly scheduled meetings and point-in-time surveys. In the past, the State has provided administrative support to supplement CoC initiatives and distributed Emergency Solutions Grant funding to the various agencies that make up the membership of the Balance of State Continuum of Care.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the state in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS**

The State of Arkansas supports a variety of housing and public service programs operated by entities providing services to the homeless and the special needs population. The efforts of the homeless coalitions, through the CoC process, have provided guidance on the needs of these communities. The process has resulted in a better understanding of the homeless and special needs community and their housing needs, enabling the state to arrive at a set of goals and objectives.

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



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

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - State Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Plan Coordinator
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Plan Coordinator, associated with all section of the plan, Consolidated Plan Board, and other Agency Divisions also consulted on plan, including Community Developers, Economic Developers, and Rural Services Division
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ARKANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Other government - State Grantee Department

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consolidated Plan Board Member, and other Agency Divisions also consulted on plan, including Community Developers, Economic Developers, and Rural Services Division
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consolidated Plan Board Member

5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Health Child Welfare Agency Other government - State
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Previous state agency grant administrator of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Consulted/advised ADFA on the development and continuity of the ESG Program.

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

No specific organizations were intentionally left out of the public participation process.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Balance of State Continuum of Care	The Strategic Plan provides a set of goals for addressing homelessness, with are supported by the Balance of State Continuum of Care and its participating agencies.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Arkansas Broadband Master Plan	Arkansas State Broadband Office	The report addresses the key deliverables required by the contract: assessing available broadband assets in the state; mapping out where the broadband gap exists in the state; calculating the budget needed to bridge the gap; and recommending improvements to the ARC grant program. According to its findings, Arkansas currently has 110,000 underserved households
Arkansas Workforce Assessment	Arkansas Department of Commerce	Data suggests that the greatest challenge facing the state is meeting the most critical in-demand jobs while simultaneously building out the infrastructure for jobs that will become more critical in the next several years.

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

**Describe cooperation and coordination among the State and any units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.315(I))**

The State works closely with cities, counties, and planning districts the state in the development of programs to address housing, homeless, and community development needs and other local issues covered by the Consolidated Plan.

**Narrative (optional):**

## **PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

A Community Needs Survey was developed and distributed throughout the state. This Survey was emailed to numerous members of the public that included: local officials, CoC representatives, housing advocates, developers, Development Districts, and other members of the public and was also placed on the AEDC website.

After receiving survey responses, AEDC analyzed them to identify public priorities across the state and conducted focus group meetings before finalizing the proposed Consolidated Plan. Outreach efforts included meetings with local leaders, youth groups, and various advisory committees, such as the Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Advisory Committee and the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission.

A news release announcing the comment period and public meetings was sent statewide, including to the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Housing Developers, Public Housing Authorities, city and county officials, state agencies, state legislators, and CDBG Grant Administrators.

Public notices were placed in the statewide newspaper, the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. The draft plans were also featured in two locations on the AEDC website. AEDC made additional efforts to increase non-traditional public participation in addition to notification methods used in the past and will continue to develop additional innovative public awareness strategies.

## 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	The State of Arkansas conducted four public focus group and public input meetings on housing and community development issues to allow citizens the opportunity to provide input for the 2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan.	The focus group and input sessions identified a wide range of issues of concern to the attendees regarding social and economic conditions, housing, public policy and awareness of fair housing, banking and mortgage lending issues, special needs housing, and public transportation.	No comments were rejected.	
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community				

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**



## **Needs Assessment**

### **NA-05 Overview**

#### **Needs Assessment Overview**

The needs assessment examines a range of issues related to housing, homelessness, community development, and non-homeless special needs by analyzing census and CHAS data created by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This data quantifies housing problems, such as overcrowding and cost burden, and measures the size of special needs populations, including the elderly, frail elderly, and individuals with HIV/AIDS. As shown in the following analysis, the cost burden (spending more than 30 percent of household income on housing expenses) and extreme cost burden (spending more than 50 percent of household income on housing expenses) significantly affect households in Arkansas, particularly those with lower incomes. While measures of housing conditions (such as lacking complete kitchen or plumbing facilities) do not offer a reliable assessment, they represent the best readily accessible data on the subject. Additional needs are indicated through public housing waitlists and various census and state data sources.



## NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.305 (a,b,c)

### Summary of Housing Needs

The following data provide an analysis of housing problems in Arkansas, including lack of complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, overcrowding (1.01 to 1.5 persons per room), severe overcrowding (more than 1.5 persons per room), cost burden (paying more than 30% of household income on housing expenses), and severe cost burden (paying more than 50% of household income on housing expenses). By far, the most common housing need is related to cost burden, hitting lower income households particularly hard, with over 70 percent of renter households and 57 percent of owner households earning less than 30% of the area median income (AMI) paying more than 50% of their income on housing expenses. For rental households, severe cost burden is the most common housing problem with 25 percent of all renter households earning below 100% of the AMI paying more than 50% of their income on housing expenses, while cost burden is the most common for owner households where 20 percent of all owner households earning below 100% of the AMI paying more than 30% of their income on housing expenses, with severe cost burden not far behind with 16 percent paying more than 50% of their income on housing expenses. The next most pressing housing problem in Arkansas is overcrowding in rental housing, with 5.7 percent living in units with 1.01 to 1.5 persons per room. When comparing overcrowding with the cost burden, the needs observed are not as pressing.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Population	2,958,132	2,977,944	1%
Households	1,137,912	1,147,291	1%
Median Income	\$0.00	\$43,813.00	

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data Source:** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

### Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	138,080	146,650	200,425	116,695	545,440
Small Family Households	42,780	45,240	71,205	45,990	283,290
Large Family Households	8,065	10,490	17,395	10,520	41,120
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	24,045	32,955	48,835	27,550	129,255
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	16,275	28,600	30,040	14,470	46,920
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	25,415	24,275	33,890	19,690	60,095

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Data** 2016-2020 CHAS  
**Source:**

## Housing Needs Summary Tables

### 1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	1,995	1,240	1,565	635	5,435	1,115	1,075	880	555	3,625
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	1,470	1,640	1,490	635	5,235	170	280	620	240	1,310
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	2,925	2,175	3,200	940	9,240	625	1,155	1,975	1,380	5,135
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	48,580	19,300	2,320	305	70,505	23,930	14,110	7,355	1,335	46,730

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	8,925	32,465	27,575	2,995	71,960	8,375	16,555	23,900	9,460	58,290
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	11,150	0	0	0	11,150	7,215	0	0	0	7,215

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	54,970	24,360	8,580	2,520	90,430	25,840	16,615	10,835	3,505	56,795
Having none of four housing problems	21,410	52,120	77,290	38,280	189,100	17,495	53,560	103,720	72,385	247,160

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	11,150	0	0	0	11,150	7,215	0	0	0	7,215

**Table 8 – Housing Problems 2**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

### 3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	23,085	22,460	11,630	57,175	8,870	9,340	12,515	30,725
Large Related	4,330	4,295	2,200	10,825	1,785	2,210	2,850	6,845
Elderly	9,750	10,275	6,075	26,100	15,190	14,665	11,775	41,630
Other	24,930	17,800	11,295	54,025	7,545	5,110	4,670	17,325
Total need by income	62,095	54,830	31,200	148,125	33,390	31,325	31,810	96,525

**Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

### 4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	20,040	7,550	635	28,225	6,670	4,255	2,465	13,390

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Large Related	3,620	800	120	4,540	1,440	685	300	2,425
Elderly	7,040	4,500	1,085	12,625	10,420	6,320	3,300	20,040
Other	21,490	7,245	705	29,440	6,175	2,980	1,355	10,510
Total need by income	52,190	20,095	2,545	74,830	24,705	14,240	7,420	46,365

**Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

## 5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	3,535	3,205	3,465	1,045	11,250	620	1,160	2,055	1,190	5,025
Multiple, unrelated family households	770	375	995	340	2,480	215	290	575	470	1,550
Other, non-family households	205	295	385	190	1,075	25	14	25	20	84
Total need by income	4,510	3,875	4,845	1,575	14,805	860	1,464	2,655	1,680	6,659

**Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2**

### **Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.**

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, there were 351,093 single person households in Arkansas (29.5% of all households), making up 85 percent of all non-family households. Forty-one percent of all single person households were elderly (65 or older). Fifty-six percent of single-person households were homeowners, with 44 percent renters. The median household income for single person households was \$21,156 (men) and \$14,039 (women), accounting for 49.6 percent of the median household income for all households. With single person households comprising almost 84 percent of all non-family households, the "Other" category in the tables above relate directly to single person households, with a small error factor for larger non-family households. The tables show that "Other" households have high percentages experiencing cost burden and severe cost burden.

### **Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.**

Data for quantifying the prevalence of these groups was not available for Arkansas.

### **What are the most common housing problems?**

Housing problems in Arkansas are multifaceted, with affordability and severe cost burdens being primary concerns. According to CHAS data, 295,625 households in the state experience at least one of four housing problems—overcrowding, lack of complete kitchen or plumbing facilities, or a cost burden exceeding 30% of income. Severe housing problems, including a cost burden exceeding 50%, impact 153,295 households, disproportionately affecting renters. The housing cost burden is particularly prevalent among lower-income households, with 75% of those earning less than 30% of the Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) experiencing severe housing problems.

The Arkansas housing market also faces challenges related to supply and demand, as rental vacancy rates remain low while homeownership rates are declining. The Western Arkansas Local Plan notes that while employment opportunities are growing, wages stay significantly below the national average, making it difficult for many households to afford safe and adequate housing. Additionally, the state struggles with an aging housing stock and a shortage of affordable rental units, which exacerbates housing instability for low-income residents.

State and federal funding programs such as CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and HTF are being utilized to address these challenges. The 2025 Annual Action Plan prioritizes increasing affordable housing, preserving existing units, and providing rental assistance to vulnerable populations.

### **Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?**

Low-income renters, particularly those earning less than 30% of the Area Median Family Income (HAMFI), experience the highest rates of severe housing problems, including excessive cost burdens, overcrowding, and substandard living conditions. Renters, in general, face greater affordability challenges than homeowners, with a significant portion spending over 30% or even 50% of their income on housing. Seniors and individuals with disabilities struggle to find affordable, accessible housing, and often require additional supportive services to maintain stable living conditions. Families with children are also disproportionately affected, as they require larger housing units that are often unavailable or unaffordable in lower-cost markets. Additionally, individuals experiencing homelessness, particularly those being discharged from publicly funded institutions or care systems, face extreme housing instability.

**Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance**

Low-income individuals and families who currently have housing but are at risk of entering shelters or becoming unsheltered are living paycheck to paycheck, barely making ends meet. They are often just one paycheck away from homelessness if they experience a sudden job loss or medical emergency that forces a shift in their financial resources. These households encompass various types, including individuals living alone, small families, large families, and the elderly. Some may rely on relatives or friends to double up, thus temporarily avoiding homelessness in technical terms, but these arrangements do not provide long-term solutions to their needs. Extremely low-income households require a wide range of assistance to address those emergency situations that can arise in anyone's life. This support might include job training to help them transition into higher-paying professions, mortgage or rental assistance, medical clinics offering low or no-cost care, rent subsidies, and additional services that help alleviate costs that could disrupt funds allocated for housing.

Previously homeless families and individuals also require these services to reduce the likelihood of returning to homelessness. Transitional housing units, permanent supportive housing, and rent subsidies assist with the housing costs of households coming back from homelessness, while job training programs enhance employment prospects. Other social services may be necessary as circumstances change.

**If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:**



**Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness**

Housing instability is heavily correlated with severe financial burdens, increasing the risk of homelessness. When a household allocates a disproportionate share of its income to housing costs, even minor unexpected expenses can lead to eviction. These unexpected costs might arise from health issues requiring hospitalization or missed work, vehicle breakdowns necessitating repairs or transportation lack, and legal challenges that involve attorney fees or job absences. Households with lower incomes are especially vulnerable to these financial strains, as they typically lack the savings necessary to absorb these costs and mitigate the impact of unforeseen financial demands.

**Discussion**

## NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems - 91.305 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

The 2016 - 2020 CHAS data, compiled from information gathered by the US Census Bureau for HUD, reveals housing problems categorized by income and race/ethnicity. These housing issues include incomplete kitchen or plumbing facilities, cost burdens exceeding 30 percent, and overcrowding (more than one person per room). The tables below display the distribution of one or more problems by race/ethnicity for each of the four lower-income groups: 0 to 30 percent of the area median income, 30 to 50 percent of the area median income, 50 to 80 percent of the area median income, and 80 to 100 percent of the area median income. The discussion following the tables identify disproportionate needs within each income group for specific racial or ethnic groups. The next section will address severe housing problems, including severe overcrowding and extreme cost burdens.

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	102,828	42,181	0
White	62,639	27,478	0
Black / African American	29,823	10,929	0
Asian	833	461	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	814	423	0
Pacific Islander	125	24	0
Hispanic	5,819	1,538	0

**Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	84,455	64,064	0
White	53,689	47,107	0
Black / African American	20,511	10,482	0
Asian	958	390	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	587	424	0
Pacific Islander	367	219	0
Hispanic	6,092	3,764	0

**Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	65,558	142,748	0
White	43,112	104,909	0
Black / African American	12,307	21,817	0
Asian	1,069	1,163	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	554	793	0
Pacific Islander	402	370	0
Hispanic	5,821	10,172	0

**Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

## 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	17,131	102,882	0
White	12,970	77,700	0
Black / African American	2,294	14,197	0
Asian	142	647	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	64	547	0
Pacific Islander	0	208	0
Hispanic	1,109	7,007	0

**Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

## Discussion

## NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.305(b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

The 2016 - 2020 CHAS data demonstrate housing issues based on income and race/ethnicity. Severe housing problems include inadequate kitchen or plumbing facilities, a cost burden exceeding 50 percent, and extreme overcrowding (more than 1.5 individuals per room). The tables below depict the distribution of severe housing issues across race/ethnicity for four lower income categories: 0 to 30 percent of the area median income, 30 to 50 percent, 50 to 80 percent, and 80 to 100 percent of the area median income. The subsequent discussion will highlight the disproportionately greater needs experienced by specific racial or ethnic groups within each income category.

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	81,292	63,757	0
White	49,280	40,874	0
Black / African American	23,849	16,893	0
Asian	775	519	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	697	546	0
Pacific Islander	125	24	0
Hispanic	4,647	2,712	0

**Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	33,666	114,803	0
White	21,035	79,763	0
Black / African American	7,770	23,202	0
Asian	446	902	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	316	692	0
Pacific Islander	269	311	0
Hispanic	2,874	7,017	0

**Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	18,566	189,668	0
White	11,449	136,598	0
Black / African American	2,779	31,321	0
Asian	428	1,802	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	273	1,067	0
Pacific Islander	338	434	0
Hispanic	2,700	13,316	0

**Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

## 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,281	113,651	0
White	4,352	86,251	0
Black / African American	742	15,752	0
Asian	53	736	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	29	582	0
Pacific Islander	0	208	0
Hispanic	765	7,352	0

**Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI**

Data 2016-2020 CHAS  
Source:

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

## Discussion

## NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.305 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

The 2016 - 2020 CHAS data were used to compare housing cost burden across racial/ethnic groups. Cost burden (30 to 50% of household income going to housing expenses), extreme cost burden (more than 50% of household income going to housing expenses), and no cost burden (less than 30% of household income going to housing expenses) were compared by racial/ethnic group to the city as a whole.

### Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	887,013	146,458	114,626	18,888
White	695,795	98,258	72,476	10,845
Black / African American	106,480	32,071	30,464	5,945
Asian	11,514	1,674	1,371	420
American Indian, Alaska Native	4,522	755	984	233
Pacific Islander	1,738	216	129	20
Hispanic	45,706	9,032	5,948	809

**Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

### Discussion



## **NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.305 (b)(2)**

**Are there any income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?**

Data from CHAS reveals minimal significant disparities in housing needs among racial/ethnic groups in Arkansas, with the exception of the Hispanic population and the smaller Asian, Native American, and Pacific Islander communities. Collectively, these smaller groups comprise less than three percent of Arkansas's total population, indicating that their disproportionately greater needs are limited. For the two predominant racial/ethnic groups, Whites and Black/African Americans, which account for over 86 percent of the state's population, the CHAS data indicate negligible differences. Hispanics are 8% of the total population. Furthermore, the lowest income category, those earning 0-30% of the area median income (AMI), exhibits the highest rates of housing issues and severe housing challenges.

**If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?**

While the data on disproportionate needs do not show significant differences between the White and African American populations, African Americans exhibit much lower incomes, higher rates of poverty and unemployment, larger populations with less than a high school degree, and reside in lower-cost housing units compared to Whites. These data indicate that although they are living in housing units appropriate for their income levels, their overall affluence is considerably lower.

**Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?**

The African American population in Arkansas is less than 16.1%, with some tracts exceeding 98%. Higher concentrations are found in the southern and eastern regions, as well as Little Rock and North Little Rock. Hispanic populations can reach up to 61% in various tracts, particularly in the northwest.

## NA-35 Public Housing – (Optional)

### Introduction

There are over 140 agencies in Arkansas that work with public housing and vouchers to address the needs of low-income residents in the state. These agencies collectively manage more than 11,000 public housing units and nearly 23,000 vouchers. Agencies are funded directly by HUD and the State of Arkansas does not oversee these agencies or the funds they administer. HUD populates the tables below with publicly available information, and the State believes the data to be as accurate as possible given fluctuations in units and vouchers at the local level. The State collaborates with local public housing authorities as needed and upon request to ensure their continued success.

### Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	117	13,029	19,360	130	18,769	152	81	54

**Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type**

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
# Homeless at admission	0	4	34	27	0	19	8	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	6	3,393	2,875	38	2,781	13	2
# of Disabled Families	0	37	3,728	5,983	34	5,737	74	24
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	117	13,029	19,360	130	18,769	152	81
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Race of Residents

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	79	5,944	9,528	102	9,207	67	17	46
Black/African American	0	34	7,009	9,707	26	9,440	84	64	8
Asian	0	3	41	38	2	36	0	0	0

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	26	72	0	71	1	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	9	15	0	15	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition</b>									

**Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Ethnicity of Residents

Program Type									
Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	9	205	242	7	227	5	1	1
Not Hispanic	0	108	12,824	19,118	123	18,542	147	80	53
<b>*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition</b>									

**Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:**

The State of Arkansas does not own or manage any public housing units, nor does it maintain public housing waiting lists.

**What are the number and type of families on the waiting lists for public housing and section 8 tenant-based rental assistance? Based on the information above, and any other information available to the jurisdiction, what are the most immediate needs of residents of public housing and Housing Choice voucher holders?**

The State of Arkansas does not own or manage any public housing units or vouchers, nor does it maintain public housing or voucher waiting lists.

**How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large**

The State of Arkansas does not own or manage any public housing units or vouchers, nor does it maintain public housing or voucher waiting lists.

**Discussion:**

The State of Arkansas does not manage these agencies or the funds which they administer. The State will work with local public housing authorities to the extent necessary and as requested to ensure their continued success.

## NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.305(c)

### Introduction:

The following table presents an estimate of homeless individuals and families categorized in several ways. These figures are drawn from January 24, 2019, Point-in-Time counts for the six continuums in Arkansas. So far, these coalitions have not provided a separate count of homeless individuals or families in rural areas. While it is recognized that there are rural homeless individuals in Arkansas, the data is not included due to insufficient access to that information. Estimates for the annual number of homeless persons, those becoming homeless each year, those exiting homelessness each year, and the duration of homelessness have not been developed. Data from the PIT counts are not categorized in a manner that corresponds with the divisions in the tables below. To the extent possible, these data have been organized to address the data request. Some overlap or omissions may occur. Specific numbers for veterans, chronically homeless individuals and families, and unaccompanied youth were not provided. Individuals in households were not separated into solely adults and adults with children, so in the table, all these numbers are presented as adults with children. The results of the January 2025 homeless count are not currently available.

### Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	32	100	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	1	34	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	1,241	907	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	0	238	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	6	0	0	0	0
Veterans	85	153	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	1	34	0	0	0	0

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons with HIV	10	5	0	0	0	0

**Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment**

**Data Source Comments:** HUD 2019 Continuum of Care

Indicate if the homeless population is:      Has No Rural Homeless

**If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):**

To be discussed in consultation with homeless service providers.

### Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

<b>Race:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
White	789	862
Black or African American	431	471
Asian	3	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	26	10
Pacific Islander	8	16
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
Hispanic	29	31
Not Hispanic	1,273	1,384

Data Source

Comments:

HUD 2024 Continuum of Care

### Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

The HUD 2024 Continuum of Care data show that there were 234 beds dedicated to victims of domestic violence but are not segregated by women alone and women with children. Also, the data does not provide any insight into the familial status of veterans.

### Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

The majority of homeless persons in Arkansas are White, non-Hispanic, reflecting the demographic prevalence of the White population in Arkansas. In 2024 Whites comprised 79 percent of the total population of Arkansas and, as the data above show, represented over 50 percent of the homeless population. African American and Hispanic populations also show percentages reflective of their concentrations in the overall population of Arkansas, though at about twice the percentage. In 2024, African Americans were 16 percent of the total population and Hispanics were 7 percent. The PIT data showed African Americans represented 33 percent of the homeless population.

### Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

The Point-in-time data show that about 52 percent of homeless persons in Arkansas were unsheltered. It is generally assumed by service providers in Arkansas that the majority of unsheltered homeless persons are unsheltered by choice, preferring to live uncontrolled by service providers. These individuals are primarily single, chronic homeless persons, many with substance and/or mental problems.

### Discussion:





## NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment – 91.305 (b,d)

### Introduction

Non-homeless special needs populations include the elderly, frail elderly, persons with physical and developmental disabilities, substance abusers, persons with mental illness, and persons living with HIV/AIDS. These families and individuals are living either with families, in group facilities, or independently. They have a wide variety of needs, many of which are being met without public assistance. In some cases, where parents are caring for disabled children, the future of their independence is at risk.

### HOPWA

<b>Current HOPWA formula use:</b>	
Cumulative cases of AIDS reported	2,975
Area incidence of AIDS	108
Rate per population	98
Number of new cases prior year (3 years of data)	151
Rate per population (3 years of data)	0
<b>Current HIV surveillance data:</b>	
Number of Persons living with HIV (PLWH)	3,765
Area Prevalence (PLWH per population)	124
Number of new HIV cases reported last year	271

Table 27 – HOPWA Data

Data Source Comments: 2022 CDC HIV Surveillance

### HIV Housing Need (HOPWA Grantees Only)

Type of HOPWA Assistance	Estimates of Unmet Need
Tenant based rental assistance	0
Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility	0
Facility Based Housing (Permanent, short-term or transitional)	0

Table 28 – HIV Housing Need

Data Source: HOPWA CAPER and HOPWA Beneficiary Verification Worksheet

### Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Certain populations exhibit a wide range of characteristics, much like the general population. However, a key distinguishing factor for these groups is their heightened risk of homelessness, which stems from

the precarious nature of their living situations. Some individuals rely heavily on others for their care, while others live on fixed incomes and are vulnerable to financial hardships that arise unexpectedly.

Alcohol and drug abuse are defined as the excessive and impairing use of alcohol or other substances. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, approximately 15 percent of adult men and 6 percent of adult women have a drinking problem. When these percentages are applied to the State of Arkansas, it suggests that there are about 356,553 individuals struggling with alcohol abuse, based on the 2023 American Community Survey population figures.

The elderly population, defined as individuals aged sixty-two and older, continues to grow significantly. This demographic has unique lifestyle needs that require various supportive services. The 2023 ACS indicates that Arkansas has a population of 502,251 individuals aged sixty-two and over.

Individuals with physical or developmental disabilities often need specialized facilities and care. They may lack the capacity for self-care and typically rely on a caretaker, often a parent, for daily support. If the parent outlives their child, arrangements must be made to ensure the continued care of the individual. This group can encompass individuals of all ages, races, and ethnicities.

### **What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?**

Housing and supportive service needs of these populations include:

- Group housing,
- Physical rehabilitation and medical care,
- New job training skills,
- Unemployment and the resulting loss of income/ insurance coverage due to inability to perform job functions,
- Extensive medical care and treatment,
- Rehabilitation programs,
- Counseling/ support groups to deal with the problem,
- Addressing unemployment and the resulting loss of income/ insurance coverage due to inability to perform job functions,
- Medical care/prescription medications, straining their already limited income,
- Special transportation needs due to medical and physical condition,
- Mobility assistance in normal daily activities,
- Assistance in meal preparation, housekeeping, and shopping, and
- Physical rehabilitative care due to injury/falls.

These needs were compiled through consultation with service providers.

**Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:**

In 2022, there were 6,740 individuals living with HIV in the state, including 3,765 in stages 0, 1, or 2 and 2,975 in stage 3 (AIDS). The population is predominantly male, making up 77.5% of cases, with males having a prevalence rate of 347 per 100,000 compared to 98.4 per 100,000 for females. Racial disparities are evident, as Black, non-Hispanic individuals represent the largest group with 2,906 cases and a prevalence rate of 622.4 per 100,000, significantly higher than the 134.7 per 100,000 rate for White, non-Hispanic individuals. The Hispanic population has a prevalence rate of 201.1 per 100,000. Most individuals living with HIV are between the ages of 25 and 44, with transmission primarily occurring through male-to-male sexual contact, which accounts for 56.7% of cases, followed by heterosexual contact at 19.8%.

**If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2) (ii))**

**Discussion:**

## **NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs - 91.315 (f)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:**

Key needs include senior centers to support the growing elderly population, childcare centers to assist working families, and public health facilities to improve access to essential healthcare services. Additionally, youth centers and accredited public libraries are required to provide safe, educational spaces for children and the general public. Enhancements in accessibility, such as removing architectural barriers in public buildings, are vital to ensure access for individuals with disabilities. The state also necessitates significant upgrades to water and wastewater infrastructure, along with improvements to streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and storm sewers to enhance public safety and functionality. Flood control and drainage systems are essential to mitigate flooding risks, while new or upgraded community centers will provide versatile spaces for various community activities.

### **How were these needs determined?**

The State surveyed residents and service providers for input on ranking CDBG fund uses. The survey was accessible online and in hard copy at housing focus groups and Consolidated Plan forums. Although not statistically reliable, it effectively incorporated community concerns and preferences. Staff used the survey results and comments from focus groups and forums to complete the ranking process.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:**

The State of Arkansas still requires improvements in public infrastructure. In particular, rural areas need enhancements to water and wastewater facilities, while improvements to streets, roads, and drainage are also a high priority.

### **How were these needs determined?**

The State surveyed residents and service providers for input on ranking CDBG fund uses. The survey was accessible online and in hard copy at housing focus groups and Consolidated Plan forums. Although not statistically reliable, it effectively incorporated community concerns and preferences. Staff used the survey results and comments from focus groups and forums to complete the ranking process. Staff also consulted its list of funded and unfunded projects applied for through its competitive grant cycles, submitted by local government jurisdictions.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:**

Essential public services encompass programs that tackle homelessness through emergency shelters, prevention initiatives, and rapid rehousing assistance. Furthermore, supportive services for individuals living with HIV/AIDS, such as case management, access to healthcare, and housing aid, are crucial for enhancing their quality of life. The state also emphasizes services that support low- and moderate-income families, which include job training, employment assistance, and access to affordable childcare. Mental health services, especially for vulnerable populations like individuals experiencing homelessness or those living with chronic illnesses, are key to fostering long-term stability. Additionally, resources for domestic violence survivors, such as counseling and shelter services, are essential for providing immediate support and encouraging recovery.

### **How were these needs determined?**

The State surveyed residents and service providers for input on ranking CDBG fund uses. The survey was accessible online and in hard copy at housing focus groups and Consolidated Plan forums. Although not statistically reliable, it effectively incorporated community concerns and preferences. Staff used the survey results and comments from focus groups and forums to complete the ranking process.

# Housing Market Analysis

## MA-05 Overview

### Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The local housing market influences the availability and affordability of homes. In Arkansas, the housing market has gradually recovered from the foreclosure crisis of the past decade. With this recovery, housing prices have risen but remain affordable due to the historically low mortgage interest rates currently available. This analysis examines various data from the American Community Survey, the census, over 140 housing authorities statewide, and homeless service providers to present a comprehensive view of the local market.

## MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.310(a)

### Introduction

The housing inventory in Arkansas shows a significant preference for single-family homes, with 60% of housing units being detached single-unit structures. Multi-family housing is also available, with 16% consisting of 2-4 units, 12% in buildings with 5-19 units, and 4% in larger buildings that have twenty or more units. Mobile homes and other non-traditional units account for 3% of the total housing stock, which amounts to 65,809 units overall. When examining the distribution of housing by tenure:

- **Owners:** The majority of owner-occupied units (82%) have three or more bedrooms, indicating a strong market for larger homes. Two-bedroom units account for 15%, while one-bedroom and no-bedroom units make up only 2% and 0.4%, respectively.
- **Renters:** Renters occupy more diverse unit sizes, with 40% in two-bedroom units and 39% in three or more bedrooms. Notably, 17% of rental units are one-bedroom, and 4% are no-bedroom units, reflecting a demand for smaller and more affordable housing options in the rental market.

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	943,595	70%
1-unit, attached structure	21,283	2%
2-4 units	85,019	6%
5-19 units	96,235	7%
20 or more units	36,822	3%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	170,791	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,353,745</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 29 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	2,966	0%	15,127	4%
1 bedroom	13,390	2%	64,956	16%
2 bedrooms	127,790	17%	158,938	40%
3 or more bedrooms	608,487	81%	155,637	39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>752,633</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>394,658</b>	<b>99%</b>

Table 30 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS



**Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.**

Public housing authorities in Arkansas own and operate over 11,000 units of public housing and administer almost 24,000 rent assisted vouchers, most of which are tenant-based. There are over 13,000 assisted apartment units in Arkansas, operating under contract with HUD. The public housing units target households with low- to moderate-incomes, though demand for units among low-income households predominates. Units assisted through contracts with HUD target households with incomes below 80 percent of the area median income.

**Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.**

An examination of HUD's multifamily database shows there are 13,441 subsidized units in Arkansas, either involved in the Section 202/811 program (or having previously been), insured by HUD, or utilizing Section 8 project-based contracts. In recent years, 3,590 units have been involved in subsidy programs, but are no longer listed among currently subsidized units in the database, presumably lost to the affordable housing inventory.

**Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?**

Seventy-one percent of all households in Arkansas reside in single-family detached homes. While this is often considered the ideal in terms of raising a family, the growing senior population may require a reconsideration of what is ideal with respect to housing type. In the coming years, the growing senior population may put more market pressure on smaller apartment units, particularly efficiencies and one-bedroom units, as they look to downsize from the single-family home in which they raised their families. Future development of units designed with retirees in mind and active senior apartment communities may take on a larger presence in the housing market.

**Describe the need for specific types of housing:**

As shown in the Units by Tenure data, the vast majority of occupied households reside in home with three or more bedrooms (64%). While many renter households contain single or couple households with no children, a number of larger renter households are overcrowded, living in smaller rental units, less than three bedrooms. There is a need for more apartment developments with larger units, particularly three or more bedrooms.

**Discussion**

## MA-15 Cost of Housing – 91.310(a)

### Introduction

Housing costs are a major portion of any household's monthly budget. In 2017, the median home value in Arkansas was \$118,500. By 2023, the median value had increased by 48 percent to over \$175,300. Rental costs had similar increases, rising 33 percent from \$527 in 2017 to \$699 in 2023. In Arkansas, almost 64 percent of renter households paid between \$500 and \$999 per month in rent. Just over eight percent of the rental housing stock was affordable to households earning less than 30 percent of the area median income. No homes were priced in a range that would be affordable for a household earning less than 30 percent of the area median income.

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Median Home Value	111,400	118,500	6%
Median Contract Rent	498	527	6%

Table 31 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	195,859	49.6%
\$500-999	176,170	44.6%
\$1,000-1,499	17,605	4.5%
\$1,500-1,999	2,618	0.7%
\$2,000 or more	2,406	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>394,658</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 32 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	29,790	No Data
50% HAMFI	112,475	80,590
80% HAMFI	261,775	200,310
100% HAMFI	No Data	282,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>404,040</b>	<b>563,545</b>

Table 33 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

## Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	0	0	0	0	0
High HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Low HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 34 – Monthly Rent**

Data Source Comments:

## Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

As would be expected, the lowest income households have the least housing stock from which to choose, clearly not enough to meet the needs of the community. With no homes priced at a level affordable for those earning below 30 percent of the area median income, rental properties are their only option. The data show that eight percent of rental units are affordable for those earning less than 30 percent of the area median income. With this limited housing stock, many households are forced to spend more of their income on housing expenses, moving up to higher priced rental housing. This creates a cost burden for those households, requiring that they spend more than 30 percent of their household income on housing expenses. In many cases it creates an extreme cost burden, requiring more than 50 percent of their income for housing.

## How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

With a 48 percent increase in median home value, homeownership is becoming less affordable. As the economy improves, the pressure on homeownership is likely to rise as the housing market recovers from past foreclosures and home prices return to and exceed pre-2008 levels. On the other hand, mortgage interest rates are at historic lows, which make home purchases more affordable than would have been possible in 2010 when rates were higher. Rents, however, rose at a slower pace, 22 percent between 2017 and 2023. Rents are less affordable than in 2023, and the demand for rental housing is most likely higher than in 2017, with former homeowners who lost their homes to foreclosure looking for rental housing instead of looking to buy.

## How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

Given the wide range of markets in Arkansas, fair market rents and high and low HOME rents are not provided and cannot be compared in this analysis.

## Discussion



## MA-20 Condition of Housing – 91.310(a)

### Introduction:

The condition of housing units is closely related to the income of the households residing in those units. In Arkansas, 79 percent of owner-occupied housing units and 56 percent of renter-occupied housing units report no housing problems. Four conditions are identified as housing problems: lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, and cost burden (spending more than 30% of household income on housing expenses). The data indicate that 17 percent of owner households and 40 percent of renter households face at least one housing issue. This issue is likely either a cost burden or having more than one person per room, with the latter being more common in rental housing than in owner-occupied housing. Forty-two percent of owner-occupied and 44 percent of renter-occupied housing was built before 1980, making these units potential sources of lead-based paint contamination. While not all of them will contain lead-based paint, their age suggests that it may have been used previously, posing a potential hazard, especially for households with children present. It is reasonable to assume that many of these households are low-income, as older housing stock typically filters down through income categories to the lowest income levels households.

**Describe the jurisdiction's definition of "standard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation":**

### Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	131,702	18%	158,309	40%
With two selected Conditions	3,698	0%	10,328	3%
With three selected Conditions	493	0%	727	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	616,740	82%	225,294	57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>752,633</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>394,658</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 35 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	178,578	24%	79,201	20%
1980-1999	251,845	33%	138,808	35%
1950-1979	263,000	35%	142,754	36%

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Before 1950	59,210	8%	33,895	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>752,633</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>394,658</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 36 – Year Unit Built**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

### Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	322,210	43%	176,649	45%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	110,535	15%	64,315	16%

**Table 37 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units) 2016-2020 CHAS (Units with Children present)

### Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

**Table 38 - Vacant Units**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

### Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

<TYPE=[text] REPORT\_GUID=[F8DC4D3147433947165558A235C46686]  
PLAN\_SECTION\_ID=[131380100]>

### Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

The data indicate that the number of housing units in Arkansas built prior to 1980, where lead-based paint hazards may potentially be present, comprises 4 percent of all owner-occupied housing and 44 percent of rental housing. Fifteen percent of owner-occupied housing units and 17 percent of rental housing units built before 1980 are inhabited by families with children, totaling over 174,000 housing units. As housing units and neighborhoods age, they generally transition from middle- or moderate-income households to lower-income households. Neighborhoods that were once middle class often become home to lower-income groups as they mature. Typically, with some exceptions, the oldest neighborhoods are where the poorest residents reside. Consequently, it is reasonable to assume that

most of the 174,000 units in Arkansas built before 1980 and occupied by families with children are likely inhabited by low- or moderate-income households.

**Discussion:**

## MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – (Optional)

### Introduction:

There are over 140 agencies in Arkansas working with public housing and vouchers addressing the needs of lower income households.

### Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	111	13,907	21,237	0	4,936	947	912	1,592
# of accessible units			1						
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 39 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Describe the supply of public housing developments:

### Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

The State of Arkansas does not manage these agencies or the funds which they administer. The State will work with local public housing authorities to the extent necessary and as requested to ensure their continued success.

### Describe the Restoration and Revitalization Needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

The State of Arkansas does not manage these agencies or the funds which they administer. The State will work with local public housing authorities to the extent necessary and as requested to ensure their continued success.

### Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:



The State of Arkansas does not manage these agencies or the funds which they administer. The State will work with local public housing authorities to the extent necessary and as requested to ensure their continued success.

**Discussion:**

The State of Arkansas does not manage these agencies or the funds which they administer. The State will work with local public housing authorities to the extent necessary and as requested to ensure their continued success.

## MA-30 Homeless Facilities – 91.310(b)

### Introduction

The data below were drawn from the combined 2024 Homeless Inventory Count from five of the six continuums in Arkansas. In 2024, there were 1,579 emergency shelter beds, 457 transitional housing beds, and 910 permanent housing beds.

### Facilities Targeted to Homeless Persons

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	709	0	141	181	0
Households with Only Adults	856	0	316	413	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	405	0
Veterans	55	0	19	533	0
Unaccompanied Youth	14	0	50	0	0

**Table 40 - Facilities Targeted to Homeless Persons**

**Data Source Comments:** 2019 Homeless Inventory Count

**Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons**

Homeless service providers in Arkansas provide a wide range of housing and services to their clients, including shelters and transitional housing facilities, substance abuse treatment, case management, job training, clothes closets, provide clothing suitable for job interviews, food, and transportation. Delivery of services depends, to some extent, on mainstream services to supplement those offered in-house. These include transportation services, dental care, legal assistance, health and mental health care, job training, and childcare. Some of these services are offered pro bono from caring professionals. Other services require some payment from the client. The availability of services varies by region across the state, with some areas, particularly urban areas, typically better served than more rural areas.

**List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.**

Arkansas provides a range of services and facilities to meet the needs of homeless persons, including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program offers emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, and rapid re-housing assistance, including rental and mortgage emergency payments, utility assistance, and funding for shelter operations, serving approximately 8,000 individuals annually. ESG funds also help shelters operate, supporting around 5,000 individuals each year. Permanent housing projects are prioritized, with the state aiming to fund at least one project within the five-year Consolidated Plan period to provide long-term housing stability. The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program offers short-term rental, mortgage, and utility assistance for seventy-five households, tenant-based rental assistance for sixty households, and fifteen units of transitional housing. Arkansas collaborates with five Continuum of Care (CoC) organizations to provide case management, housing assistance, and maintain the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for effective service coordination. Additionally, the Arkansas Department of Human Services (ADHS) supports expanding emergency shelters, particularly for families, enhancing prevention programs, and assisting nonprofits in securing funds for permanent housing, ensuring comprehensive support for the state's homeless population.

## MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.310(c)

### Introduction

In Arkansas, special needs groups include the elderly, frail elderly, individuals with mental, physical, or developmental disabilities, those with HIV/AIDS, and those facing substance abuse issues. For the non-homeless special needs' population, many individuals currently have their housing and service needs addressed either without any or only limited public assistance. However, circumstances can change, and the more the community prepares for future requirements, the better equipped it will be to meet those needs as they arise occur.

### HOPWA Assistance Baseline Table

Type of HOWA Assistance	Number of Units Designated or Available for People with HIV/AIDS and their families
TBRA	154
PH in facilities	0
STRMU	56
ST or TH facilities	0
PH placement	67

**Table 41 – HOPWA Assistance Baseline**

**Alternate Data Source Name:**

HOPWA CAPER and HOPWA Beneficiary Verification Wor

**Data Source Comments:**

**To the extent information is available, describe the facilities and services that assist persons who are not homeless but who require supportive housing, and programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing**

The supportive housing needs of special needs populations in Arkansas vary by the specific group. In the coming years, the demands of the elderly and frail elderly are expected to rise as the population aged sixty-five and over increases with the aging of the baby boom generation. These needs may include nursing care facilities aimed at lower-income households that cannot afford private nursing home care. Permanent supportive housing options for individuals with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities may also become a critical concern as those with disabilities who were previously cared for by parents lose those caregivers due to death or incapacity. With healthcare systems allowing individuals with disabilities to live longer, many are now outliving their caregivers, which is raising the demand for group housing that provides the necessary care for this population.

**Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing**

**Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)**

The 2025 Annual Action Plan outlines several key housing and supportive services activities for the upcoming year in Arkansas. The state will fund multi-family housing development and reconstruction to improve the affordability and accessibility of rental housing through new construction and rehabilitation for low- and moderate-income households. Homeownership assistance programs will provide down payment and closing cost aid to low- and moderate-income homebuyers, along with construction financing for single-family housing. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) will be offered to very low- to moderate-income households and persons with disabilities, covering rental subsidies and utility deposit assistance. Additionally, the state will administer Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to enhance public facilities, infrastructure, and homeless facilities, benefiting an estimated 7,000 people. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding will support emergency shelters, rapid re-housing, and homeless prevention efforts, serving approximately 8,000 individuals/households through rental and utility assistance. The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program will provide tenant-based rental assistance, short-term housing support, and permanent housing placement for households impacted by HIV/AIDS.

**For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))**

## **MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.310(d)**

### **Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment**

Ensuring access to safe, decent, and affordable housing is among the most significant issues confronting the State of Arkansas, its development partners, and various local jurisdictions. In response to this challenge, the State is offering financial and technical assistance to nonprofit housing developers, collaborating with the private sector to create mixed-income, mixed-use communities, and advocating for the elimination of zoning ordinance barriers that hinder higher density in return for affordable apartments condominiums.

## MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets -91.315(f)

### Introduction

Housing preferences are shaped by a household's ability to meet the financial demands of owning or renting their desired dwelling. The economic health of a community significantly influences that ability through the job market, business activity, and the household's relative position in the economy, which is determined by their education level and employment status. The data below provides insight into where jobs and economic activity in Arkansas create employment opportunities and offer some descriptive considerations of education and employment levels.

### Economic Development Market Analysis

#### Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	15,237	15,278	2	3	1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	75,225	52,482	12	11	-1
Construction	38,857	30,979	6	6	0
Education and Health Care Services	127,650	85,296	20	17	-3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	33,483	21,344	5	4	-1
Information	7,045	3,771	1	1	0
Manufacturing	115,151	103,420	18	21	3
Other Services	17,617	12,348	3	3	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	51,542	41,583	8	8	0
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	92,601	65,210	14	13	-1
Transportation and Warehousing	35,035	34,781	5	7	2
Wholesale Trade	33,076	23,479	5	5	0
Total	642,519	489,971	--	--	--

Table 42- Business Activity

**Data Source:** 2016-2020 ACS (Workers), 2020 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)



## Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	911,024
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	859,747
Unemployment Rate	5.21
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	14.05
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	3.01

**Table 43 - Labor Force**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	163,956
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	24,173
Service	85,520
Sales and office	179,496
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	97,804
Production, transportation and material moving	74,279

**Table 44 – Occupations by Sector**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	550,223	68%
30-59 Minutes	213,467	26%
60 or More Minutes	50,517	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>814,207</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 45 - Travel Time**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

## Education:

### Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	53,380	5,071	58,636

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	236,009	12,730	124,639
Some college or Associate's degree	233,410	10,102	83,246
Bachelor's degree or higher	176,285	3,172	32,225

**Table 46 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	2,345	5,104	8,280	21,506	30,159
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	21,378	18,463	17,705	46,750	40,771
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	63,683	86,996	81,912	205,423	149,334
Some college, no degree	58,849	60,865	56,835	117,739	79,965
Associate's degree	9,832	23,374	25,493	44,370	18,270
Bachelor's degree	10,599	38,933	39,239	67,196	42,345
Graduate or professional degree	655	14,126	19,347	34,655	27,017

**Table 47 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	12,251,268
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	35,441,245
Some college or Associate's degree	34,307,217
Bachelor's degree	28,500,769
Graduate or professional degree	22,985,909

**Table 48 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

**Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within the state?**

The major employment sectors in Arkansas reflect a diverse economy with strong contributions from several key industries. The service-providing sector is the primary driver of employment growth,

particularly in healthcare and education services, projected to expand by 15.93% due to the increasing demand for local education and ambulatory healthcare services. Manufacturing remains a cornerstone of the state's economy, with significant activity in poultry processing, food production, motor and generator manufacturing, and steel production. Trade, transportation, and utilities also play a vital role, which includes warehousing, trucking, and utility services. The professional and business services sector, encompassing technical services, company management, and administrative support, continues to grow. Retail and wholesale trade is bolstered by major employers such as Walmart, Kroger, and Home Depot. Financial services, including banking, insurance, and real estate, are also significant employers, with institutions like Arvest, Simmons Bank, and Bank OZK leading the sector. Additionally, government employment, particularly in education, public services, and healthcare, constitutes a substantial part of the state's economy and workforce.

**Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of business in the state.**

The workforce and infrastructure needs of businesses in Arkansas focus on enhancing skill development, improving connectivity, and fostering public-private partnerships. Workforce development initiatives aim to equip workers with essential skills such as literacy, basic mathematics, problem-solving, and computing, while also addressing sector-specific needs like technical skills for advanced manufacturing, IT proficiency, and clinical expertise in healthcare. The state prioritizes apprenticeships, on-the-job training, and ongoing education through collaborations with training providers and educational institutions.

Infrastructure requirements are being met through the establishment of accessible workforce centers that offer career services, training, and support, including mobile units for rural areas. Furthermore, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) promotes infrastructure improvements through economic development loans, grants, and incentive programs designed to stimulate business growth and ensure a reliable talent pipeline. Working closely with local governments, utility companies, and private businesses is essential to developing infrastructure that supports expanding industries, particularly in manufacturing, logistics, and technology sectors.

**Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.**

Arkansas is undergoing notable economic transformations due to investments from both public and private sectors, which are anticipated to significantly influence job creation and business growth. Key efforts include the establishment of the Ebbing Air National Guard Base in Fort Smith, forecasted to produce over 1,000 defense-related jobs and yield an economic benefit of up to \$1.3 billion each year. Furthermore, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) has sanctioned \$5 million for Bond Guaranty projects, which will lead to over \$47 million in capital spending and the creation of eighty-five jobs.

The state is also concentrating on improving workforce development through initiatives like registered apprenticeship programs, on-the-job training, and collaborations with educational institutions to address the skills gap, especially in fields such as advanced manufacturing, healthcare, and information technology. Infrastructure investments, such as workforce centers and mobile units for rural regions, are being prioritized to support these workforce initiatives.

The expanding defense, manufacturing, and technology sectors underscore the necessity for ongoing investment in workforce training, business support services, and infrastructure enhancements to foster and boost economic growth during the planning phase period.

### **How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the state?**

While middle-skill jobs represent a majority (59%) of the state's labor market, only 48% of the workforce is adequately trained for them.

Roughly six in ten jobs in Arkansas require more than a high school diploma, yet less than half the workforce meets this requirement. This points to a need for increased educational attainment beyond secondary education.

The manufacturing industry in Arkansas, which is a major employer, has a growing need for skilled workers.

The number of graduates in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields has decreased significantly, despite a projected increase in STEM job demand. This indicates a mismatch between educational output and future workforce needs.

Historically, workforce development in Arkansas has focused on trades and entry-level manufacturing roles, which might not be sufficient to meet the broader economic needs.

### **Describe current workforce training initiatives supported by the state. Describe how these efforts will support the state's Consolidated Plan.**

Arkansas is focusing on several key workforce development strategies, including aligning education with industry needs, enhancing training programs, and improving access to resources for job seekers and employers. The state aims to create a more skilled and adaptable workforce to meet the demands of a dynamic labor market.

Key Strategies:

#### **Educational Alignment:**

The state is working to ensure that educational pathways, including career and technical education, are closely aligned with the skills and competencies required by Arkansas industries, particularly in high-demand sectors like aerospace, advanced manufacturing, and energy.

**Training Program Enhancement:**

Existing career and technical education centers are being strengthened, and new programs are being developed in areas like broadband, construction, healthcare, and information technology.

**Employer-Driven Focus:**

The Arkansas Department of Commerce is leading efforts to align business and industry priorities with workforce development initiatives, ensuring that training programs effectively address the needs of employers.

**Resource Access:**

A statewide workforce portal is being developed to connect job seekers with relevant jobs, training opportunities, and support services. This portal will also provide a platform for employers to access information about potential candidates and their skills.

**Strategic Focus Centers:**

The state is investing in regional strategic focus centers to concentrate resources and expertise in key areas.

**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Implementation:**

Arkansas is actively implementing WIOA, which aims to improve job seeker access to training and support services while also helping employers find skilled workers.

**Employer Incentives:**

Arkansas Workforce Connections, a division of the Arkansas Department of Commerce, provides incentives to companies to maintain a skilled and technically trained workforce.

**Mobile Workforce Centers:**

The state utilizes mobile workforce centers to extend access to workforce services and resources to more remote areas of Arkansas, according to the AR Division of Workforce Services.

The Arkansas Workforce Strategy is a comprehensive framework developed by the Arkansas Governor's Workforce Cabinet to improve workforce development in the state. This strategy is designed to be skills-based, customer-centric, responsive, and collaborative. It is supported by the state's Consolidated Plan through various mechanisms and shared goals.

The Arkansas Workforce Strategy aligns with the state's vision to nurture a workforce-friendly environment that develops, attracts, and retains skilled workers.

It supports the objective of creating a talent development system that offers individuals, employers, and communities the opportunity to achieve and sustain economic prosperity.

The Strategy aims to address challenges such as low labor force participation and the need to improve skills to meet the demands of an evolving labor market.

### **Describe any other state efforts to support economic growth.**

Beyond the Arkansas Workforce Strategy, the state government offers a variety of initiatives and programs aimed at fostering economic growth, including:

- **Business Incentives and Credits:** Arkansas provides various tax credits and refunds to encourage businesses to relocate, expand, and create new jobs within the state. Some notable examples include the Advantage Arkansas Income Tax Credit for job creation, the ArkPlus Income Tax Credit for investment, and the Tax Back program offering sales and use tax refunds on eligible purchases.
- **Seed Capital Investments:** The Seed Capital Investment Program (SCIP) provides funding to technology-based enterprises to stimulate innovation and high-wage employment growth.
- **Capital Access Program (CAP):** This program, administered by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA), helps facilitate financing for businesses that may have difficulty obtaining conventional loans.
- **Community Assistance Grant Program (CAGP):** This program provides grants to cities, counties, and non-profit organizations for eligible community and economic development projects, aiming to improve quality of life across the state.
- **Investing in Infrastructure:** Arkansas is investing in projects like expanding rail and interstate highway access and supporting utility upgrades (including broadband) to better facilitate business activity and community development. The Arkansas Department of Transportation has also allocated funds specifically for economic development projects.
- **Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** Initiatives such as the Business & Technology Accelerator Grant and the Innovate Arkansas program aim to foster innovation and support the growth of technology-based businesses.
- **Supporting Existing Industries:** The Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) provides assistance to existing industries to help with their workforce growth, including training programs like Future Fit which connects individuals with high-paying jobs. The state also offers incentives for industries such as biotechnology and motion picture production.
- **Investing in Human Capital:** Alongside workforce training, the state is focused on transforming high school programs to provide career pathways and apprenticeship opportunities, better aligning skills with employer needs.

- **Regional Economic Development Efforts:** Arkansas has organized its economic development initiatives with a focus on addressing specific regional needs while leveraging local assets.

The state's focus on fostering a business-friendly environment has been supported by tax cuts implemented under Governor Sarah Sanders, enhancing Arkansas's competitiveness in attracting talent and investment. Investments in defense, such as the construction at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, are expected to generate over 1,000 new jobs and an annual economic impact of up to \$1.3 billion. These efforts underscore the state's commitment to driving economic prosperity through diverse industry support, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements.

## **Discussion**

Arkansas faces a skills and education gap in its workforce, particularly in middle-skill and advanced credential jobs. Efforts are underway to address this by improving educational attainment, developing structured career pathways, and incentivizing training in high-demand fields like STEM.

Arkansas offers various incentives to encourage business investment, including tax credits for modernization, automation, and corporate headquarters relocation. The state also provides sales and use tax exemptions for data centers and the emerging lithium industry. Reforms to the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the creation of Industrial Development Authorities and Economic Development Districts aim to support entrepreneurs and secure economic development projects. Additionally, the Generating Arkansas Jobs Act is reforming regulations to support strategic investments in energy production.

## **MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion**

### **Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

Washington County, which includes Fayetteville and Springdale, shows significant housing challenges, as does Pulaski County, home to the state capital, Little Rock. Jefferson County, including Pine Bluff, also exhibits high concentrations of housing issues. Along the eastern part of the state, particularly in Crittenden County near Memphis, and the Mississippi Delta region encompassing St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, and Cross Counties, housing problems such as overcrowding, cost burden, and substandard living conditions are prevalent. These areas, highlighted in darker shades on the map, indicate a greater need for housing assistance and targeted intervention strategies.

### **Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

High concentrations of minority populations are evident in counties such as Pulaski (Little Rock), Crittenden, St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, and Desha, particularly in the eastern and southeastern regions, especially in the Mississippi Delta area. Additional areas with significant minority populations include Sevier, Lafayette, and Union counties in the southern part of the state, along with parts of Sebastian County (Fort Smith area) in the west. These regions also tend to have a higher prevalence of low-income families, indicating potential areas for targeted community development and support programs.

### **What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?**

Market characteristics in these areas vary significantly based on their location, whether rural or urban. Regardless of the type, these are mainly lower-income communities, characterized by inadequate housing and families earning below the state median income. Typically, unemployment rates may be high in these communities, and education levels tend to be lower compared to other neighborhoods in the same county or city. Housing prices and median contract rents are generally lower than statewide averages, reflecting poor housing quality. Despite affordable housing, households often face a cost burden due to extremely low incomes.

### **Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?**

Many areas discussed above contain community assets, but conducting a single discussion with communities spread throughout the state would be impossible. Because these areas include both rural and urban regions, a wide variety of community assets can commonly be found, such as parks, community centers, non-profit service providers, transportation networks, colleges and universities, and employment opportunities. However, residents of these areas are less likely to have taken advantage of existing educational and employment opportunities, as reflected in the low-income levels and high poverty rates.



**Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?**

Notably, along the eastern part of the state, including counties such as Phillips, Desha, and Crittenden, there is a clear overlap between Opportunity Zones and high minority populations. Additional Opportunity Zones are evident in southern counties like Union, Ouachita, and Lafayette, which also exhibit significant minority concentrations. In central Arkansas, Pulaski County (Little Rock) has multiple Opportunity Zones within its areas of high minority presence.

## **MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)**

### **Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.**

Broadband connectivity is an essential infrastructure. A high-speed broadband connection enhances healthcare through telemedicine, education by closing the homework gap, workforce development with online training programs, and economic growth via online commerce. The lack of broadband access disproportionately affects low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

Without broadband, these households and neighborhoods struggle to apply for jobs and educational programs that help lift people out of poverty. Paper applications are becoming obsolete. Insurance forms, financial aid applications for universities, and government services increasingly rely on broadband. A high-speed broadband connection is vital for low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

To help bridge the digital divide, Governor Hutchinson is launching the Arkansas Rural Connect (ARC) broadband grant program. The Department of Commerce will distribute \$25 million in grant funds to expand broadband access. The program is set to launch in Spring 2025.

Broadband stakeholders are enthusiastic about the ARC program. The Broadband Office has been collaborating with local officials, including mayors and county judges; economic development districts and local chambers of commerce; broadband providers; and government agencies like the USDA and NTIA. The ARC program and broadband activities in Arkansas have been a frequent topic of discussion over the past year. Some of these events include the Arkansas Municipal League Winter Meeting on February 13, 2025; a joint broadband workshop hosted by the USDA and NTIA on December 9, 2019; a meeting organized by Governor Hutchinson on February 3, 2019; and numerous economic development board meetings.

### **Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.**

Low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods face challenges due to limited broadband competition. In contrast to wealthier neighborhoods that often have various service providers, low- and moderate-income areas frequently rely on just one provider. This lack of market competition stifles the potential for improved service tiers, lower prices, and enhanced customer support. Boosting competition is essential for these households.

As highlighted through stakeholder engagement, the Department of Commerce has gathered diverse testimonials and feedback. A common concern among residents is the presence of only one service

provider, which tends to charge high prices, deliver slow internet speeds, or provide subpar customer service. This situation underscores the importance of encouraging competition when the market can sustain multiple providers to ensure optimal service for consumers.

## **MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.**

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders has acknowledged the impact of climate change on the state, particularly in relation to severe weather events like flooding and tornadoes. While the state has not developed a comprehensive climate change adaptation plan, there's growing recognition of the need to address the issue. The state has experienced increased extreme precipitation events and flooding, with some scientists linking these events to human-caused climate change. </div></div></div>

### **Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.**

Low- and moderate-income households in Arkansas are particularly vulnerable to climate change risks due to a convergence of factors related to climate hazards, housing conditions, and socioeconomic disparities.

#### **Climate Hazards**

**Increased Heat:** Arkansas, including areas like Little Rock, is projected to experience a significant increase in the number of extremely hot days. This poses a direct health risk, especially for vulnerable populations like the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions, who are more likely to be found in low-income households.

**Heavy Precipitation & Flooding:** Arkansas faces very high risks associated with increased precipitation, which can lead to flooding. Low-income households are often disproportionately located in or near floodplains, increasing their exposure to flooding and associated hazards, including water pollution.

**Wildfire Risks:** While drought risk in Arkansas is relatively low, wildfire risk is significant in certain areas like Little Rock, where a large percentage of buildings are potentially affected.

**Ground-level Ozone:** Warmer temperatures can lead to increased formation of ground-level ozone, a component of smog, which can aggravate respiratory conditions like asthma.

#### **Housing Conditions**

**Substandard Housing:** Poor and low-income neighborhoods in Little Rock, for example, tend to have a larger share of substandard housing, which may include issues like inadequate insulation, poor ventilation, and outdated HVAC systems. These conditions exacerbate the effects of heat waves and potentially lead to indoor air quality problems.

Housing Instability: Low-income households often face housing instability, which can have negative health consequences, particularly for children. Climate-related displacement could exacerbate this issue.

### **Socioeconomic Disparities**

Financial Strain: Climate hazards impose significant financial costs and losses, which disproportionately affect vulnerable households. Low-income households may struggle to afford necessary repairs, increased energy costs due to extreme temperatures, or rising insurance premiums.

Limited Adaptive Capacity: Socioeconomic factors can limit the capacity of low-income households to adapt to the impacts of climate change. This includes access to resources like air conditioning, emergency funds, or information about climate preparedness.

### **Analysis and Methods**

The understanding of these vulnerabilities is based on various analyses, including:

- Climate risk assessments: These reports provide data on projected climate hazards, such as increased heat days and flood risks, at regional and local levels.
- Studies on the health and equity impacts of housing: Research in Little Rock has linked substandard housing conditions, disproportionately found in low-income neighborhoods, to various health problems.
- General information on vulnerable populations: The EPA identifies certain populations, including the poor, as being particularly vulnerable to climate change due to existing socioeconomic and health factors.
- Reports on household finances: Analysis of household finances highlights the disproportionate financial strain that climate hazards place on vulnerable households.

In summary, low- and moderate-income households in Arkansas are highly vulnerable to climate change risks due to their increased exposure to hazards like extreme heat and flooding, coupled with pre-existing socioeconomic disadvantages and housing conditions. Addressing these vulnerabilities requires a multifaceted approach that includes improving housing resilience, providing financial assistance, and supporting community adaptation strategies.

# Strategic Plan

## SP-05 Overview

### Strategic Plan Overview

## SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.315(a)(1)

### Geographic Area

Table 49 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	<b>Area Name:</b>	Statewide
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	
	<b>Revital Type:</b>	
	<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
	<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	
	<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	
	<b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b>	
	<b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b>	
	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	
2	<b>Area Name:</b>	Communities Under 3,000
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Rural Development
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	Rural Development
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	
	<b>Revital Type:</b>	
	<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
	<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	
	<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	
	<b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b>	

	<b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b>	
	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	

### **General Allocation Priorities**

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)



## SP-25 Priority Needs – 91.315(a)(2)

### Priority Needs

Table 50 – Priority Needs Summary

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public and Community Facilities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration Rural Development
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Improvements to a variety of public and community facilities statewide.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, applications, and staff analysis.
2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Infrastructure
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Improvements to water and wastewater systems, streets, roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, culverts, and drainage.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, applications and staff analysis.

3	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Parks and Recreation Facilities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Improvements to parks and recreation facilities statewide.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, applications and staff analysis.
4	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Fire Stations, Fire Trucks & Life-Saving Equipment
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration Rural Development
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Construction of fire stations, and the purchase of fire trucks, fire equipment, and life-saving fire-fighting equipment statewide.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, applications, legislation, and staff analysis.
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Demolition and Site Clearance
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra

	<b>Description</b>	Demolition of substandard structures and removal of clutter from vacant lots statewide.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	ADA Modifications
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Persons with Physical Disabilities
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Modifications to buildings and infrastructure for ADA compliance.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
7	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Homeless Facilities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Families with Children Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children veterans Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Shel
	<b>Description</b>	Construction and renovation of homeless facilities.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.

8	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Senior Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Elderly Elderly Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Services provided to senior population
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
9	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Child Care Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Services for children, including after-school care and day care.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
10	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Youth Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Shel
	<b>Description</b>	Services targeted to youth
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
11	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Disability Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Description</b>	Services provided to persons with disabilities.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
12	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Health Services/Substance Abuse
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Services provided to address health issues and substance abuse treatment or counseling.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
13	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	HIV/AIDS Services and Housing Assistance
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Persons with HIV/AIDS Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Services and housing assistance provided to persons living with HIV/AIDS.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.

14	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Meals/Food
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Individuals Families with Children Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Prev Shel
	<b>Description</b>	Services that provide food and meals to lower income households, including food banks, meals on wheels programs, feeding programs, and other food services.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
15	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Transportation
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs

	<b>Description</b>	Transportation services for lower income households to assist with getting to and from health care appointments, jobs, and shopping needs.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
16	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Legal Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Individuals Families with Children
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Services provided to lower income households to help address legal issues.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
17	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Housing Assistance Services - Homeownership
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	



	<b>Description</b>	Programs that provide financial assistance potential homebuyers with down payments and closing costs.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
18	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Housing Repair
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	
	<b>Description</b>	Programs that work with landlords and homeowners to repair existing rental and homeowner housing units.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
19	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Housing Development and Reconstruction
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	CHDO Rent Hsg Rent Rehab

	<b>Description</b>	Development projects that provide newly constructed and rehabilitated housing units, and programs that rebuild homes on lots where a home had recently been demolished.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
20	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Emergency Home Repairs
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	
	<b>Description</b>	Programs that address urgent home repair needs of lower income homeowners.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
21	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Rental Housing Subsidies
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	TBRA Prev HOPWA Hsg Asst
	<b>Description</b>	Programs that provide financial assistance to lower income renters to help make rents affordable.

	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
<b>22</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Industry and Job Creation
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development Other
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Description</b>	Funding for economic development activities that result in the creation of new jobs.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
<b>23</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Job Training and Workforce Development
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development Other
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev Prev
	<b>Description</b>	Programs that provide workers with training in new skills for specific jobs classifications.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
<b>24</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Employment Training
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Programs that provide education to potential employees on expectations in the workforce.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
25	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Business Retention
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development Other
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Description</b>	Economic development activities that work to keep businesses operating and maintain jobs.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
26	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Business Technical Assistance
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development Other
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration

	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Description</b>	Assistance provided to businesses to address specific technical needs and improve their chances of success.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
27	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Individuals Families with Children
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Transportation services to assist homeless persons access other services.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
28	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance
	<b>Priority Level</b>	Low
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Prev HOPWA Hsg Asst HOPWA Sup Svs

	<b>Description</b>	Financial and other assistance to help keep households in their homes and prevent homelessness.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
29	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Mental Health and Supportive Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Rural Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Prev Shel HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Description</b>	Services that address the mental health needs of homeless persons.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.
30	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Domestic Violence Shelters
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Low Victims of Domestic Violence
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra Shel
	<b>Description</b>	Support for shelters that provide refuge for victims of domestic violence.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.

31	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Transitional Housing
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Individuals Families with Children Unaccompanied Youth
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Areas for Individual Benefit and Administration
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Fac/Infra TBRA
	<b>Description</b>	Support for housing options that help homeless persons transition from homelessness to permanent housing.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Priorities were established through an evaluation of community surveys, forum input, and staff analysis.

### Narrative (Optional)

The State conducted a survey of residents through a survey instrument posted on the State's website and hard copy surveys distributed at all Consolidated Plan forums. The results of these surveys were used by State agencies to allocate priorities among the various facilities, infrastructure, service, housing, and economic development needs listed above.

## SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.315(b)

### Influence of Market Conditions

<b>Affordable Housing Type</b>	<b>Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type</b>
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	The use of tenant-based rental assistance is dependent on rental property owner's willingness to rent their units to TBRA clients. In many communities, landlords are reluctant to rent to these clients due to the reputation they have that the clients do not take care of the property as well as other renters do. Other market conditions that could influence the use of TBRA have to do with rents being asked for rental property. If rents are too high, the rental assistance might not be enough to allow clients to lease the units, even if the landlord was willing.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Added to the description of TBRA market characteristics above, non-homeless special needs clients may also encounter housing units that do not meet their accessibility needs. Most housing in any community has not had accessibility improvements that allow persons with mobility issues ease of access. While landlords are obligated to make reasonable accommodations for such renters, many need more accommodations than typical landlords would consider reasonable.
New Unit Production	The production of new housing units is influenced by several market conditions, including the cost of land, the cost of construction, and prevailing interest rates. While rates are currently at historic lows, the mortgage markets are still recovering from the recent mortgage foreclosure crisis and restrictions placed on lending institutions that resulted. In many areas lenders are not making new loans as freely as before and some qualified buyers are finding it difficult to navigate the new mortgage processes that have been instituted. The resulting delays in securing loans can burden housing developers and restrict their activities.
Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation activities can be influenced by the cost of materials and labor. In Arkansas, these costs are relatively low in comparison to other areas of the country. The efficiency of rehabilitation is dependent on the after-rehabilitation value of the home. If the market value of the home does not support the extent of rehabilitation required, it is not worth the effort to repair the home.



<b>Affordable Housing Type</b>	<b>Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type</b>
Acquisition, including preservation	<p>Acquisition, including preservation, can be influenced by the market value of the structure. With home purchases by private individuals, the historic low interest rates offset increases in the market value of the housing stock.</p> <p>Monthly housing costs of higher priced homes at lower interest rates approximate the monthly housing costs of lower priced homes at higher interest rates. In the case of a state agency or non-profit organization buying housing stock for rehabilitation and resale or for preservation, the costs of purchasing a home outright at higher prices can reduce the number of homes that can be purchased or reduce the funds available for rehabilitation activities.</p>

**Table 51 – Influence of Market Conditions**

## **SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.315(a)(4), 91.320(c)(1,2)**

### **Introduction**

## Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	17,644,408	4,500,000	60,000,000	82,144,408	70,577,632	The expected amount for the remainder of Con Plan equals the Year 1 Annual Allocation times four. CDBG resources are provided to units of local government for CDBG-eligible activities. A portion of resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 3% of the total base allocation plus \$100,000 as per 24 CFR 570.489(a). State recipients and sub-recipients may also receive administration funds. Additional funds will be provided by AEDC as match to the CDBG allocation. This amount will fulfill the dollar-for-dollar matching requirement of the CDBG Program.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	9,051,604	5,656,164	7,664,445	22,372,213	111,861,065	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	1,480,511	0	0	1,480,511	5,922,044	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation.Expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 (FY2025) annual allocation times 4.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	2,271,567	0	0	2,271,567	11,357,835	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HTF	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Homebuyer assistance Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	3,001,259	600,000	1,113,380	4,714,639	23,573,195	ADFA will apply for additional allotment in April 2025. Expected amount for year 2 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Table 52 - Anticipated Resources

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

Federal funds will be leveraged through the ability of service organizations to raise program funds through outside sources, other loan sources needed for housing development activities, the present value of forgiven property taxes for properties owned by non-profit housing providers, and the State's General Fund, where appropriate.

**CDBG funds** will be leveraged with other local resources within the General Assistance, Economic Development and Rural Services set asides. CDBG resources are provided to units of local government for CDBG-eligible activities. A portion of resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 3% of the total base allocation plus \$100,000 as per 24 CFR 570.489(a). State recipients and

sub-recipients may also receive administration funds for project delivery costs. Additional funds will be provided by AEDC as match to the CDBG allocation. This amount will fulfill the dollar-for-dollar matching requirement of the CDBG Program.

**ESG provides funding to** Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; help operate these shelters; provide essential services to shelter residents; rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families; and prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.

ESG funds may be used for five components, street outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS as well as administrative activities (up to 7.5% of a recipient's allocation can be used for administrative activities).

**ESG funds may also be used during pandemic circumstances. This will be in accordance with the guidance provided at that time.**

ADFA is required to provide a 100% match for the ESG grant. The requirement is passed on to sub-grant recipients and monitored through the submission of a Match Certification Form with each monthly sub-grant invoice. The first \$100,000 of the State's fiscal year grant is not required to be matched, and the state may pass this exception through to sub-grant recipients who are least capable of providing matching contributions.

**HOME funds**, unless a waiver is granted per Presidential Declaration of National Emergency, will be leveraged with other public and private, discounted or donated local resources. Such resources may be in the form of professional services, cash, land, equipment, appliances, and/or sweat equity, for a required match of 25% of the annual allocation. A portion of the resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 10% of annual allocation. Per 24 CFR 92.207. State recipients and sub-recipients may also receive administration funds.

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

None currently identified. The State will continue to evaluate opportunities to use public lands for future development.

## **Discussion**



The state has programmed more than \$34.3 million from CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF programs for the 2025 program year. These funds will be used to operate a range of private and public services as described later in the Annual Action Plan.

## SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.315(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
ARKANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY	Government	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH		Homelessness Non-homeless special needs public services	State

Table 53 - Institutional Delivery Structure

### Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The institutional delivery system in the State of Arkansas is well coordinated and spans a range of community needs. The State has many years of experience managing and implementing the programs addressed in the Consolidated Plan, as well as working with outside agencies that fulfil some of the needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

### Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
<b>Street Outreach Services</b>			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services			
<b>Supportive Services</b>			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X	X	
Education	X	X	
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X	X	
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	
Transportation	X	X	
<b>Other</b>			

Table 54 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

**Describe the extent to which services targeted to homeless person and persons with HIV and mainstream services, such as health, mental health and employment services are made available to and used by homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families and unaccompanied youth) and persons with HIV within the jurisdiction**

The services targeted for homeless persons and persons with HIV/AIDS and mainstream services are made available through the coordination of services provided by the array of non-profit service providers that constitute the seven continuums of care in Arkansas. These organizations partner with each other, the State, and mainstream service providers to provide a wide-ranging response to the service needs of homeless persons and persons with HIV/AIDS, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth.

**Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above**

The service providers in Arkansas work closely together to provide a continuum of services in response to needs identified through surveys of homeless persons and general observations of the providers. Providers in Arkansas are particularly strong in the areas of mental health services, employment training, and life skills training. Gaps exist in emergency shelter capacity. There are not enough beds on a typical night.

**Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs**

1. Work with non-profit organizations to address community needs and provide support to federal and non-federal funding initiatives.
2. Work with private industry to address important issues that hamper housing and community development efforts.
3. Identify opportunities to create private/public partnerships for project finance and development to leverage federal funds.

## SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.315(a)(4)

### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Admin	2025	2029	Administration	Statewide		CDBG: \$851,835 HOPWA: \$740,260 HOME: \$4,525,802 ESG: \$851,838 HTF: \$1,500,630	Other: 5 Other
2	Eco Dev	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	Statewide	Public Infrastructure Industry and Job Creation Job Training and Workforce Development Employment Training Business Retention Business Technical Assistance	CDBG: \$30,875,000	Jobs created/retained: 1250 Jobs  Businesses assisted: 25 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Fac/Infra	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Statewide	Public and Community Facilities Public Infrastructure Parks and Recreation Facilities Fire Stations, Fire Trucks & Life-Saving Equipment Demolition and Site Clearance ADA Modifications Homeless Facilities Senior Services Child Care Services Youth Services Disability Services Health Services/Substance Abuse Meals/Food Domestic Violence Shelters Transitional Housing	CDBG: \$54,200,380	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 40000 Persons Assisted
4	CHDO	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$6,788,703	Rental units constructed: 45 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing Added: 5 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	TBRA	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Rental Housing Subsidies Transitional Housing	HOME: \$2,214,920	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 155 Households Assisted
6	Rent Hsg	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$22,629,011	Rental units constructed: 175 Household Housing Unit
7	Rent Rehab	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$9,051,604	Rental units rehabilitated: 90 Household Housing Unit
8	Prev	2025	2029	Homeless	Statewide	Child Care Services Health Services/Substance Abuse Meals/Food Transportation Legal Services Rental Housing Subsidies Job Training and Workforce Development Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Mental Health and Supportive Services	ESG: \$3,009,826	Homelessness Prevention: 5000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Shel	2025	2029	Homeless	Statewide	Homeless Facilities Child Care Services Youth Services Health Services/Substance Abuse HIV/AIDS Services and Housing Assistance Meals/Food Transportation Legal Services Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Mental Health and Supportive Services Domestic Violence Shelters	ESG: \$7,496,171	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 5000 Persons Assisted
10	HOPWA Hsg Asst	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Statewide	Rental Housing Subsidies Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance	HOPWA: \$4,441,530	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 1000 Households Assisted



Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
11	HOPWA Sup Svs	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Statewide	Child Care Services Health Services/Substance Abuse HIV/AIDS Services and Housing Assistance Transportation Legal Services Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Mental Health and Supportive Services	HOPWA: \$2,220,765	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 825 Persons Assisted

Table 55 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Admin
	Goal Description	Program Administration: Develop, Administer, revise, implement and evaluate the day-to-day operation of entitlement program. Activities include program design; grant administration, Sub recipient compliance monitoring, program outreach, public relations and training.

<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve economic opportunities through activities aimed at improving the conditions needed for successful business and economic development.
<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Construction, expansion or renovation of public facilities that house vital public services, and public infrastructure improvements.
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	CHDO
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide funding to CHDO organization to develop new affordable housing for low-moderate income persons for homeownership, and providing construction financing for single-family housing, financial mechanisms and improved communication with partners and constituents throughout the state.
<b>5</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	TBRA
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Create decent housing through improved affordability and accessibility by providing rental subsidies and security and utility deposit assistance for very low to moderate-income (less than 60 percent of area median income) households and persons with disabilities.
<b>6</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Rent Hsg
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Create decent housing with improved affordability and accessibility of multifamily and single-family rental housing through the construction of affordable rental housing units.
<b>7</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Rent Rehab
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Preserve decent housing through improved sustainability and affordability of existing multifamily and single-family rental housing stock, through rehabilitation or reconstruction projects for low and moderate-income (less than 80 percent of area median income) households.
<b>8</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Prev
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase the availability and affordability of and supportive services offered to homeless families and individuals by providing Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to projects that focus on the prevention of homelessness, such as averting eviction, foreclosure, and /or utility disconnection, as well as paying deposits and first month's rent.

9	<b>Goal Name</b>	Shel
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the availability and affordability of shelters and supportive services Offered to homeless families and individuals by providing ESG funds to assist shelters and homeless providers to finance their operating cost.
10	<b>Goal Name</b>	HOPWA Hsg Asst
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA); short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance (STRMU); and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) Assistance.
11	<b>Goal Name</b>	HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide support in conjunction with HOPWA-funded housing assistance. Improve access to health care and other supportive services.

**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 91.315(b)(2)**

Affordable housing goals for the 5-year span of the strategic plan include:

- An estimate 5 low/mod income potential homebuying households will be provided homebuying assistance.
- An estimated 45 lower income families will be assisted through the construction of new single-family homes.
- An estimated 155 low-income renters will be provided tenant-based rental assistance, including 20 persons with disabilities.
- An estimated 230 low-income households will be provided new rental housing units.
- An estimated 90 low-income renters will benefit through rental housing rehabilitation.

**SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.315(c)**

**Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)**

N/A The State of Arkansas does not manage public housing units.

**Activities to Increase Resident Involvements**

N/A

**Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?**

N/A

**Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation**

N/A

## **SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.315(h)**

### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

Ensuring access to safe, decent, and affordable housing is among the most significant issues confronting the State of Arkansas, its development partners, and various local jurisdictions. In response to this challenge, the State is offering financial and technical assistance to nonprofit housing developers, collaborating with the private sector to create mixed-income, mixed-use communities, and advocating for the elimination of zoning ordinance barriers that hinder higher density in return for affordable apartments condominiums.

### **Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing**

The State does not have authority over local zoning and development regulations but will support local governments with the removal of barriers as applicable.

- Review options to support local Homeowner Rehabilitation Program,
- Review options for providing support to local down payment assistance programs,
- Advocating for zoning changes to enhance affordable housing development,
- Securing future funding for affordable housing and services,
- Supporting the administration of rental, mortgage, and utility assistance programs
- Evaluating or assessing housing design to determine how lower costs per square foot can be achieved.
- The State will support local jurisdictions in efforts to actively market local homebuyer assistance programs to minority families and individuals.
- Support broadband initiatives to provide access to LMI populations and rural communities.

## **SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.315(d)**

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

One of the homeless goals of the State of Arkansas, as detailed in the Goals section, is to increase the number of persons served at shelter facilities by funding street outreach, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities through the Emergency Solutions Grant, including assessment of needs and case management activities designed to assist homeless individuals and families in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living through shortening the period of time homeless preventing return to homelessness and facilitating access to affordable housing.

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

Another goal of the State is to increase the availability and number of family shelter facilities and shelter services and increase the number of persons served, particularly single parents with children.

**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again.**

The Strategic Plan proposes to provide funding to a variety of agencies that provide services to homeless individuals and families. These services include counseling and case management to help move homeless persons move from homelessness to permanent housing. The State supports the efforts of the six Continua of Care to address homelessness issues through their funding venues.

**Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs**

The State will address homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing through its goal to increase the availability and affordability of supportive services offered to homeless families and individuals by providing Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to projects that focus on the prevention of homelessness, such as averting eviction, foreclosure, and /or utility disconnection, as well as paying deposits and first month's rent.

## **SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.315(i)**

### **Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards**

Goal: Increase the inventory of lead safe housing units.

Strategies:

- Continue to require subgrantees to meet HUD lead-based paint abatement standards in housing rehabilitation programs.
- Expand the stock of lead safe housing units through new housing development initiatives.
- Obtain training for subgrantee program staff on lead hazard evaluation and reduction
- Establish working relationships between subgrantees, lead professionals, and key partners, such as risk assessors and clearance technicians and public health departments.
- Create procedures for subgrantees for determining when it is more cost effective to presume that lead hazard is present and when it makes sense to evaluate a property.

### **How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?**

The effectiveness of the programs operated by the State work through the State funded housing repair programs. These programs target some of the oldest housing stock in the state, which is typically in the worst condition and most likely to have lead-based paint hazards. To the extent that lead-based paint hazards are found in the older housing stock, these programs address the issue directly.

## **SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.315(j)**

### **Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families**

The State has several goals presented in this strategic plan that target poverty, providing a means for reducing poverty through job creation, rental assistance, housing programs, and services to homeless persons. The States economic development objective has a performance goal of five hundred jobs created per year. Rental assistance programs are expected to assist 275 households per year, including forty-five persons with disabilities.

### **How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan**

Activities to reduce the number of poverty-level families will center around strengthening existing collaborations and seeking new ways to partner with agencies and organizations that work directly with poverty-level households to provide intervention and assistance services. Such services may include but are not limited to: counseling, substance abuse, mental health treatment, health services, adult education and job re/training, employment assistance, financial management and credit counseling, parenting programs, after-school and day care assistance programs, and interim cash assistance programs with respect to paying for food, shelter and utility bills.

The State will work with local communities to notify such agencies of funding opportunities to enable them to continue providing and/or expanding their services.

Given the State's limited financial resources and that the majority of factors affecting a family's poverty-level status are typically beyond the control of State policies, the extent to which the proposed strategies will reduce and/or assist in reducing the number of poverty-level families is difficult to gauge. In the coming future, the State will collaborate with the local communities to address deficiencies and attempt to measure the impact of the federally funded programs in reducing and/or preventing poverty.



## **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.330**

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

To ensure that all statutory and regulatory requirements are being met for activities funded with HUD funds, the State agencies use various monitoring standards and procedures.

AEDC is responsible for ensuring that grantees under the CDBG Program carry out projects in accordance with both federal and State of Arkansas statutory and regulatory requirements. In most cases, these requirements are set forth in the grant agreement executed between the State and the Grantee. The State provides maximum feasible delegation of responsibility and authority to grantees under the Program. Whenever possible, deficiencies are rectified through constructive discussion, negotiation, and technical assistance provided by state agencies.

AEDC conducts two basic types of monitoring: off-site monitoring (also known as "desktop monitoring"), and on-site monitoring. AEDC Grants Division staff regularly review each project to verify that it is proceeding in the manner set forth in the grant agreement and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. It is AEDC policy that each project recipient and program is monitored at least twice on an annual basis. A final monitoring of activities and programs is conducted each annual program year. Each individual project will be monitored at least once annually.

Desktop monitoring is an ongoing process in which the Grants Manager, responsible for overseeing the grantee's project, uses all available information to review the grantee's performance in carrying out the approved project. This review process enables AEDC to identify problems requiring immediate attention and to schedule projects for on-site monitoring. Materials used for this review include, but are not limited to: Grant Agreement Amendments; Project Status Reports, Requests for Payment of funds (RFPs); AEDC grant database review; and other supporting documents.

On-site monitoring is a structured review conducted by the Grants Manager at the locations where project activities are being carried out, or where project records are being maintained. One on-site monitoring visit is normally conducted during the course of a project, unless determined by the state that multiple visits are required.

The monitoring review considers all available evidence of whether a project conformed to an approved Program; whether substantial progress toward program goals have been met; compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and continued capacity of the Grantee and Grant Administrator to carry out the project.

Checklists are utilized to ensure that all issues are addressed. AEDC has CDBG specific checklists based

on the types of activities within a given project. The number of times a project is monitored will depend upon the issues that may arise during desktop or on-site monitoring.

## Expected Resources

## **AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.320(c)(1,2)**

### **Introduction**

### **Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services							The expected amount for the remainder of Con Plan equals the Year 1 Annual Allocation times four. CDBG resources are provided to units of local government for CDBG-eligible activities. A portion of resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 3% of the total base allocation plus \$100,000 as per 24 CFR 570.489(a). State recipients and sub-recipients may also receive administration funds. Additional funds will be provided by AEDC as match to the CDBG allocation. This amount will fulfill the
			17,644,408.00	4,500,000.00	60,000,000.00	82,144,408.00	70,577,632.00		

Consolidated Plan

Arkansas

126

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
								dollar-for-dollar matching requirement of the CDBG Program.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	9,051,604.00	5,656,164.00	7,664,445.00	22,372,213.00	111,861,065.00	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	1,480,511.00	0.00	0.00	1,480,511.00	5,922,044.00	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation.Expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 (FY2025) annual allocation times 4.



Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	2,271,567.00	0.00	0.00	2,271,567.00	11,357,835.00	Expected amount for year 1 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HTF	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Homebuyer assistance Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	3,001,259.00	600,000.00	1,113,380.00	4,714,639.00	23,573,195.00	ADFA will apply for additional allotment in April 2025. Expected amount for year 2 of the 5-Year Con Plan annual allocation. The expected amount available for remainder of Con Plan is estimated to be the Year 1 annual allocation times 4.

Table 56 - 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**

Federal funds will be leveraged through the ability of service organizations to raise program funds through outside sources, other loan sources needed for housing development activities, the present value of forgiven property taxes for properties owned by non-profit housing providers, and the State's General Fund, where appropriate.

**CDBG funds** will be leveraged with other local resources within the General Assistance, Economic Development and Rural Services set asides. CDBG resources are provided to units of local government for CDBG-eligible activities. A portion of resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 3% of the total base allocation plus \$100,000 as per 24 CFR 570.489(a). State recipients and

sub-recipients may also receive administration funds for project delivery costs. Additional funds will be provided by AEDC as match to the CDBG allocation. This amount will fulfill the dollar-for-dollar matching requirement of the CDBG Program.

**ESG provides funding to** Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; help operate these shelters; provide essential services to shelter residents; rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families; and prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.

ESG funds may be used for five components, street outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS as well as administrative activities (up to 7.5% of a recipient's allocation can be used for administrative activities).

**ESG funds may also be used during pandemic circumstances. This will be in accordance with the guidance provided at that time.**

ADFA is required to provide a 100% match for the ESG grant. The requirement is passed on to sub-grant recipients and monitored through the submission of a Match Certification Form with each monthly sub-grant invoice. The first \$100,000 of the State's fiscal year grant is not required to be matched, and the state may pass this exception through to sub-grant recipients who are least capable of providing matching contributions.

**HOME funds**, unless a waiver is granted per Presidential Declaration of National Emergency, will be leveraged with other public and private, discounted or donated local resources. Such resources may be in the form of professional services, cash, land, equipment, appliances, and/or sweat equity, for a required match of 25% of the annual allocation. A portion of the resources is reserved for state administration and technical assistance funds that may not exceed 10% of annual allocation. Per 24 CFR 92.207. State recipients and sub-recipients may also receive administration funds.

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

None currently identified. The State will continue to evaluate opportunities to use public lands for future development.

**Discussion**

The state has programmed more than \$34.3 million from CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF programs for the 2025 program year. These funds will be used to operate a range of private and public services as described later in the Annual Action Plan.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives – 91.320(c)(3)&(e)

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Admin	2025	2029	Administration	Statewide		CDBG: \$629,332.00 HOME: \$905,160.00 ESG: \$170,368.00 HTF: \$300,126.00	Other: 1 Other
2	Eco Dev	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	Statewide	Industry and Job Creation Job Training and Workforce Development Employment Training Business Retention Business Technical Assistance	CDBG: \$6,175,000.00	Jobs created/retained: 250 Jobs Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Fac/Infra	2025	2029	Non-Housing Community Development	Statewide Communities Under 3,000	Public and Community Facilities Public Infrastructure Parks and Recreation Facilities Fire Stations, Fire Trucks & Life-Saving Equipment Demolition and Site Clearance ADA Modifications Homeless Facilities Senior Services Child Care Services Youth Services Disability Services Health Services/Substance Abuse Meals/Food	CDBG: \$10,840,076.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 8000 Persons Assisted
4	CHDO	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$1,357,741.00	Rental units constructed: 9 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	TBRA	2025	2029	Affordable Housing		Rental Housing Subsidies Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Transitional Housing	HOME: \$452,580.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 31 Households Assisted
6	Rent Hsg	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$4,525,802.00	Rental units constructed: 35 Household Housing Unit
7	Rent Rehab	2025	2029	Affordable Housing	Statewide	Housing Development and Reconstruction	HOME: \$1,810,321.00	Rental units rehabilitated: 18 Household Housing Unit
8	Prev	2025	2029	Homeless	Statewide	Legal Services Rental Housing Subsidies Employment Training Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Transitional Housing	ESG: \$601,965.00	Homelessness Prevention: 1000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Shel	2025	2029	Homeless	Statewide	Homeless Facilities Child Care Services Health Services/Substance Abuse Meals/Food Legal Services Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Mental Health and Supportive Services Domestic Violence Shelters	HOME: \$1,499,234.00	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1000 Persons Assisted
10	HOPWA Hsg Asst	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Statewide	Rental Housing Subsidies Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance	HOPWA: \$888,306.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 200 Households Assisted



Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
11	HOPWA Sup Svs	2025	2029	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Statewide	Child Care Services Health Services/Substance Abuse HIV/AIDS Services and Housing Assistance Transportation Legal Services Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Mental Health and Supportive Services	HOPWA: \$444,153.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 165 Persons Assisted

**Table 57 – Goals Summary**

## Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Admin
	Goal Description	Program Administration: Develop, Administer, revise, implement and evaluate the day-to-day operation of entitlement program. Activities include program design; grant administration, Sub recipient compliance monitoring, program outreach, public relations and training.

<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve economic opportunities through activities aimed at improving the conditions needed for successful business and economic development.
<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Construction, expansion or renovation of public facilities that house vital public services, and public infrastructure improvements.
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	CHDO
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide funding to CHDO organization to develop new affordable housing for low-moderate income persons for homeownership, and providing construction financing for single-family housing, financial mechanisms and improved communication with partners and constituents throughout the state.
<b>5</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	TBRA
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Create decent housing through improved affordability and accessibility by providing rental subsidies and security and utility deposit assistance for very low to moderate-income (less than 60 percent of area median income) households and persons with disabilities.
<b>6</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Rent Hsg
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Create decent housing with improved affordability and accessibility of multi-family housing and other rental housing through the construction of affordable rental housing units.
<b>7</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Rent Rehab
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Preserve decent housing through improved sustainability and affordability of existing multi-family housing and other rental housing stock through rehabilitation or reconstruction projects for low and moderate-income (less than 80 percent of area median income) households.
<b>8</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Prev
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Increase the availability and affordability of and supportive services offered to homeless families and individuals by providing Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to projects that focus on the prevention of homelessness, such as averting eviction, foreclosure, and /or utility disconnection, as well as paying deposits and first month's rent.

9	<b>Goal Name</b>	Shel
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve the availability and affordability of shelters and supportive services Offered to homeless families and individuals by providing ESG funds to assist shelters and homeless providers to finance their operating cost.
10	<b>Goal Name</b>	HOPWA Hsg Asst
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA); short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance (STRMU); and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) Assistance.
11	<b>Goal Name</b>	HOPWA Sup Svs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide support in conjunction with HOPWA-funded housing assistance. Improve access to health care and other supportive services.

## AP-25 Allocation Priorities – 91.320(d)

### Introduction:

Funding allocation priorities are detailed below by funding source.

ESG Note: The chart below rounds percentages up or down.

The actual percentage amount for ESG Administration is 7.5%. Actual amount for ESG Prevention is 26.5%.

### Funding Allocation Priorities

	Admin (%)	Eco Dev (%)	Fac/Infra (%)	CHDO (%)	TBRA (%)	Rent Hsg (%)	Rent Rehab (%)	Prev (%)	Shel (%)	HOPWA Hsg Asst (%)	HOPWA Sup Svs (%)	Total (%)
CDBG	3	35	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
HOME	10	0	0	15	5	50	20	0	0	0	0	100
HOPWA	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	30	100
ESG	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	66	0	0	100
HTF	10	0	0	0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	100

Table 58 – Funding Allocation Priorities

### Reason for Allocation Priorities

The allocation priorities reflect input from participants in the forums and survey, staff consideration of past allocations, and needs as determined through the Needs Assessment.

### How will the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and specific objectives described in the Consolidated Plan?

The distribution of funds is directly correlated to the specific objectives described in the Consolidated Plan. Each goal of the Strategic Plan is addressed in the funding distribution, as are many, though not all, of the priority needs.

## **AP-30 Methods of Distribution – 91.320(d)&(k)**

### **Introduction:**

CDBG funds will be used for several activities authorized in Section 105(a) of the amended 1974 Housing and Community Development Act that meet national CDBG objectives. Projects are funded in order to meet at least one of three CDBG National Objectives that include: (1) benefit low- and moderate-income persons; (2) prevent or eliminate slums or blight; and (3) meet urgent community development needs. The State annually certifies that not less than 70% of the aggregate funds received during a 3-year period (as identified to HUD) shall be used for activities benefitting low and moderate income (LMI) persons.

CDBG funds are not specifically targeted to areas of minority concentration but are distributed throughout the state's non-entitlement areas targeted for activities that serve LMI persons. Since projects funded with CDBG resources typically provide a community-wide benefit, it can be assumed that minority groups benefit equally in the same proportion as they occur in the general population.

The State Programs set forth within this Method of Distribution of the current CDBG allocation attempt to balance the need for providing jobs and suitable places to live. Funds are reserved in each category based on a percent of the total funds available for distribution to local governments. The State is allowed \$100,000 plus 3% of the State grant for administration and technical assistance in accordance with HUD regulations. The State is also allowed 3% of the program income received by units of general local government (whether retained by the unit of general local government or paid to the State) and funds reallocated by HUD to the State.

To achieve the most effective and efficient use of CDBG funds, AEDC may, at its discretion, use categorical adjustments. A categorical adjustment allows AEDC to reserve up to 25% of the total CDBG allocation for use as needed among categories. An adjustment of more than 25%, or \$4,370,188.75, of the total allocation, or the creation or elimination of a category, will be considered a substantial amendment to the Annual Action Plan and would require further steps as identified within the Citizen Participation Plan section of the Consolidated Plan. Adjustments may be made for remaining balances within a Category within the last 3 months following a 12-month Program Year in order to meet the HUD Timely Distribution requirement which requires the CDBG grant amount for a given Federal Fiscal Year to be distributed within a HUD required 15-month time frame.

For purposes of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan, the overall CDBG Program includes activities within the Community Development Priority Need, and the Economic Development Priority Need.

The state certifies that benefit to low- and moderate-income persons for the three-year periods beginning in 2025 (2023-2025, 2026-2028, 2029-2031) will be equal to or greater than 70% and that no project claiming benefit to low- and moderate-income persons will be approved if the benefit calculated is less than 51%.

Approximately 90% of HOME and 90% NHTF funds, will be allocated to meet the limited housing opportunities priority need as identified in the NA, by addressing the following goals: Affordable Housing, Housing Assistance Homeownership, Housing Development, Rental Housing Subsidies, Rental Housing Development/New Construction/Acquisition Rental Rehabilitation.

All proposed activities budgets will be proportionally increased or decreased from the estimated funding levels to match actual allocation amounts.

A description and details of each State Program will be identified below.

### Distribution Methods

**Table 59 - Distribution Methods by State Program**

<b>1</b>	<b>State Program Name:</b>	CDBG Economic Development Set-Aside
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	HOPWA

<p><b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b></p>	<p>Within the Economic Development Priority Goal, CDBG funds will be utilized for providing communities with resources to assist businesses which expand the State's economic base and which create quality jobs principally benefiting LMI employees and made available under the LMI CDBG National Objective criteria. Eligible activities will generally include: grants or loans to for-profit businesses (through the applicant community) for a variety of business purposes; or public facilities (infrastructure) projects undertaken by applicant communities for economic development purposes, where a benefiting business agrees to locate or expand premised on the infrastructure improvements and agrees to create jobs for LMI persons.</p> <p>AEDC shares the cost of project infrastructure needs by committing grants from state and federal infrastructure funds. The amount of assistance committed is dependent upon the strength of the company, number of jobs, average wage, project investment and costs associated with facility/site improvements.</p> <p>Funds may be used by eligible applicants to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide infrastructure necessary to serve the location of a new or expansion of an existing industry which will create new jobs or retain existing jobs; or</li> <li>2. Provide loans to industry for economic development purposes when it can determine that the provision of such financing is necessary to create new jobs and/or retain existing jobs. Eligible activities for loans include, but are not limited to the following: acquisition, construction, and equipment; or</li> <li>3. Provide funds for the construction of facilities; or</li> </ol> <p>Provide funds for a Commission-approved training program; or undertake any combination of 1 through 4 above, provided that all other requirements can be met.</p>
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<p><b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b></p>	<p>Projects are generally evaluated through a cost benefit analysis process; and for basic eligibility, financial feasibility, appropriateness, and the extent to which the project will result in the creation and/or retention of permanent jobs, primarily for low- and moderate-income persons. The Housing and Community Development Act (HCDA) and HUD's CDBG regulations outline basic project "underwriting" guidelines/standards so that State programs will achieve the federal objectives of the CDBG Program. The underwriting standards used in the Arkansas ED program are designed to address these federal guidelines.</p> <p>Applications for Economic Development funds are invited through a formal referral process with AEDC Business Development Project Managers, after a cost-benefit analysis and project feasibility review. Companies are committed CDBG funds as a cash grant incentive after a review process, and the project is referred to the Grants Division for the formal CDBG application to begin. Applications are reviewed for eligibility and compliance with applicable requirements, including an evaluation of the business plan for appropriateness, feasibility, and credit worthiness.</p> <p>This information provided is a summary. Additional information will be available within the Economic Development Set-Aside Guidelines.</p>
<p><b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b></p>	<p>As noted above within the description of the criteria used to select applications, this information was a summary of the criteria. Complete information regarding the application criteria will be made available within the CDBG Economic Development Application Guidelines. The Guidelines will provide specific details on the Application questions, deadlines for completing applications, threshold requirements, and any other necessary items. This information will be available on the AEDC website at: <a href="http://www.arkansasedc.com/grants">http://www.arkansasedc.com/grants</a>.</p>



<p><b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

	<b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b>	For the 2025 PY, AEDC is considering funding economic development activities/projects with the anticipated \$6,175,000 of funding allocated to this Program. Other activities/projects will be funded from AEDC's CDBG Economic Development State Revolving Loan Fund (SF) and Program Income (PI) generated from NSP 1 and NSP 3 close-out, and the program income transfer to the CDBG Program (approx. \$4 million initial transfer as of July 1, 2025, and \$600,000 throughout the year. There is no limitation on the number of economic development applications and/or active projects which an eligible applicant may have with the Commission except as limited by the requirements defined in the Method of Distribution. Approximately 35% of the 2025 allocation will be used for this category and 100% of any program income received by the Commission, generated from economic development projects or from transferred NSP 1 and 3 loan repayments, will be used to make additional projects through the State Revolving Loan Fund or programmed for Program Income (PI), with up to 3% of that being eligible to be budgeted for State Administration.
	<b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b>	AEDC shares the cost of project infrastructure needs by committing grants from state and federal infrastructure funds. The amount of assistance committed is dependent upon the strength of the company, number of jobs, average wage, project investment and costs associated with facility/site improvements. It is generally expected that CDBG grants will be a minimum of \$75,000, and there is no specific maximum grant size limit, although required to be considered is a company's ability to meet the public benefit standard per job to be created as a result of the grant funding.
	<b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b>	Through the Economic Development Program additional jobs will be created or retained throughout the state which will create additional opportunities for Arkansans, particularly those who are LMI. An estimated 250 people will benefit from these activities through the creation of jobs.
<b>2</b>	<b>State Program Name:</b>	CDBG General Assistance Set-Aside
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	CDBG

<p><b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b></p>	<p>Within the Public and Community Facilities, and Infrastructure Priority Need, CDBG funds will be utilized for public infrastructure and public facility projects. Within this Program, CDBG funds will be utilized for and will generally be made available under the LMI Area Benefit or LMI Limited Clientele or Presumed Benefit National Objective measures. Funds are awarded for: residential water and wastewater; senior centers; child care centers; public health facilities; youth centers; accredited public libraries; removal of architectural barriers from city halls or county courthouses for accessibility; street, curb, gutter, sidewalk, or storm sewer; flood control and drainage; and, other public facility or infrastructure project determined to be a high priority, and not eligible to be funded under another CDBG program. For more information see Application Guidelines, posted online at <a href="http://arkansasedc.com/grants">http://arkansasedc.com/grants</a>.</p>
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<p><b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b></p>	<p>The Method of Distribution section of the Application Guidelines contains specific information regarding the scoring criteria for each Program. A summary of the scoring criteria is noted within each Program’s Selection Criteria Matrix. For General Assistance applications, Section 2, Application Forms and Instructions, Part III: Project Description and Scoring Criteria, provides details on scoring and the points assigned to all scoring criteria.</p> <p>Program Guidelines and Application include a Scoring Criteria Matrix for the General Assistance Program. The Matrix describes each selection criteria as a numerical score within the General Assistance Program. The maximum number of points available within any application is 100 points. The Matrix below describes each selection criteria as a numerical score within the General Assistance Program. The maximum number of points available within any application is 100 points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PROJECT NEED:</b> Up to 25 points possible. The level of project need will be compared to other applicants.</li> <li>• <b>PROJECT IMPACT:</b> 15 points maximum possible. Describe the importance of project activities to the community and provide clarity on how the project will benefit those identified by a CDBG National Objective. The significance of the project impact will be scored as compared to other applicants.</li> <li>• <b>PROJECT READINESS:</b> Up to 30 points possible. The level of capacity and commitment by the community will be scored as compared to other applicants.</li> <li>• <b>CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:</b> Up to 15 points possible. Applicant’s description of public participation and the process used to identify community needs and allocate resources to address needs will be compared to other applicants.</li> <li>• <b>FUNDING LEVERAGE:</b> Up to 5 points is possible. For purposes of General Assistance applications, leverage is defined as local funds provided by the community committed to the project’s non-administrative activities as a ratio to the grant funds requested. Points will be awarded to applicants based on the amount of leverage provided in ratio to the grant funds requested. Communities who provide more leverage will receive points within this section.</li> <li>• <b>LMI Benefit:</b> Up to 5 points is possible. No minimum points in this section are required in order to meet threshold. This scoring category is designed to give points to communities with higher concentrations of LMI persons. Communities with a LMI population of 60% or more will receive 5</li> </ul>
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	<p>points. Communities with a LMI population between 51% - 59.99% will receive no points in this section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bonus Points: Up to 5 points possible. Applicant has demonstrated management capacity, and/or project is located within an Arkansas Opportunity Zone (OZ).</li> </ul>
<p><b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b></p>	<p>As noted above within the description of the criteria used to select applications, this information was a summary of the criteria. Complete information regarding the application criteria will be made available within the CDBG Application Guidelines. The Guidelines will provide specific details on the Application questions, deadlines for completing applications, threshold requirements, and any other necessary items. This information will be available on the AEDC website at: <a href="http://www.arkansasedc.com/grants">http://www.arkansasedc.com/grants</a></p>
<p><b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b></p>	N/A
<p><b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b></p>	N/A

	<b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b>	For the 2025 Program Year (PY), AEDC is considering funding public infrastructure and public facility projects with an anticipated \$9,236,333 in CDBG resources. The award amount is based on beneficiary data of the project area as well as the feasibility and need for the project.
	<b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b>	Grant requests should range from a minimum of \$75,000.00 to a maximum of \$500,000, and up to \$1,000,000.00 for specific types of water or wastewater projects, including design fees, although maximum awards may be based on project type, as designed upon release of program application package. Administrative fees will be added to the announced award amount. Additional project awards may be made throughout the year from the existing pool of applications as funds become available, including from unexpended funds from prior funding years, if eligible under that funding year's annual action plan. Technical assistance will be available.
	<b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b>	For water and wastewater funding, AEDC will be able to identify those areas that meet a CDBG National Objective and target those projects that are impacting the safety of our citizens. Through a collaborative effort with other funding agencies, AEDC is better able to leverage federal and state grant resources in order to obtain maximum impact. An estimated 7,000 people will benefit from these public infrastructure and public facility projects.
<b>3</b>	<b>State Program Name:</b>	CDBG Rural Services Block Grant
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	CDBG
	<b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b>	Within the Public and Community Facilities Goal and Fire Equipment Priority Need, CDBG funds will be utilized for community centers, fire stations, fire trucks, fire equipment, and life-saving protective gear.

<p><b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b></p>	<p>The Arkansas Rural Development Commission will review Application and make recommendations for funding of projects to benefit rural communities with a population of less than 3,000 persons. Applicants should contact the AEDC Division of Rural Services to obtain an application for the Rural Services Block Grant Program (RSBGP). In order to receive funding from AEDC, the applicant must receive approval from the Arkansas Rural Development Commission. Up to \$1,000,000 of the annual CDBG allocation will be used for this category.</p> <p>Applications will be evaluated on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The extent to which the project will benefit low- and moderate-income persons and meet CDBG eligibility requirements;</li> <li>2. The extent to which other funds will be used to leverage the grant funds proposed for the project;</li> <li>3. Appropriateness of the project to Division of Rural Services-Rural Community Fire Protection Grant Program and the Rural Community Development Block Grant Program. Projects may include fire protection and multi-use community centers;</li> <li>4. The applicant's readiness to proceed with the project;</li> <li>5. Other criteria as defined in the application as prepared by the Division of Rural Services.</li> </ol>
<p><b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b></p>	<p>As noted above within the description of the criteria used to select applications, this information was a summary of the criteria. Complete information regarding the application criteria will be made available within the RSBGP. The Guidelines will provide specific details on the Application questions, deadlines for completing applications, threshold requirements, and any other necessary items. This information will be available on the AEDC Division of Rural Services website: <a href="https://www.arkansasedc.com/Rural-Services">https://www.arkansasedc.com/Rural-Services</a></p>

<b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b>	N/A
<b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b>	N/A
<b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b>	For the 2025 Program Year, AEDC will fund Rural Services projects in partnership with the AEDC Division of Rural Services, with an anticipated \$1,000,000 in CDBG resources. There are no funding categories within the set-aside. All eligible activities will be competitively selected up to the amount available.
<b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b>	Each project funded must meet the CDBG National Objective of benefiting low- to moderate-income persons. Up to \$100,000 in CDBG funds may be awarded per project for project activity and general administration combined; no more than 15% of the total award may be used for general administration. The match for this grant is 10% and may be comprised of in-kind labor, in-kind materials or cash.



	<b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b>	Approximately 3,000 people will benefit from these activities.
4	<b>State Program Name:</b>	Emergency Solutions Grant Program
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	ESG
	<b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b>	The State of Arkansas supports a variety of housing and public service programs to service the homeless and special needs population. The efforts of the homeless coalitions, through the Continuum of Care process, have provided guidance on the needs of these communities. The process has resulted in a better understanding of the homeless and special needs community and their housing needs, enabling the State to arrive at a set of goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are provided below, with performance goals for  <i><b>FY 2025 Annual Plan Budget \$2,271,567.</b></i>
	<b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b>	
	<b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b>	N/A

<b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b>	Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) funds are made available to non-profit organizations and to units of local government that develop and operate homeless shelters and/or provide supportive services to homeless persons and families. Funds are distributed statewide through a competitive application process following a notice of funds available (NOFA), in amounts based on applicant requests, applicant capacity, and funding availability.
<b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b>	N/A
<b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b>	Of the <b>\$2,271,567</b> Budget from ESG, the state will designate <b>\$227,157</b> to HMIS; <b>\$56,789</b> to Street Outreach; <b>\$1,135,784</b> to Emergency Shelters; <b>\$454,313</b> to Rapid Re-Housing; <b>\$227,157</b> to Homelessness Prevention; and <b>\$170,368</b> will fund Program Administration.
<b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b>	The amount of the grant that a sub-grantee may receive, depends on available funding for the categories in which funding is being requested. The percentage of funding per category is based on need identified throughout the state.

	<b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b>	<p>In Funding Year 2025 - Funding is expected to assist an estimated 500 individuals with homeless prevention services, 500 individuals with rapid re-housing, 500 individuals/families with shelter and shelter services, and 500 individuals with street outreach, totaling 2,000 individuals.</p> <p>Outcomes will be tracked on a monthly basis throughout the grant performance period. Performance indicators will be incorporated into the application scoring process during the next grant cycle.</p>
5	<b>State Program Name:</b>	HOME Investment Partnerships Program
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	HOME
	<b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b>	<p>The State of Arkansas receives HOME Funds through a formula allocation from HUD and ADFA is the designated agency that administers the funds allocated to the State. Under the HOME Program, ADFA is designated a “Participating Jurisdiction” or “PJ”. The local PJs in Arkansas include the Cities of Fort Smith, Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Pine Bluff.</p> <p>ADFA has broad discretion in administering the HOME Funds. ADFA may administer activities directly, allocate funds to units of local government, for-profit entities, and non-profit entities, evaluate and fund projects, or a combination of the two approaches. ADFA allocates funds to various partners through their formal application process. The application process is continual based upon funds availability.</p> <p>ADFA may undertake jointly funded projects with local PJs and may use HOME funds anywhere within the State including within the boundaries of local PJs. ADFA Programs funds allocated within a designated local PJ will be limited to down payment and closing costs assistance loans, CHDO Set-Aside projects, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credit/HOME developments. ADFA may also allocate funds to for-profit developers, housing non-profits and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO).</p>

<p><b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b></p>	<p>ADFA has set the following parameters regarding the amount of HOME Program Funds that can be allocated per applicant. NOTE: ADFA Board of Directors reserve the right to increase or decrease the maximum program allocation during the program year to meet HOME program requirements. Allocations are subject to availability of funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must request a minimum of \$100,000 of HOME Program funds to be considered a HOME Program allocation (with the exception of TBRA projects).</li> <li>• At present, the maximum loan amount that can allocated by ADFA is \$2,000,000 at 1% for a term of 20 – 35 yrs; and up to an additional \$1,000,000 at 2% for a term of 20 – 35 yrs; for a maximum of up to \$3,000,000 per Activity in HOME Program funds, subject to availability, and discretion of ADFA Board in response to market demand.</li> <li>• The maximum amount that can be requested and allocated for TBRA projects by ADFA is \$2,000,000, subject to availability of funds.</li> <li>• TBRA applicants may apply for funding once a year and when 75% of the current allocation has been expended.</li> </ul> <p>Applicants may be awarded maximum of 3 HOME projects, one project per housing activity type (Rental New Construction, Rental Rehab, TBRA), per HOME Fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) based upon capacity as determined by ADFA.</p>
<p><b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p><b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b></p>	<p>Resources to be allocated among funding categories according to need reflected in the Needs Assessment and programmatic experience from years of operating housing programs with HOME funding.</p> <p><b>Funding among the categories include up to \$13,577 for Single-Family Construction activities (includes 10% CHDO); \$452,580 for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance; \$1,221,967 for Multifamily Rental Housing Development (includes 90% CHDO); and \$1,810,321 for Multifamily Rental Rehabilitation.</b></p> <p>In no case will the ADFA investment exceed the maximum HOME investment allowed under 24 CFR 92.250. The maximum per unit subsidy in HOME is published each year by HUD.</p>

	<b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b>	<p>ADFA has set the following parameters regarding the amount of HOME Program Funds that can be allocated per applicant. NOTE: ADFA Board of Directors reserve the right to increase or decrease the maximum program allocation during the program year to meet HOME program requirements. Allocations are subject to availability of funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must request a minimum of \$100,000 of HOME Program funds to be considered a HOME Program allocation (with the exception of TBRA projects).</li> <li>• At present, the maximum loan amount that can be allocated by ADFA is \$2,000,000 at 1% for a term of 20 – 35 yrs; and up to an additional \$1,000,000 at 2% for a term of 20 – 35 yrs; for a maximum of up to \$3,000,000 per Activity in HOME Program funds, subject to availability, and discretion of ADFA Board in response to market demand.</li> <li>• The maximum amount that can be requested and allocated for TBRA projects by ADFA is \$2,000,000, subject to availability of funds.</li> <li>• TBRA applicants may apply for funding once a year and when 75% of the current allocation has been expended.</li> </ul> <p>Applicants may be awarded maximum of 3 HOME projects, per housing activity (Rental, Homeowner, TBRA), per HOME Fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) based upon capacity as determined by</p>
	<b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b>	The HOME Program funding is expected to <b>provide 1 new home for Single-Family and 9 Multi-Family units with CHDO New Construction Projects; assist 31 households with Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, develop 35 and rehab 18 Multi-Family rental units.</b>
	<b>6 State Program Name:</b>	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA)
	<b>Funding Sources:</b>	HOPWA

<b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b>	<p>Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) HIV Services provides oversight for HOPWA funding granted to the State. The Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network (NARAN) is under contract to use HOPWA dollars to administer HOPWA housing assistance including Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), Facility-based rental assistance (FBRA) for short-term hotel/motel stays, Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU), Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) programs, and the support services or service coordination appropriate to ensure effective case management and attainment of HOPWA goals.</p>
<b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b>	<p>Project sponsors will be selected through a statewide Request for Applications (RFA) process that will include, but is not limited to, evaluation of the following parameters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concentration of persons with HIV/AIDS in the geographic area to be served by the project sponsor;</li> <li>• Availability of suitable housing stock in the defined areas;</li> <li>• Demonstrated capacity of the applicant to provide quality services in compliance with ADH and HUD regulations;</li> <li>• Ability of the applicants to coordinate complimentary supportive services; and,</li> <li>• Ability of the project sponsor to meet the urgent unmet needs of person with HIV/AIDS and their families.</li> </ul> <p>Project sponsors are contracted for a period of 7 years (the initial year of contracting plus 6 renewals) with contract subject to annual review for continuance based upon Project sponsor's attainment of ADH and HUD goals and deliverables.</p>
<b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b>	<p>N/A</p>

<p><b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b></p>	<p>Project sponsors selected through a statewide Request for Applications (RFA) process that include, but is not limited to, evaluation of the following parameters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concentration of persons with HIV/AIDS in the geographic area to be served by the project sponsor;</li> <li>• Availability of suitable housing stock in the defined areas;</li> <li>• Demonstrated capacity of the applicant to provide quality services in compliance with ADH and HUD regulations;</li> <li>• Ability of the applicants to coordinate complimentary supportive services; and,</li> <li>• Ability of the project sponsor to meet the urgent unmet needs of person with HIV/AIDS and their families.</li> </ul> <p>By the process defined above one project sponsor was selected for GY2023 and has a contract with a life span of seven (7) years (initial year plus 6 extensions). Contract extensions are on an annual basis, contingent upon project sponsor performance and attainment of HOPWA goals and objectives.</p>



<p><b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b></p>	<p>2025 Estimated Distributions- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS are as follows:</p> <p><b>I. Administration: (10%)</b></p> <p>a. Grantee: up to 3% of FY 2025 allocation from HUD.</p> <p>b. Project Sponsors: up to 7%. Subject to adjustment based on actual of total funds approved by the ADH under contract terms to project sponsor.</p> <p><b>II. Direct Housing and Related Support Services (DHRSS): Balance of Award less Admin.</b></p> <p>a. Direct Housing Assistance: \$888,306 (60%)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. TBRA + STRMU</li> <li>2. PHP</li> <li>3. FBRA</li> </ol> <p>b. Support Services: \$444,153</p> <p><b>TOTAL HOPWA FY 2025 allocation from HUD: \$1,480,511</b></p>
<p><b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of housing units that meet FMR (fair market rent): for TBRA, FBRA and PHP.</li> <li>• Availability of housing that meets HQS (housing quality standards): for TBRA.</li> <li>• Seasonal adjustments (or fluctuations) in utility rates-primarily gas and electricity: for STRMU and TBRA.</li> <li>• Availability of public housing units: for TBRA.</li> <li>• Availability of short-term rapid housing (hotel/motel)*: for FBRA</li> </ul> <p>These are among multiple thresholds that may influence allocation and ongoing budgetary adjustments of funds to applicable activities.</p> <p><b><i>*Duration of not more than 60 days in any 6-month period.</i></b></p>

	<p><b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b></p>	<p>Supportive services and Case Coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve access to health care and other supportive services for 165 clients and their families per year.</li> <li>• Clients will remain in stable housing and will receive coordinated complimentary supportive services.</li> </ul> <p>TBRA , FBRA, PHP and STRMU:</p> <p>Program will assist 200 clients per year establish and or better maintain permanent safe, decent, stable, and affordable housing.</p>
7	<p><b>State Program Name:</b></p>	<p>Housing Trust Fund (HTF)</p>
	<p><b>Funding Sources:</b></p>	<p>HTF</p>
	<p><b>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</b></p>	<p>The State of Arkansas receives HTF Funds through a formula allocation from HUD and ADFA is the designated agency that administers the funds allocated to the State.</p> <p>This National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Plan seeks to ensure that, where economically feasible, applicants will have an opportunity to compete for funding to address their unmet rental housing needs.</p> <p>Applications received for any project within the State of Arkansas will be underwritten and reviewed for those preferences identified in the guidelines published online as <b>ADFA HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines</b> and <b>ADFA National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual</b> at <a href="https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files">https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files</a>.</p>

<p><b>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</b></p>	<p>This National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Plan seeks to ensure that, where economically feasible, applicants will have an opportunity to compete for funding to address their unmet rental housing needs. ADFA has established certain basic housing requirements to be used in the allocation of HTFs, which are briefly described below.</p> <p><b>1. Funding Availability</b></p> <p>Upon submission of a proposal for HTF funds, ADFA staff will conduct a review and analysis of the project and developer(s) as presented in the proposal. Proposals may be scored based on criteria in the RFP, if issued. Regardless of strict numerical ranking, the scoring does not operate to vest in an applicant or project any right to a reservation or commitment of HTF funds. ADFA will, in all instances, commit HTF funds consistent with sound and reasonable judgment, prudent business practices, and the exercise of its inherent discretion.</p> <p>Projects seeking HTF funds prior to the receipt of all other funding sources, including federal tax credit reservations, may be provided with nonbinding Letters of Intent. Further, the Letter of Intent may be contingent upon the 1) approval of the State’s Annual Action Plan (including its HTF Allocation Plan); 2) ADFA’s receipt HTF funds from HUD; 3) applicant’s award from ADFA for Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), if applicable; 4) ADFA’s receipt of the HUD Authority to Use Grant Funds following completion of the Environmental Review process (as applicable); and other items noted in the Letter of Intent.</p> <p><b>2. Submission of Materials</b></p> <p>All HTF Rental Housing Program applicants must comply with the submission criteria set forth in as <b>ADFA HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines</b> and application materials. ADFA reserves the right to require the submission of additional information as needed to complete project underwriting.</p> <p>ADFA has established certain basic housing requirements to be used in the allocation of HTFs, which are briefly described below.</p> <p>1. <i>Geographic Diversity</i> – ADFA anticipates allocating available HTF to expand the Extremely Low-income (ELI) overall rental housing supply located throughout Arkansas.</p>
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	<p>2. <i>Applicant Capacity</i> – Great consideration will be given to ability of the applicant to undertake and complete the construction of the proposed type of housing in a <b>timely manner</b>. The applicant must have the financial capacity to complete the proposed development and must provide a list of experienced development team members such as a general contractor, architect, property manager and legal counsel.</p> <p>3. <i>Rental Assistance</i> – Due to the targeted population of ELI, the ability to secure rental assistance so that rents are affordable to ELI families will be a major factor in the success of any proposed development.</p> <p>4. <i>Duration of Affordability Period</i> – All NHTF rental units must have affordability requirements for a minimum of thirty (30) years. The Development Team must demonstrate strength to enforce the affordability period.</p> <p>Additionally, funds will be awarded based on the application (at a minimum) meeting the general HTF requirements listed above and the total score of the application. Once ADFA has determined that the application meets or exceeds all requirements, ADFA will award funds to projects meeting the preferences identified in the guidelines published online as <b>ADFA HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines</b> and <b>ADFA National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual</b> at <a href="https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files">https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files</a>.</p>
<p><b>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</b></p>	N/A

<p><b>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p><b>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</b></p>	<p>90% of the annual \$3,001,259 allocation (\$2,701,133) will be funding Multi-family Rental Development and Rehabilitation projects.</p> <p>HTF regulations at 24 CFR 93.300 require ADFA to establish a maximum subsidy limit for units assisted with HTF funding as part of ADFA’s annual HTF Allocation Plan. In no case will the ADFA investment exceed the limits established in the HTF Allocation Plan as approved by HUD.</p> <p>Waivers will be considered, but in no case will the ADFA investment exceed the maximum HOME investment allowed under 24 CFR 92.250. The maximum per unit subsidy in HOME is published each year by HUD.</p> <p>If awarded, investment in HTF-funded operating cost assistance or operating deficit reserves is not counted against the maximum per unit subsidy required by 24 CFR 93.300.</p>
<p><b>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</b></p>	<p>The maximum loan size is \$1,000,000 and waivers will be considered. To qualify for HTF funding, a project must demonstrate the need for an investment of no less than \$1,000 in HTF funding per HTF-assisted unit.</p>
<p><b>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</b></p>	<p><b>15 Multifamily Rental Units</b> <u><b>\$2,700,000</b></u></p> <p><u><b>Estimated Total Units: 15 for a cost of approximately \$2,700,000</b></u></p> <p><u><b>This example pertains to each year’s \$3,001,259 allotment.</b></u></p>

**Discussion:**

The State Programs set forth within this Method of Distribution of the current CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF allocations attempt to balance the need for providing jobs and suitable places to live. Funds are reserved in each category based on a percent of the total funds available for distribution to local governments.

## AP-35 Projects – (Optional)

### Introduction:

The 2025 CDBG Program Year allocation priorities have been included below as projects. Actual activities will not be determined until the application cycle has generated competitive projects and selections for awards have been made. HOME and HTF allocation priorities have also been included below as projects. ESG allocation priorities and projects will be published in a Substantial Amendment as the ESG program transfers from DHS to ADFA.

Proposed beneficiary information for each priority set-aside has been included in AP-30, Method of Distribution.

#	Project Name
1	2025 CDBG State Administration
2	2025 CDBG General Assistance
3	2025 CDBG Economic Development
4	2025 CDBG Rural Services Block Grant
5	2025 - MF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & RECONSTRUCTION
6	2025 - SF HOUSING ASSISTANCE - HOME OWNERSHIP
7	2025 - RENTAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES - HOME TBRA
8	2025 - HOME ADMIN
9	2025 - NHTF ADMIN
10	2025 - ESG HOMELESS SOLUTIONS

**Table 60 – Project Information**

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

The State Programs set forth within this Method of Distribution of the current CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF allocations attempt to balance the need for providing jobs and suitable places to live. Funds are reserved in each category based on a percent of the total funds available for distribution. The only obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the amount appropriated to the state for each program.



**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

1	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 CDBG State Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide Communities Under 3,000
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Admin
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$629,332.00
	<b>Description</b>	
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2029
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	General management, oversight and coordination of the State CDBG Program
2	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 CDBG General Assistance
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public and Community Facilities Public Infrastructure Demolition and Site Clearance ADA Modifications Homeless Facilities
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$9,236,333.00
	<b>Description</b>	
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2028
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 7,000 people will benefit from these public infrastructure and public facility projects.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Funds are generally awarded for: residential water and wastewater; senior centers; child care centers; public health facilities; youth centers; accredited public libraries; removal of architectural barriers from city halls or county courthouses for accessibility; street, curb, gutter, sidewalk, or storm sewer; flood control and drainage; and, other public facility or infrastructure project determined to be a high priority, and not eligible to be funded under another CDBG program.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 CDBG Economic Development
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Eco Dev
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Industry and Job Creation Job Training and Workforce Development Business Retention
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$6,175,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 250 people will benefit from these activities through the creation of jobs.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Eligible activities will generally include: grants or loans to for-profit businesses (through the applicant community) for a variety of business purposes; or public facilities (infrastructure) projects undertaken by applicant communities for economic development purposes, where a benefiting business agrees to locate or expand premised on the infrastructure improvements and agrees to create jobs for LMI persons.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 CDBG Rural Services Block Grant
	<b>Target Area</b>	Communities Under 3,000
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Fac/Infra
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public and Community Facilities Fire Stations, Fire Trucks & Life-Saving Equipment
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$1,000,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	

	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2028
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Approximately 3,000 persons will benefit from these activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide in rural communities of less than 3,000 in population
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CDBG funds will be utilized for community centers, fire stations, fire trucks, fire equipment, and life-saving protective gear.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - MF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & RECONSTRUCTION
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Rent Hsg Rent Rehab
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Development and Reconstruction Transitional Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOPWA: \$2,701,133.00 HOME: \$7,558,089.00
	<b>Description</b>	Create decent housing with improved affordability and accessibility of multi-family housing and other rental housing through the construction of affordable rental housing units; and preserve decent housing through improved sustainability and affordability of existing multi-family housing and other rental housing stock through rehabilitation projects for low- and moderate-income (less than 60 percent of area median income) households. (Includes 90% CHDO-HOME for MF/50% MF Rental NC-HOME /20% MF Rental Rehab-HOME/ AND 90% NHTF PERM HOUSING)
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The HOME Program funding is expected to <b>9 Multifamily units with CHDO New Construction Projects; 35 Multifamily Rental New Construction units; and rehab 18 Multifamily rental units.</b>
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - SF HOUSING ASSISTANCE - HOME OWNERSHIP
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	CHDO

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Development and Reconstruction
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$13,577.00
	<b>Description</b>	Create decent housing with improved affordability by providing funding for homebuyer assistance programs such as down payment and closing cost to low- and moderate-income (less than 60 percent area median income) homebuyers; develop new affordable housing for low- moderate-income persons for homeownership and providing construction financing for single-family housing. (10% of CHDO)
	<b>Target Date</b>	7/1/2026
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	1 singlefamily unit for a LMI homebuyer
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Singlefamily Homebuyer
7	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - RENTAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES - HOME TBRA
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	TBRA
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Rental Housing Subsidies Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Transitional Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$452,580.00
	<b>Description</b>	Create decent housing through improved affordability and accessibility by providing rental subsidies and security and utility deposit assistance for very low- to moderate-income (less than 60 percent of area median income) households and persons with disabilities. (5% HOME)
	<b>Target Date</b>	7/1/2026
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The HOME Program funding is expected to assist 31 households with Tenant-Based Rental Assistance with low income at or below 50%AMI.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	TBRA - RENTAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES
8	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - HOME ADMIN
	<b>Target Area</b>	

	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Admin
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$905,160.00
	<b>Description</b>	Program Administration: Develop, administer, revise, implement and evaluate the day-to-day operation of entitlement program. Activities include program design; grant administration, Sub recipient compliance monitoring, program outreach, public relations, and training.(10% HOME)
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - NHTF ADMIN
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Admin
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	
	<b>Funding</b>	HTF: \$300,126.00
	<b>Description</b>	Program Administration: Develop, Administer, revise, implement and evaluate the day-to-day operation of entitlement program. Activities include program design; grant administration, Sub recipient compliance monitoring, program outreach, public relations, and training.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2025 - ESG HOMELESS SOLUTIONS
	<b>Target Area</b>	Statewide

	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Prev Shel
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless Facilities Child Care Services Youth Services Health Services/Substance Abuse HIV/AIDS Services and Housing Assistance Meals/Food Transportation Legal Services Rental Housing Subsidies Job Training and Workforce Development Employment Training Homeless Supportive Services - Transportation Homelessness Prevention and Emergency Assistance Mental Health and Supportive Services Domestic Violence Shelters
	<b>Funding</b>	ESG: \$2,271,567.00
	<b>Description</b>	Create housing stability through a variety of housing and public service activities to service the homeless and special needs population.
	<b>Target Date</b>	7/1/2026
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	In Funding Year 2025 - Funding is expected to assist an estimated 500 individuals with homeless prevention services, 500 individuals with rapid re-housing, 500 individuals/families with shelter and shelter services, and 500 individuals with street outreach, totaling 2,000 individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Statewide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street Outreach</li> <li>• Emergency Shelter</li> <li>• Rapid ReHousing</li> <li>• Homlessness Prevention</li> <li>• HMIS</li> <li>• ADMIN</li> </ul>

**AP-40 Section 108 Loan Guarantee – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)**

**Will the state help non-entitlement units of general local government to apply for Section 108 loan funds?**

No

**Available Grant Amounts**

**Acceptance process of applications**



**AP-45 Community Revitalization Strategies – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)**

**Will the state allow units of general local government to carry out community revitalization strategies?**

No

**State's Process and Criteria for approving local government revitalization strategies**

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.320(f)**

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

Projects created in response to the four federal funding programs, CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF, will be spread across non-entitlement communities throughout the state. The vast majority of the combined funding will benefit low- to moderate-income persons and families regardless of the demographics of the community in which they reside. A smaller portion, funded through the CDBG Rural Services Block Grant Program, will be targeted specifically to communities of 3,000 or less in population.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Statewide	97
Communities Under 3,000	3

**Table 61 - Geographic Distribution**

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

The proposed allocation of funds is based on federal requirements for each formula-allocated grant. Areas of low- to moderate-income concentration are required by HUD to be targeted. Areas of low homeownership and deteriorating housing conditions were also considered in the targeting process.

### **Discussion**

The distribution of funds will be primarily statewide.

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 24 CFR 91.320(g)

#### Introduction:

The annual goals listed previously specify the following production numbers for housing assistance and for homelessness, non-homeless, and special needs populations.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	1
Non-Homeless	105
Special-Needs	3
Total	109

**Table 62 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	31
The Production of New Units	60
Rehab of Existing Units	18
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	109

**Table 63 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

#### Discussion:

These figures relate to production targets specified in the annual goals for 2025 through HOME funded programs. Additional funding will be provided for rental assistance through the homeless prevention and rapid re-housing programs promoted through the ESG funding. Each program will provide benefits for 2,000 individuals during the program year, but it is unknown at this point-in-time what portion of each program will be used for rental assistance and what portion will provide rent deposit, utility payments, or mortgage payment assistance.

Arkansas has completed the Needs Assessment.

## **AP-60 Public Housing - 24 CFR 91.320(j)**

### **Introduction:**

The State does not manage any public housing units.

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

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

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

### **Discussion:**

## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.320(h)**

### **Introduction**

The State of Arkansas is active in the Balance of State Continuum of Care, addressing issues related to homelessness in the region. Funding for homeless projects and services are sourced primarily through that process.

### **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**

The Balance Continuum of Care, the coalition of local homeless service agencies covering the smaller communities in the state, conducts annual surveys of homeless individuals, including unsheltered persons. These surveys serve to help focus agency activities for the coming year, as well as provide documentation in response to HUD program requirements.

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

This Annual Action Plan includes ESG funding to address the emergency shelter needs of homeless persons. Program goals include funding twenty programs per year, providing emergency shelter to 5,000 individuals/households per year. These funding and performance plans extend the full five years of this Consolidated Plan.

#### **Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

The State has a goal of funding at least one permanent housing project during the five-year span of this Consolidated Plan. The State will work with local agencies and organizations to identify and promote opportunities to invest funds in these activities.

#### **Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services,**

**employment, education, or youth needs**

The State is providing services through ESG funding that address homeless prevention and rapid re-housing to help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless. These programs include funding for rent assistance, mortgage payment emergency assistance, first and last month rents, and utility payment assistance. An estimated 8,000 individuals/households will be assisted through these efforts statewide.

**Discussion**

The State, ESG subgrantees, and participants in the Balance Continuum of Care work closely together to meet the needs of homeless individuals and families through the continuum of services coordinated through partnership.

**AP-70 HOPWA Goals – 91.320(k)(4)**

<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	70
Tenant-based rental assistance	100
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	30
Total	200

## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.320(i)**

### **Introduction:**

The provision of safe, decent affordable housing is one of the greatest challenges facing the State of Arkansas, its development partners, and many jurisdictions across the State. The State is attempting to meet this challenge by providing financial and technical support to nonprofit housing developers, partnering with the private sector to develop mixed-income, mixed-use communities and encouraging the removal of barriers in zoning ordinances that serve as impediments to increased density in exchange for affordable apartments or condominiums.

### **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 State does not have authority over local zoning and development regulations but will support local governments with the removal of barriers as applicable.

- Review options to support local Homeowner Rehabilitation Program,
- Review options for providing support to local down payment assistance programs,
- Advocating for zoning changes to enhance affordable housing development,
- Securing future funding for affordable housing and services,
- Supporting the administration of rental, mortgage, and utility assistance programs
- Evaluating or assessing housing design to determine how lower costs per square foot can be achieved.
- The State will support local jurisdictions in efforts to actively market local homebuyer assistance programs to minority families and individuals.
- Support broadband initiatives to provide access to LMI populations and rural communities.

### **Discussion:**

Two factors contribute to the State's and local jurisdictions' affordable housing problem. 1) a household's ability to afford housing based on its income and 2) the price of housing. In response, the State is aggressively employing activities intended to foster the development of affordable housing for low-to moderate-income families and individuals as noted previously.

There are no known public policy barriers to affordable housing development in Arkansas, though market factors do influence the ability to produce a range of housing to address all income levels. Most of these factors, including the cost of construction, price of developable land, and tenant/homebuyer incomes, are beyond the influence of the State of Arkansas. Where possible, the State provides funds and services that address market factors, such as job training and business development activities.



## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.320(j)**

### **Introduction:**

The State currently provides a variety of services to the residents of Arkansas, some funded by CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF allocations, with private and State funding bringing additional assets to bear on these problems. Below are some of the actions currently performed by the state or subgrantees or under consideration for the future.

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

The State will continue to look for new funding sources for programs to address underserved needs. Funding is the major obstacle in providing the services needed to focus on the vast variety of issues that prevent families from breaking out of poverty and from living in the best, most affordable housing possible.

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

The State provides funding through HOME for new single-family and multifamily housing development. The State also provides HOME funding both single-family and rental rehabilitation programs. State staff also manages the approximately \$6.5 million annual Low-Income Housing Tax Credit allocation for Arkansas.

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

- Continue to meet HUD lead-based paint abatement standards in housing rehabilitation programs operated by subgrantee communities.
- Seek funding as it becomes available for testing and abatement of lead-based paint hazards in single-family housing where young children are present.
- Expand the stock of lead safe housing units through new housing initiatives.
- Seek funding for testing, abatement, training, and educational awareness.

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

The State will continue its efforts in conjunction with the six Continua of Care in Arkansas to reduce the number of poverty-level families through the development of services needed to assist those families with educational opportunities, job growth, and life skills training through the various social service agencies operating in the communities across the state.

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

- Work with non-profit organizations to address community needs and provide support to federal

and non-federal funding initiatives.

- Work with private industry to address important issues that hamper housing and community development efforts.
- Identify opportunities to create private/public partnerships for project finance and development to leverage federal funds.

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

The State will continue to coordinate planning activities with subgrantees and private housing and social service agencies, including participation in the Balance of State Continuum of Care meetings, development of the Continuum of Care, and coordinate the enumeration of point-in-time and homeless surveys by continua throughout the state. State staff will also continue their participation in other coalitions and study groups as the opportunity arises.

### **Discussion:**

These actions are primarily the continuation of what the State is currently doing in the various areas. No major obstacles in the institutional structure have been identified that need to be addressed. The State is also satisfied with its efforts to coordinate with private housing and social service agencies.

## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.320(k)(1,2,3)

#### Introduction:

The following provides details on program specific requirements for each of the five entitlement programs, CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, and NHTF.

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	5,500,000
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>5,500,000</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	500,000
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.	95.00%

#### HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The State will continue to support the many efforts of the non-profits and social service provider agencies in the community in their efforts to obtain funding from various sources for their programs.

Many of these organizations receive private donations to sustain their programs, and most apply for funding on the federal, state, and local level.

The availability of federal funds would enhance any of the listed programs and would mean that more services, and housing, could be provided. Because of the scarcity of any type of funding, the State has been working with various organizations to try to develop programs that would increase the leveraging capacity of federal funding mechanisms so that more money would be available for other endeavors needed. Better use of the existing resources is a main concern of everyone.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

- 1) Any amount repaid as a result of a homebuyer property being sold within the affordability period. The recaptured provisions must be stated in written agreements between Recipients and the income of any eligible homebuyers. 2) Recaptured funds are a return of the original HOME investment and are technically not program income. Therefore, unlike program income, 10 percent of recaptured funds cannot be used for planning and administrative costs and must be returned to ADFA. 3) When HOME funds are expended for projects that are terminated before completion, voluntary or involuntary, the HOME funds that have been expended are ineligible and must be repaid. 4) The termination of affordability restrictions does not relieve ADFA of its repayment obligations for housing that does not remain affordable for the required period.

ADFA HOME Program Operations Manual - CHAPTER 5:

HOMEOWNER HOUSING PROGRAM – HOMEBUYER:

- 1) The HOME Program requires that if a property is sold during the Affordability Period, either voluntarily or involuntarily (e.g., foreclosure) during the affordability period, the HOME investment must be “repaid.” The HOME Program refers to this repayment requirement as “recapture.” 2) What is recapture? Recapture is defined as an affordability mechanism where the Recipient or developer executes a written agreement with the homebuyer that only includes the amount of “direct HOME assistance” that enabled the homebuyer to buy the housing unit. This assistance must be “recaptured,” in whole or in part, if the unit is sold before the end of the affordability period. 3) This “direct HOME assistance” is defined as a “mortgage subsidy” and includes the following for ADFA programs: Down payment and closing cost assistance; Gap financing (e.g., second mortgage); and/or

Reduction in purchase price from market value to an affordable sales price, if HOME funds were provided to a developer. 4) The period of affordability, shown above, is based on the direct HOME assistance to the homebuyer. 5) ADFA provides a 0% forgivable loan that is forgiven commensurate with the period of affordability.

These guidelines are published online as: ADFA's HOME Program Operations Manual  
- <https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files> - **HOME Program Operations Manual; HOME Single Family Housing Development Programs Guidelines; and Arkansas Development Finance Authority Homeownership Program Guidelines**

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:
4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

The State does not intend to use HOME funding for this purpose.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

### **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.320(k)(3)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.
3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).
4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.
5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

**Housing Trust Fund (HTF)**  
**Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(5)**

1. How will the grantee distribute its HTF funds? Select all that apply:

☒ Applications submitted by eligible recipients

2. If distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees, describe the method for distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees and how those funds will be made available to state agencies and/or units of general local government. If not distributing funds through grants to subgrantees, enter "N/A".

N/A

3. If distributing HTF funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients,

a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 93.2, eligible recipients are defined as follows: an organization, agency, or other entity (including a public housing agency, or a for-profit entity or a non-profit entity) that receives NHTF assistance from a grantee as an owner or developer to carry out an NHTF-assisted project. A recipient must make acceptable assurances to the grantee that it will comply with the requirements of the NHTF program during the entire period that begins upon selection of the recipient to receive NHTF funds and ending upon the conclusion of all NHTF-funding activities. A recipient must demonstrate the ability and financial capacity to undertake, comply, and manage the eligible activity; and demonstrate its familiarity with the requirements of other Federal State, or local housing programs that may be used in conjunction with NHTF funds to ensure compliance with all applicable requirements and regulations of such programs. The recipients must have demonstrated experience and capacity to conduct an eligible NHTF activity as evidenced by its ability to design, construct, own, manage, operate, and market affordable multi-family rental housing. No NHTF application will be processed for any applicant or related entity which is not in good standing with ADFA and any other State housing finance authority, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC), HUD, USDA Rural Development, or VA. An applicant can be denied consideration of the NHTF funds if the applicant or its related parties have a history of payment delinquencies, bankruptcy, foreclosure, or activities determined to be unsound or unlawful. ADFA will distribute NHTF by directly selecting applications submitted from eligible recipients and will not use sub-grantees. "Eligible Applicant" consists of the "Development Team" who will construct new rental housing (single family or multi-family units) or rehabilitation of existing units. "Development Team" means the applicant, consultant, contractor, architect, accountant, property manager, and attorney.

**ADFA will measure these requirements per methods listed and published online as ADFA HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines and ADFA National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual at: <https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files> - HOME & National Housing Trust Fund Rental Housing Guidelines and National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual.**

b. Describe the grantee’s application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

ADFA will evaluate each application to determine which projects should receive an award of NHTF (also referred to as HTF) funds. All applicants must submit an application with supporting documentation, including evidence sufficient to ADFA that the applicant's proposed project, at a minimum, meets all of the housing priority factors in order to be considered for funding. Funds will be awarded, based on the application (at a minimum) meeting the general NHTF requirements and the total score of the application. Once ADFA has determined that the application meets or exceeds all requirements, ADFA will award funds to the highest-scoring projects until all NHTF funds have been allocated. There is no

minimum score.

c. Describe the selection criteria that the grantee will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

ADFA's underwriter will review each application. Funds will be awarded based on the application (at a minimum) meeting the general NHTF requirements listed above. Once ADFA has determined that the application meets or exceeds all requirements, ADFA will award funds to projects meeting the preferences identified in the guidelines published online as **ADFA HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines** and **ADFA National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual** at <https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files> - **HOME & National Housing Trust Fund Rental Housing Guidelines** and **National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual**.

All required application documents should be submitted with original signatures, legible and complete, and with all required third-party documents. ADFA will post the HTF application checklist and instructions for the complete list of the application cycle. All applicants must comply in all respects with ASTM E157-13 (the "ASTM Standards") as to content and adhere to ADFA's Environmental Policy Requirements for purposes of determining whether the property is environmentally suitable for construction of residential housing. ADFA may, within its discretion, deny applications based upon the unreasonableness of costs, regardless of whether the costs per-unit complies with the maximum costs per-unit limitation. Upon request by ADFA staff, applicants may provide justification and supporting documentation.

d. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on geographic diversity (as defined by the grantee in the consolidated plan). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Applications received for any project within the State of Arkansas will be underwritten and scored. In the event of a tie, the tie-breaking system described in the ADFA NHTF Allocation Plan will be used.

Construction costs do not vary much in Arkansas for different areas of the State. Some regions do require a soils report and more foundation work. At the time of ADFA underwriting of each application, the costs are thoroughly reviewed and adjusted for under-estimates or excessive costs. ADFA uses discretion to determine the reasonableness of all costs stated in the proposed development budget regardless of whether the costs per-unit comply with the maximum costs per-unit limitation set forth in the ADFA NHTF Allocation Plan. ADFA may, within its discretion, deny applications based upon the unreasonableness of costs, regardless of whether the costs per-unit complies with the maximum costs



per-unit limitation. Upon request by ADFDA staff, applicants may provide justification and supporting documentation of costs. ADFA will review the items submitted and make a final determination. ADFA's determination will be set forth in writing as to whether the application will be further considered or rejected.

e. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Preference will be given to the applicant's ability to meet deadlines in a timely manner, based upon past history with ADFA, or letters of support from other stakeholders (banks, government agencies, or local authorities), or documentation submitted in the application evidencing efficient use of time in meeting deadlines on past projects. It is expected that construction will start within 6 months from the award date, with completion of the project expected within 18 months of the construction start date.

f. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the rental project has Federal, State, or local project-based rental assistance so that rents are affordable to extremely low-income families. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Preference will be given to applicants with projects that have secured Federal, or State of loan project based (PBRA) and/or voucher(s) for rental assistance so that rents are affordable to ELI households. A funding priority of up to 10 points will be given to applicants that have a commitment from other non-federal sources. To qualify for points for receiving additional subsidies, the funds may be loaned, with repayment required, or granted during construction and/or as a permanent source of funds.

10 points - Greater than 75% per unit

7 points - 50% to 75% per unit

5 points - Greater than 25% per unit

g. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate the ability to remain financially feasible five (5) years beyond the required thirty (30) year period. The longer affordability term is more desirable, to promote affordable housing for a longer period.

h. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the grantee (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development features, or housing that serves special needs populations). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Preference will be given for applicants demonstrating an ability to meet the needs of beneficiaries by means of proximity to Veteran medical facilities, support services, public transportation, grocery stores, and metropolitan centers giving preferential consideration to jobs for Veterans.

Also, preference will be given for applicants targeting rental housing needs for ELI Veterans who are not only Veterans but are homeless (or at risk of becoming homeless), those with special needs, individuals leaving correctional institutions, and those with mental health issues. The applicants must identify this population needing assistance in their service area and should specifically address the needs (housing and services) of this population. They should use quantifiable data, specific to their service area, to the maximum extent possible. Data should include the number of individuals and families serviced during the last calendar year as well as specific services provided.

i. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Preference for funding will be based on the applicant's ability for leveraging non-federal resources and the extent to which the applicant makes use of non-federal funding sources. Non-federal resources may include funds from state, local publicly controlled funds, private funds of in-kind commitments and/or land donated by state or local government to achieve deep affordability for ELI households.

4. Does the grantee's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

5. Does the grantee's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

**6. Performance Goals and Benchmarks.** The grantee has met the requirement to provide for performance goals and benchmarks against which the grantee will measure its progress, consistent with the grantee's goals established under 24 CFR 91.315(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

Yes

**7. Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount for Housing Assisted with HTF Funds.**

Enter or attach the grantee's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

Enter or attach the grantee's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established, or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established, or a description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

The Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount of Housing Assisted with HTF funds, described in the appendix, is based upon guidelines from **ADFA's National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual**, and **ADFA's HOME and National Housing Trust Fund Rental Program Guidelines**, published online at: <https://adfa.arkansas.gov/files> - **HOME & National Housing Trust Fund Rental Housing Guidelines & National Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual**.

Waivers will be considered, but in no case will the ADFA investment exceed the maximum HOME investment allowed under 24 CFR 92.250. The maximum per unit subsidy in HOME is published each year by HUD.

**8. Rehabilitation Standards.** The grantee must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The grantee's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. The grantee must attach its rehabilitation standards below.

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and

local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable); and broadband infrastructure (if applicable).

ADFA has established Minimum Design Standards (MDS) for new construction and rehabilitation. The MDS standards are attached in the appendix. However, ADFA is in the process of updating these stipulations.

**9. Resale or Recapture Guidelines.** Below, the grantee must enter (or attach) a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

N/A

**10. HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits.** If the grantee intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

☒ The grantee has determined its own affordable homeownership limits using the methodology described in § 93.305(a)(2) and the limits are attached.

<TYPE=[section 3 end]>

**11. Grantee Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences.** Describe how the grantee will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action plan. If the grantee will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population, enter "N/A."

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the grantee must not limit or give preferences to students. The grantee may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

**12. Refinancing of Existing Debt.** Enter or attach the grantee's refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the grantee will refinance existing debt. The grantee's refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the grantee will not refinance existing debt, enter "N/A."

N/A

**Discussion:**

The state strives to meet all program specific requirements as detailed in the enabling legislation and program guidelines. State staff will work with award recipients to ensure that these requirements are met and will oversee internal operations towards the same goal. If HUD's 2025 NHTF Allocation amount is different than what has been planned for, ADFA will adjust the number of units to be built accordingly.

## Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

<b>1</b>	<b>Data Source Name</b> HOPWA CAPER and HOPWA Beneficiary Verification Wor
	<b>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</b>
	<b>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</b>
	<b>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</b>
	<b>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</b>
	<b>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</b>
	<b>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</b>