

Resources Available

The Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) has grown to become an organization funded through a variety of federal and non-federal funds from a variety of grants including CDBG, HOME, ESG, CDBG-R, HPRP, CDBG Disaster Recovery, Federal Transit Administration and Neighborhood Stabilization Program. In addition to HCCSD, many other public and private agencies and other County departments offer services to low-income persons and, in many cases, complement community development efforts.

Federal Entitlement Resources

Harris County receives funds through three major formula grants issued by HUD: CDBG, HOME and ESG. Harris County anticipates receiving \$14,990,488 in CDBG, HOME and ESG funds in addition to \$39,981 in program income for PY2010. Appendix B details Source of Program Income for PY2010.

Figure 1: PY2010 Entitlement Funds Allocation

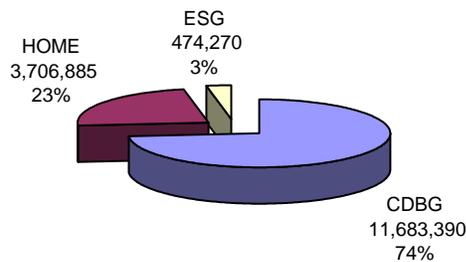


Table 2 provides a numerical representation of the changes in funding over the past five years.

Table 2: Harris County Entitlement Funds, PY2006 to PY2010

Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ESG	ADDI	TOTAL
PY2006	\$10,985,813	\$3,484,971	\$466,583	\$67,255	\$15,004,622
PY2007	\$11,032,425	\$3,458,436	\$473,802	\$67,255	\$15,031,918
PY2008	\$10,748,360	\$3,352,888	\$475,349	\$27,174	\$14,603,771
PY2009	\$9,933,074	\$3,714,611	\$478,553	\$0	\$14,126,238
PY2010	\$11,683,390	\$3,706,885	\$474,270	\$0	\$15,864,545

Table 3: Harris County PY2010 Funding Sources

Entitlement Grants	
CDBG	\$11,683,390
HOME	\$3,706,885
ESG	\$474,270
ADDI	\$0
Total Entitlement Grants	\$15,864,545
Total Estimated Program Income	
CDBG Subtotal	\$32,478
HOME Subtotal	\$7,503
Total Estimated Program Income	\$39,981
Total Funding Sources	
Total Funding Sources	\$15,904,526
Proposed Projects	45

As an urban county, Harris County receives funds to cover all of unincorporated Harris County in addition to fifteen smaller cities within the county that agree to allow services within their jurisdiction. There are four entitlement jurisdictions within Harris County that receive HUD funds: Harris County and the cities of Houston, Pasadena, and Baytown. Cumulatively, these jurisdictions will receive approximately \$70 million in CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA entitlement funds. The portion received by Harris County accounts for a little more than 20 percent of those funds. The City of Houston, on the other hand, represents 74 percent of the combined funds.

Largely, as a result of their proximity to Harris County and the region’s significant growth, Fort Bend County, Brazoria County, and Montgomery County have also been designated as urban counties. In comparison to Houston and Harris County, the entitlement funds available to these counties remain small, but they play an important role in addressing regional community revitalization.

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Table 4: Entitlement Funds throughout the Area, FY2009¹

	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	TOTAL
<i>Harris County</i>	\$11,683,390	\$3,706,885	\$474,270	\$0	\$15,864,545
Houston	\$32,769,402	\$14,066,375	\$1,329,099	\$7,793,944	\$55,958,820
Pasadena	\$2,081,297	\$812,271	\$84,633	\$0	\$2,978,201
Baytown	\$898,051	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$898,051
League City	\$322,741	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$322,741
Missouri City	\$326,557	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$326,557
Pearland	\$326,087	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$326,087
Sugar Land	\$327,419	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$327,419
Galveston	\$1,558,948	\$592,028	\$0	\$0	\$2,150,976
Fort Bend County	\$2,135,284	\$556,612	\$85,096	\$0	\$2,776,992
Brazoria County	\$2,038,196	\$704,582	\$0	\$0	\$2,742,778
Montgomery County	\$2,001,511	\$516,480	\$0	\$0	\$2,517,991
Total	\$56,468,883	\$20,955,233	\$1,973,098	\$7,793,944	\$87,191,608

¹ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Community Planning and Development Program Formula FY 2010 Allocations are current as of March 30, 2010

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/about/budget/budget10/states/tx.xls>

Other Resources - Federal

In an effort to further its pursuit of decent, affordable housing, a suitable living environment, economic opportunities and overall improvement in the quality of life for low-income persons throughout the service area, Harris County continues to pursue competitive grants which complement the County's entitlement resources.

State of Texas Emergency Shelter Grants Program (ESGP)

As part of the Emergency assistance provided during 2009, Harris County received \$78,000 under the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Emergency Shelter Grants Program. Funding is provided to families throughout Harris County for mortgage and rental assistance to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living as well as to prevent homelessness.

CDBG Disaster Recovery Funding

In 2009, HCCSD continued working with the \$20 million dollars previously received from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery Funds to provide assistance to those affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These funds continue to assist with the needs of predominantly low to moderate income persons. Assistance provided in 2009 include reimbursement of hospital services, services to incarcerated evacuees, residential placement and counseling services in the juvenile justice system, the provision of multi-family housing, crisis counseling, case management, therapeutic mental health services and non-emergency medical transportation services to evacuees who fled to and continue to reside in the Houston region as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Also in 2009, Harris County received additional funding from HUD through the State of Texas to help rebuild homes and infrastructure severely damaged by Hurricane Ike. Of the approximately \$140 million, 40 percent was designated to provide housing assistance and 60 percent was designated for non-housing infrastructure activities. These percentages were based on the total damage figures presented in the Harris County Damage Assessment Report. HCCSD will utilize the housing assistance to launch the Harris County Homeowner's Disaster Recovery Program (HDRP). The program will enable eligible Harris County homeowners to repair and reconstruct homes that sustained significant damage from Hurricane Ike.

Community Development Block Grant - Recovery (CDBG-R)

In 2009, Harris County submitted an Amendment to the Program Year 2008 Annual Action Plan (Action Plan) to HUD to include an additional allocation to Harris County of \$2,919,475 in Community Development Block Grant Program Funds (CDBG-R) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The three proposed projects included the modernization of infrastructure within WCID No. 36's District through the replacement and rehabilitation of portions of the existing gravity wastewater system in the District. The selected projects will provide in excess of \$3,800,000.00 in direct expenditures within the local community, including nearly \$900,000 in leveraged funds in addition to the \$2,919,475 in CDBG-R.

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing (HPRP)

In 2009, Harris County submitted an Amendment to the Program Year 2008 Annual Action Plan (Action Plan) to HUD to include an additional allocation to Harris County of \$4,463,961 in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program Funds (HPRP) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. As part of the process for distributing funds, the County ensured continued collaboration with the City of Houston to create a streamlined RFP process and to ensure that the City and County did not duplicate services, but instead provides complimentary programming. Additionally, Harris County built on its existing relationships with the local Council of Government, Houston-Galveston Area

Council (H-GAC) and the Coalition for the Homeless to pursue meetings and coordinate services with agencies who will receive stimulus funding, such as the Workforce Development Board and local Health and Human Services departments.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

Harris County is currently working to construct affordable senior housing as well as implement the Homeownership Made Easy (H.O.M.E.) Program as part of its allocation of over \$14 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding from HUD. The H.O.M.E. Program was launched on June 1, 2009, to allow the County to purchase foreclosed houses and resell them to qualified low, moderate and middle income families in Harris County. Harris County will use NSP funding to construct new multifamily housing, perform traditional acquisitions and redevelopments of abandoned properties, all of which will be supplemented with Harris County funding to creatively address the needs of low-income home owners and residents in the County. All single family activities require that potential homeowners have a minimum of eight hours of housing counseling.

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Harris County is also currently working to implement the Homeownership Made Easy (H.O.M.E.) Program as part of its sub-allocation of \$1,622,250 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding through the State of Texas. This portion of the H.O.M.E. Program will allow the County to offer financing mechanisms for low, moderate and middle income Harris County residents. This activity will contribute to the stabilization of the neighborhood by creating more diversified options for affordable financing. The additional financing options will increase the number of eligible homebuyers throughout Harris County allowing the ability to purchase foreclosed homes. These single family activities will also require that potential homeowners have a minimum of eight hours of housing counseling.

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)

Harris County was awarded \$2,696,000 under the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Social Services Block Grant Hurricane Ike Recovery Funds to provide transportation services for residents in areas highly affected by Hurricane Ike within Houston/Harris County unable to access alternate transportation. Services will be provided in collaboration with local social service agencies to reach much needed case management services as part of their recovery effort.

Federal Transit Administration

Harris County has become a regular recipient of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding and receives FTA funding for use in areas outside of the METRO service area. Funding has been programmed for various projects in multiple locations within Harris County including:

- A Park and Ride at Garth Road and Interstate 10 in the City of Baytown. This Park and Ride service assists individual getting to and from their jobs within the Central Business District of Houston as well as the Texas Medical Center.
- Local fixed route service in the City of Baytown. This local service began in 2008 in partnership with Lee College, the City of Baytown and United Way of the Baytown Area. Harris County Transit was awarded \$992,000 in ARRA funds to provide a third route in Baytown, construct bus shelters in Baytown and to purchase an electronic fare media system for the RIDES program that will be expanded to all of the Harris County Transit service.
- A Park and Ride in Pasadena services the State Highway 225 corridor;
- Operate an elderly /disabled non-emergency demand response transit service for qualifying residents who live outside the METRO service area.
- Harris County has been awarded \$2,538,190 in FY 09 FTA 5307 Funds to be used for continued operation of the Baytown Bus Service, RIDES and the Non Emergency Medical Transit programs.
- RIDES is now administered by the Harris County Community Services Department Office of Transit Services.
- All transit services were made fully ADA accessible.
- Additional projects being proposed include the South Houston to La Porte Route, the La Porte to Clear Lake Route and the Baytown to Crosby Extension.

Other Resources - Non-Federal

State Funding

Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) provide a financial incentive to developers to build affordable rental units for low-income families and individuals. At the time the PY2010 AAP was approved by Commissioner's Court, Harris County had received notice from 25 developers of their intent to apply for LIHTC and construct a total of 3,494 affordable rental housing units in 25 developments within the Harris County service area.

Other Sources of Funding

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (TIRZ). Harris County utilizes special TIRZ funds designated for the creation of affordable housing to provide additional funding for homeless shelters, down payment assistance, and other affordable housing related projects. These funds are utilized to provide assistance to eligible participants in the form of loans and grants, in order to increase the availability of affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing to low-income individuals and families.

Harris County Housing Finance Corporation (HCHFC). During PY2009, HCCSD received a \$1 million commitment from HCHFC that will be carried over into PY2010 to help support the DAP and Homeownership Made Easy (H.O.M.E.) Programs as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

General Utility Assistance. HCCSD, through a combination of funding from CenterPoint Energy, Reliant Energy and United Way's Emergency Food and Shelter Program, has been awarded \$1,050,408 to assist eligible customers with utility assistance. While each program has individual eligibility requirements, all provide assistance to low-income households on the verge of homelessness due to utility disconnections.

County Departments. HCCSD represents only one of the many departments within Harris County working to improve the quality of life for all Harris County residents, including those low-income individuals and families within Harris County's HUD service area. In fact, the majority of County departments work toward improving quality of life and enhancing community revitalization. Even without the use of HUD funds, the County's many departments serve families through prevention, investigation, protective services, and treatment of sexually abused children. At the same time, they serve thousands of persons in education, health, public services, and public safety -- all priorities of the Consolidated Plan.

Furthermore, infrastructure and civic enrichment are always priorities with over 6,000 road miles maintained by Harris County precincts as well as 128 parks and community centers.

Analysis of PY2010 grant awards in the major areas of the PY2008-2012 Consolidated Plan, such as housing, public facilities, infrastructure, youth services and health, indicate that activities implemented in other County departments complement those funded through HCCSD. For example, the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services Department spends a large amount of its annual budget providing health services such as immunization, prenatal care, and pediatric health care.