



TOWN OF ARLINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING and
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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MEMORANDUM

To: Select Board
From: Mallory Sullivan, Community Development Block Grant Administrator
cc: Jennifer Raitt, Director of Planning and Community Development
Date: January 19, 2022
RE: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mid-Year Report

CDBG Subrecipients are community based and Town organizations that provide stable housing, public services, economic development opportunities, and accessible and safe infrastructure that help create a stronger, more livable, and more resilient Arlington. At the midpoint of Program Year 47, CDBG Subrecipients have made notable progress toward achieving anticipated outcomes.

During the first half of Program Year 47, the Housing Corporation of Arlington (HCA) used prior year grant funds to conduct capital improvements to five units in its affordable housing portfolio. HCA is also investigating opportunities to utilize its current year grant for pre-development activities, including site surveys and environmental testing. Caritas Communities, a new CDBG Subrecipient this year, is finalizing the environmental review process for its two properties, with capital improvements forthcoming.

Public service programming has provided essential health, recreation, employment training, after-school, and transportation services to 848 Arlington residents since July 1, 2021. This represents an achievement of 66% of the collective goal for public services for Program Year 47. Goals are measured by the number of participants who have benefited from the program. The Arlington Boys and Girls Club's scholarship program and Fidelity House's Jobs, Jobs, Jobs program have already met or exceeded their goal for the entire year. Many other projects, including Arlington Boys and Girls Club's Jobs, Jobs, Jobs program, the Operation Success Learning Center, Arlington Youth Counseling Center's mental health services, the Council on Aging's transportation and volunteer programs, and Fidelity House's Menotomy Manor Outreach Program have achieved at least half of their respective annual goals. Just two public service programs reached less than half of their goal to date, though both anticipate serving more beneficiaries this spring.

Program Year 47 economic development programming has been postponed due to the arrival of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding; with the ability to reach more business owners in addition to nonprofit organizations during the economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, ARPA-funded programming has been prioritized. Economic development programming utilizing CDBG funds is expected to begin early in Fiscal Year 2023.

The public facilities category outlined in the table below includes projects funded with current and prior year grants. Due to upheaval in the construction industry during the pandemic, these projects have faced delayed timelines and increased costs, resulting in setbacks and requiring additional planning. The ADA-compliant curb ramps program has built 61 curb ramps to date, exceeding its goal for the year. Whittemore Park, which completed Phase I (not funded by CDBG) in 2021, is undergoing planning and is expected to be completed in spring 2022. Food Link is in the procurement process for the purchase and installation of a generator; the project will be completed in spring 2022, resulting in a more resilient space for the organization. Arlington EATS is also preparing to conduct its market fit-out at 117 Broadway. The Recreation Department began pre-development work on the Parmenter Playground in fall 2021.

Planning and administration activities are carried out by the Department of Planning and Community Development. Thus far, planning funds have supported the updated Housing Plan, which is expected to be finalized in spring 2022. The annual Envision Arlington town survey will commence in winter 2022 and conclude in the spring.

In addition to the Town's annual allotment of CDBG funds, the Town has been administering the remainder of its CDBG-CV funds, which support activities preventing, preparing for, or responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. These projects have largely concluded, with the exception of the Arlington Emergency Tenant Assistance Program and the Arlington Public Schools Tutoring Program, which will end in spring 2022.

**TOWN OF ARLINGTON
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT
Program Year 47**

CDBG Program Activity	Organization/Department	Total Anticipated	Actual Total to Date
REHABILITATION/ HOUSING			
Affordable Housing Portfolio Capital Improvements*	Housing Corporation of Arlington	11 households (11 properties)	5 households
Improving 22 Fessenden and 12 Russell Terrace	Caritas Communities	35 households (2 properties)	Project ongoing
Affordable Housing Pre-Development Reports/Surveys	Housing Corporation of Arlington	1 properties	Project ongoing
Total		36 households	5 households
PUBLIC SERVICES			
Scholarship Program	Arlington Boys and Girls Club	50 individuals	51 individuals
Jobs, Jobs, Jobs	Arlington Boys and Girls Club	7 individuals	4 individuals
Athletic Scholarships	Arlington High School	50 individuals	0 individuals
Operation Success Learning Center	Arlington Housing Authority	30 individuals	16 individuals
Mental Health Counseling and Support Services	Arlington Youth Counseling Center (AYCC)	120 individuals	80 individuals
Adult Day Health	Council on Aging	20 individuals	6 individuals
Transportation Program	Council on Aging	500 individuals	342 individuals
Volunteer Coordinator	Council on Aging	300 individuals	253 individuals
Jobs, Jobs, Jobs	Fidelity House	5 individuals	5 individuals
Menotomy Manor Outreach Program	Fidelity House	100 individuals	76 individuals
Program Scholarships	Recreation Department	100 individuals	15 individuals
Total		1282 individuals	848 individuals
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
Arlington Small Business Technical Assistance Program	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	10 businesses 1 job	0
Arlington Small Business Recovery Program	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	25 businesses 6 jobs	0
Total		0 businesses and jobs	0 businesses and jobs
PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS			
Whittemore Park, Phase II*	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	1 park	Project ongoing
Capital Improvements: Environmental Efficiency	Food Link, Inc.	1 facility	Project ongoing
Arlington EATS Market Fit Out*	Arlington EATS	1 facility	Project ongoing
ADA-Compliance Program - Curb Cut Ramp Project	Arlington Disability Commission + Dept. of Public Works	54 curb ramps	61
Parmenter Playground Design	Recreation Department	1 park	Project ongoing
Total		2 parks 2 public facilities 54 curb ramps	61 curb ramps All other projects ongoing
PLANNING			
Planners	Planning and Community Development Dept.	Exempt	
Planning Studies	Planning and Community Development Dept.	Exempt	
Annual Town Survey	Envision Arlington	Exempt	
ADMINISTRATION			
Grants Administrator (salary + benefits)	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	Exempt	
General Administration	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	Exempt	

* denotes carryover project funded with Program Year 46 grant funds.

MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT
CDBG-CV Activities: Projects preventing, preparing, or responding to Covid-19

CDBG-CV: Public Service Activities		Anticipated Individual Beneficiaries	Actual Individual Beneficiaries
Homelessness Prevention Program	Housing Corporation of Arlington	20	79
COVID-19 Tenant Assistance (CDBG ONLY)	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	75	124
COVID-19 COA Lending Library	Council on Aging	40	64
COVID-19 Support - Food Link	Food Link	528	5974
COVID-19 Expenses - APS Tutoring	Arlington Public Schools	100	122
	Total	763	6363
CDBG-CV Economic Development Activities		Anticipated Business Beneficiaries	Actual Business Beneficiaries
COVID-19 Business Resiliency Program	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	20	21
COVID-19 Small Business (Microenterprise)	Dept. of Planning and Community Development	20	25
	Total	40	46