

PY 2015 Annual Action Plan Highlights

Harris County will receive \$15,706,121 for use towards community development activities during Program Year 2015 (PY2015), which begins March 1, 2015 and ends February 29, 2016. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determines this allocation amount based on Harris County's Service Area population, poverty, housing overcrowding and age of housing.

On January 6, 2015, Harris County Commissioners Court approved the PY2015 Annual Action Plan (AAP), for the allocation of Harris County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program funds. As part of the Request for Proposals and award process, projects selected for funding were conditionally awarded and subject to the actual annual allocation from HUD. For PY2015, Harris County was awarded \$11,932,841 in CDBG funding, \$1,055,755 in ESG funding and \$2,717,525 in HOME funds. Based on this, the total HUD Entitlement Grant funds to be allocated is \$15,706,121 plus an estimated \$31,280 in program income for a total of \$15,737,401 in available funding.

Harris County Entitlement Funds from PY2009 to PY2015

Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ESG	TOTAL
2009	\$9,933,074	\$3,714,611	\$478,553	\$14,126,238
2010	\$11,683,390	\$3,706,885	\$474,270	\$15,864,545
2011	\$9,830,921	\$3,270,075	\$473,344	\$13,574,340
2012	\$10,400,428	\$2,012,116	\$853,881	\$13,266,425
2013	\$11,799,679	\$2,699,905	\$758,773	\$15,258,357
2014	\$11,844,232	\$2,899,993	\$958,591	\$15,702,816
2015	\$11,932,841	\$2,717,525	\$1,055,755	\$15,706,121

HCCSD is proposing to fund a total of \$8,152,820 in CDBG, HOME and ESG funds for 35 projects. The projects in this action plan address the PY2013-2017 Harris County Consolidated Plan's priority need areas of housing, homelessness, public facilities, infrastructure, public services and other.

The following matrix reflects Harris County's funding allocations, including anticipated program income, by Consolidated Plan Need area:

Consolidated Plan Need Area	Number of Projects	Amount Allocated
Housing	4	\$1,217,503
Homelessness	10	\$1,307,438
Infrastructure	5	\$3,572,223
Public Facilities	1	\$469,098
Public Services	14	\$1,482,838
Other *	1	\$135,000
Total Allocations	35	\$8,184,100
Unprogrammed Funds		\$4,815,799
Administration		\$2,737,502
Total Funds		\$15,737,401

**Projects classified in the Other category include a demolition/nuisance abatement.*

Although additional applications were evaluated during the PY2015 competitive RFP process, selected projects were conservatively chosen due to limited available funding. Thus, viable projects that are able to expend funds are pending release of HUD contracts. During PY2015 Harris County anticipates adding one HOME funded Permanent Supportive Housing Project and may add unsolicited projects utilizing the procedures in its Consolidated Plan/Action Plan Amendment Policy.

Harris County believes its comprehensive and community-based approach to solving the complex socio-economic ailments within the County is the most effective way to stimulate private reinvestment in the County's most underserved areas. The PY2015 Annual Action Plan (AAP) is the County's blueprint for facilitating change within lower-income communities and ultimately improving the quality of life in Harris County.

PY2015 Measurement of Outcomes	Estimated Persons/Units
Homeless served/Homeless Prevention	2,080
New Single-Family Housing Construction	0
New Multi-Family Housing Construction	0
Rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing units	24
Rehabilitation of owner-occupied LBP housing units	19
Acquisition of existing Multi-Family units	0
Services to Youth (including services for abused/neglected children)	2,031
Services to Seniors	680
Services to Disabled	0
Transportation Services	1,226

Services to Abused/Neglected Children	635
Health Services	0
Direct Homeownership	35
Public Facilities Completed	1
Infrastructure Projects Completed	5

Introduction

The AAP is the annual update to the five-year Consolidated Plan, which sets forth Harris County's long-term community development goals and strategies. Program Year 2015 is the second year of the PY2013-PY2017 Consolidated Plan for Harris County. The AAP process has been specifically created to assist in mapping one-year actions for community development and making good use of available federal, state, and local resources.

In addition, the AAP details the allocation of Harris County resources and entitlement grants, allocated by HUD, toward improving the quality of life for Harris County residents. Resources reported in this document will be available between March 1, 2015 and February 29, 2016.

The majority of these resources are utilized within Harris County's Service Area (*Map 1*), which includes unincorporated Harris County and twelve smaller cities within the County which have signed cooperative agreements with Harris County. The cities of Baytown, Houston, Missouri City, Pearland, League City, and Pasadena are entitlement communities that utilize their own community development resources and, therefore, are not within the Harris County service area.

Resources available through the County are almost exclusively dedicated toward improving the living conditions for low-income individuals. Low-income is defined as earning less than 80 percent of the median family income (MFI). The MFI for the Houston, Texas, Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area is \$66,600 for a family of four. *Table 1* denotes MFI limits for FY2014.

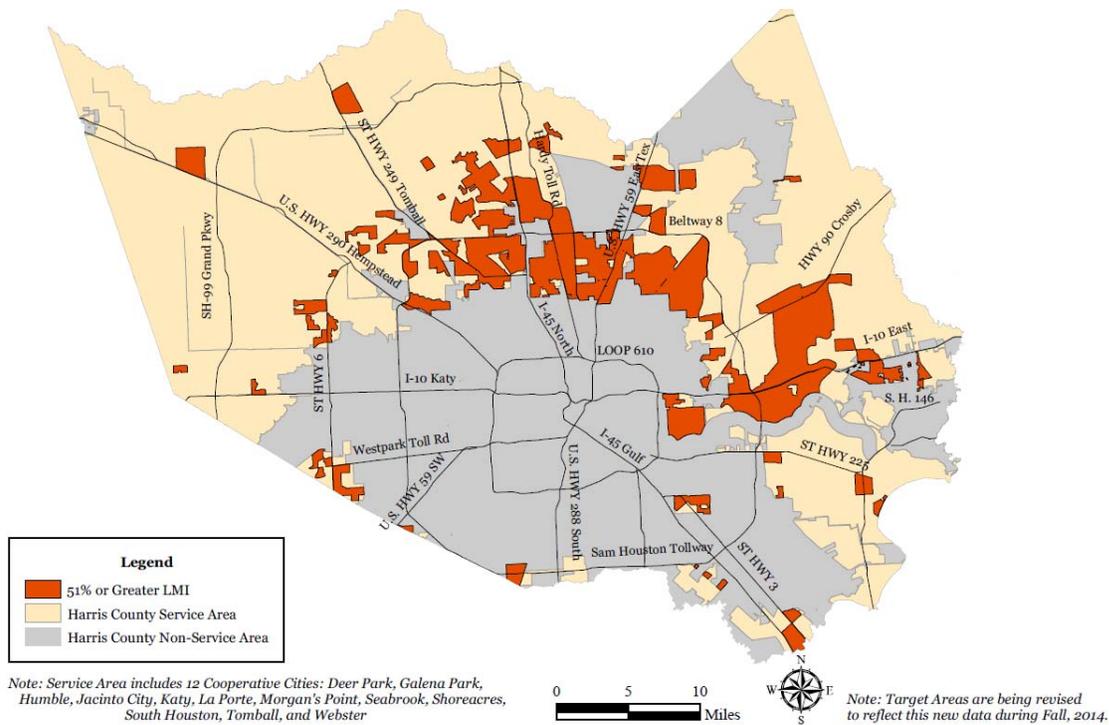
Table 1: FY 2014 Median Family Income (MFI) Limits*

Income Levels*	% of MFI	Amount
Extremely Low Income	0-30%	\$23,850
Very-Low Income	31-50%	\$33,300
Low Income	51-80%	\$53,300

**Based on a family of four*

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,

<http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il/il2014/2014summary.odn>



Map 1: Harris County Service and Target Areas

The AAP is a public awareness and strategy development document required by HUD for any jurisdiction receiving entitlement grants - funds allocated to participating jurisdictions based upon a formula of population and poverty characteristics. In fact, the AAP is only one part of an extensive community development process designed to plan long- and short-term solutions for improving the lives of low-income individuals. This process has been specifically developed to assist in creating strategies for community development and making proper use of available resources.

Importance of the Annual Action Plan

The large majority of resources discussed within the AAP are derived from federal tax dollars. This alone warrants a need to use funds and other resources in a prudent manner. The AAP serves as a report to HUD and the general public of the anticipated manner in which resources made available through tax dollars will be utilized and provides an additional forum for community input into the community development process.

Further, the AAP provides a means by which HUD can ensure proper and efficient use of resources. By requiring the AAP, HUD not only has an opportunity to review for appropriate use of funds, but also has a benchmark document by which Harris County's performance can be evaluated.

The AAP includes a discussion of available resources, an explanation of the allocation process, a summary and brief analysis of proposed allocations, and strategies for monitoring appropriate use of those resources. Each topic is further divided and

discussed as necessary to make the process understandable to members of the general public.