

Homeless Prevention	6,554.44	140
Consumer Credit Counseling		
Essential Services	10,045.04	150 Overlap Count From HP
Homeless Prevention	4,398.82	150
General Administration		
General Administration	Expenditure\$	Benefit
	21,105.72	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$405,002.33	

The table below reflects the performance management system developed by ICF Consulting for use by the Rio Grande Valley Entitlement Communities. Its primary purpose is to assess progress towards stated goals.

INTRODUCTION

The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is a comprehensive evaluation of the County's use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) entitlement funding. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is the funding entity of these federal programs. The CAPER contains a summary of accomplishments achieved in response to objectives set forth by the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Strategy. For reporting purposes, the CAPER focuses on those activities outlined in the County's 2008-2009 One-Year Action Plan and expenditures realized during that time period.

The CAPER is comprised of three basic elements: 1) current activities in IDIS which include all required financial and performance data used for annual reporting, 2) required narrative discussions on certain HUD identified topics and 3) required IDIS reports. Wherever possible, tables and graphs were used to interpret performance and expenditure data in order to facilitate an ease of understanding. In summary, the County's 2008-2009 CAPER has been prepared in accordance with the performance reporting requirements set forth in 24 CFR Part 91.

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

The Urban County Program (UCP) is a department within the Hidalgo County governance structure. Hidalgo County, as the grantee, created the UCP in 1988 to serve as the administrative entity for these HUD funds. Funded projects take place in eighteen non-entitlement cities and the four county precincts. Those cities include are: Alamo, Alton, Donna, Edcouch, Elsa, Granjeno, Hidalgo, La Joya, La Villa, Mercedes, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, Progreso, Progreso Lakes, San Juan, Sullivan City and Weslaco. The cities range in population size from 234 (Progreso Lakes) to 26,935 (Weslaco), with an average size of approximately 7,800.

The principal beneficiaries of programs funded by the UCP are those persons of low and moderate-income means. HUD defines this target group as those persons having an income at or below 80% of the area's median income. This reporting year, 100% of eligible fund expenditures in the CDBG and HOME programs were of direct benefit to this target group.

In terms of minority benefit, Hidalgo County is predisposed to serve minority groups inasmuch that approximately 88% of the population is Hispanic. Given the correlation between minority status and income levels, funded projects overwhelmingly serve low and moderate-income persons that are of Hispanic descent.

The UCP further strives to make the appropriate accommodations for persons with disabilities if notified in advance. Translators and helpers can be made available on an as-needed basis. This accommodation is made known through advertisements notifying the public about upcoming public hearings or meetings. Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act is mandatory in all building construction projects funded by the UCP.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

At the onset of the program year, the County utilized an operating budget of \$8,340,418 for the CDBG Program, \$2,692,416 for the HOME Program and \$371,952 for the ESG Program to implement the 2008-2009 Program Year. In addition to the entitlement funding received from HUD, the County continued to utilize grant funding from the State to address the living standards in *colonias*. The County applied for and received two (2) Economically Distressed Areas Program Grants during this reporting period for a two year (2) period. The grants were in the amount of \$ 97,614 and \$ 329,037 for a combined total of \$ 426,651 Beneficiaries will be noted in next years CAPER.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Expenditures realized were directed under projects that primarily benefit the County's low and moderate-income population. Specific projects undertaken were located in and around the original townsites of participating cities or in the outlying rural areas of the County. These census tracts contain the highest concentration of low and moderate-income persons.

NARRATIVES

A. Assessment of Five-Year Goals & Objectives

All activities undertaken this Program Year addressed certain objectives set forth by the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy (CPS). The County is pleased to report that 100% of activities funded this year were designated as high priorities. This reporting period, the County expended \$9,104,965.89 in CDBG funds. This figure translates to an expenditure ratio of .81, well below the 1.5 minimum standard required by HUD and represents the best expenditure ratio ever attained by the Hidalgo County Urban County Program in its twenty-year history. This achievement is an affirmation of the County's diligent effort to put these federal funds to work in an expeditious manner.

CDBG EXPENDITURES BY PRIORITY DESIGNATION		
Parks, Recreational Facilities 03F	HIGH	\$ 625,445.79
Flood Drain Improvements 03I	HIGH	\$ 109,415.50
Water, Sewer Improvements 03J	HIGH	\$1,451,814.10
Housing Rehabilitation 14A	HIGH	\$ 39,472.60
Street Improvements 03K	HIGH	\$3,845,880.40
Fire Stations/Equipment 03O	HIGH	\$ 807,469.92
Public Services 05	HIGH	\$ 136,569.53
Senior Service 05A	HIGH	\$ 96,818.93
Youth Services 05D	HIGH	\$ 248,655.81
Transportation Services 05#	HIGH	\$ 99,000.00
Battered and Abused Spouses 05G	HIGH	\$ 26,940.29
Health Services 05M	HIGH	\$ 17,256.08
Abused and Neglected Children 05N	HIGH	\$ 115,427.90
General Program Administration 21A	HIGH	\$1,090,902.29
Public Facilities 03 General	HIGH	\$ 18,762.75
Neighborhood Facilities 03E	HIGH	\$ 105,952.00
CI Infrastructure Development 17B	HIGH	\$ 211,611.40
Clearance & Demolition 04	HIGH	\$ 7,380.00
Section 108 Loan Repayment 19F	HIGH	\$.00
Sidewalks 03L	HIGH	\$ 50,190.60
TOTAL		\$ 9,104,965.89

HOME

Under the HOME Program, the County realized expenditures of \$3,311,935. This figure can be broken down as follows:

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM		
Activity Type	Expenditure \$	Benefit
Community Housing Development Organizations	881,298	38 new housing units created
Down Payment Assistance	156,420	22 families assisted with homeownership
Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation	2,004,904	47 families assisted
General Administration	269,313	
TOTAL HOME INVESTMENT	\$ 3,311,935	

The County designated affordable housing and the related housing services as high priorities. Therefore, expenditures here coincide with the strategy outlined in the CPS.

Emergency Shelter Grant

Expenditures under the ESG Program totaled \$405,002.33. A total of \$21,105.72 was expended for administration, while service providers implementing the program utilized \$383,896.60. Below is a breakdown by entity and activity of ESG expenditures during the reporting period:

EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAM		
Salvation Army		
Activity Type	Expenditure\$	Benefit (2 years)
Homeless Prevention	23,271.43	184
Maintenance & Operations	84,000.80	2332 Overlap Count From Essentials
Essential Services	18,834.91	2332
American Red Cross		
Activity Type	Expenditure\$	Benefit
Maintenance & Operations	32,254.58	152 People Served
Mujeres Unidas		
Activity Type	Expenditure\$	Benefit (2 years)
Maintenance & Operations	158,638.31	3687
Essential Services	38,997.91	3687 Overlap Count From M&O
ARCH		
Essential Services	6,900.37	140 Overlap Count From HP

PUBLIC NOTICE**COUNTY OF HIDALGO
URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM**

Date of Publication: Thursday, September 17, 2009

Notice is hereby given that the County of Hidalgo Urban County Program has completed its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009.

This Report is a comprehensive review of the activities undertaken by the Urban County Program in carrying out the activities identified in the County's Consolidated Plan Strategy (CPS). The program operates in 18 non-entitlement communities and the rural areas of Hidalgo County.

A eleven day comment period is hereby established to run from September 17, 2009 to September 28, 2009. The CAPER Report will be available for public viewing and comment at the Urban County Office.

Following the comment period, a Public Hearing will be held at 1:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, September 29, 2009** at the Hidalgo County Commissioners Meeting Room on the first floor of the Hidalgo County Administrative Building located at 100 East Cano, Edinburg, Texas 78539.

Accommodations will be made for individuals with handicaps upon request.

Las presentaciones se haran en español para aquellas personas que así lo deseen.

For more information, please come by our office or call (956) 787-8127.

Urban County Program
1916 Tesoro Blvd.
Pharr, TX 78577