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CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

While the global coronavirus pandemic continued to adversely impact the implementation of many planned activities throughout much of the 2021 program year, Millville and its partners were able to meet nearly all of its CDBG goals for the year. As noted below, the “regular” CDBG activities were also augmented by special Covid-response activities using designated CARES Act funding.

The accomplishment numbers reported below are taken from an evaluation of each individual activity completed during the 2020 Program Year rather than from the PR-23 report, which is often inaccurate. Based on this evaluation of accomplishments, Millville has maintained its record regarding the timely delivery of CDBG benefits to its residents.

As it has consistently done in the past, Millville met or exceeded nearly all of its goals for 2021, despite some staffing turnover and challenges. The one major exception was in the area of non-covid public services as pandemic response pushed several non-covid activities aside.

In addition to the accomplishments contained in the charts below, Millville used nearly \$220,000 in special Covid relief funds to provide food to more than 5,000 individuals, rent assistance to 36 households and support for several one small business.

The accomplishment numbers reported below are taken from an evaluation of each individual activity completed during the 2021 Program Year rather than from the PR-23 report, which is often inaccurate.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

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Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Administration and Planning	Administration	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	5	2	40.00%	1	1	100.00%
Eliminate blight	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	10	3	30.00%	2	0	0.00%
Eliminate blight	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	0	502		200	0	0.00%
Improve public facilities	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2000	2373	118.65%			
Preserve existing housing stock	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	12	120.00%	2	7	350.00%
Real property improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	0	6		4	6	150.00%
Real property improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	0		0	0	
Real property improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	5	1	20.00%			

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Support economic development	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	6	5	83.33%			
Support public services	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	7000	6050	86.43%	1400	161	11.50%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

Funds spent during 2021 all addressed high priority needs identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, specifically the needs for housing preservation, neighborhood stabilization and services for the homeless and the disabled and low-income residents.

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CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	33
Black or African American	70
Asian	0
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	65
Total	168
Hispanic	28
Not Hispanic	140

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Numbers reported above are taken from individual activity accomplishments as found in the PR-03 report rather than from the PR-23 report, which is often incorrect. The category labeled "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" is actually "Other multi-racial."

The diversity of Millville's population is reflected in the numbers above. Some 42% of beneficiaries are African-American, compared to the City's population of 15% African-American (per the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 American Community Survey). Hispanic residents comprise 17% of beneficiaries and 18% of the City's population (2020 ACS).

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CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	628,974	392,178

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The amounts above include a CDBG-CV balance of \$330,504.16 available at the start of the Program Year and \$219,684.75 of CDBG-CV funds expended during the Program Year. The amount of "regular" CDBG funds expended during the Program Year was \$172,492.91.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City of Millville	90	88	Grantee jurisdiction
Low-mod residential areas	10	12	Comprehensive

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Geographic distribution of funds was essentially as planned.

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Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City leverages federal funding through its own local resources and encourages service providers to seek private funding for social services as well. CDBG funds do not serve as the sole source of funding for any of its recipients/partners except residential rehabs. All of the social service providers have various streams of funding available to them and in many cases the funding received from the CDBG program represents a small portion of their overall budget.

During 2021, no publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction was used to address the needs identified in the plan.

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CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	2	7
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	2	7

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	2	7
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	2	7

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Despite a turnover in the City's Community Development staff and the demands of implementing covid response programs, the City more than tripled its goal in housing rehabs because the need continues to be there.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

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It is expected that owner-occupied housing rehab will continue to be an important part of the City's Community Development strategies going forward.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	4	0
Low-income	2	0
Moderate-income	1	0
Total	7	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Owner-occupied housing rehabilitations skewed toward residents at the lower end of the eligible income range.

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CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)
Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

Outreach occurs at the Help and Hope food pantry that serves the homeless and was supported with Millville CDBG and CDBG-CV funds in 2021, and at Rural Development's Cumberland County Homeless Shelter, which has been supported by Millville CDBG funds in prior years. Both formal and informal needs assessments are conducted that lead the front-line providers of services to a clearer understanding of the homeless population and their needs. These providers, in turn, take part in Community Development planning, which affects, among other things, the way the needs of the homeless are addressed.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Millville provides support to a variety of services for the homeless population. Assistance comes in the form of participation on various County councils and committees as well as direct funding to nonprofits agencies that provide direct service to the homeless or those at risk for homelessness. Activities that the City of Millville supports include the provision of emergency shelter beds, support services and a food pantry.

Specific CDBG support on these activities in 2021 consisted of a \$15,000 allocation of "regular" CDBG funds and nearly \$20,000 expended in CDBG-CV funding for operational support for the Help & Hope food pantry.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

During the 2021 program year, efforts of the Community Development Program to prevent homelessness have focused on housing rehab, where the program used CDBG funds to rehab 7 homes for income-eligible families. The repairs provided generally addressed issues such as heating, plumbing, roofs and other vital components without which occupancy would not be possible and homelessness would be a real threat.

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Additionally, the City used more than \$195,000 in CDBG-CV funds for rental assistance to help those impacted by the economic hardships of the coronavirus pandemic stay in their homes.

On a broader scale, the City's Community Development program is active in countywide planning and implementation to head off homelessness for those most at risk, including populations being discharged from public institutions and systems.

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 City supports the transition to permanent housing in a number of ways:

- * By frequently supporting the Cumberland County homeless shelter, where case management and needs assessments encourage clients to identify and address the issues that caused their homelessness and assists in making the links and taking the steps to accomplish that goal;
- * By participating in the regional Continuum of Care and other joint efforts at addressing homelessness, transition and permanency.

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CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Other than planning and needs assessment activities, no specific actions were planned during 2021 by the CDBG program in support of the public housing program. Public housing residents, however, benefit from several of the public service programs supported by the CDBG program.

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

The Millville Housing Authority has established residents' councils in each public housing project. These councils assist in making decisions regarding priority needs and funding to be allocated to facilitate projects.

The Housing Authority provides home ownership information to interested public housing residents.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Millville Housing Authority is not a troubled PHA.

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CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The City has identified the public policies that impact the cost of housing and the incentives to develop, maintain, and improve affordable housing. Many of these policies fall beyond the purview or control of the City. Indeed, some of the issues described above are beyond the authority of any single agency or level of government.

Issues that can be addressed at the municipal level include local tax policy, land use controls, building codes fees and charges, growth limits, zoning ordinances and policies that affect the return on residential investment. The City has addressed its zoning and land use regulations in an attempt to make them as equitable and open as possible. Development standards, though they sometimes add costs to construction or rehabilitation, are necessary for the safety and health of residents and are in place in most of the participating jurisdictions. Efforts have been made to streamline and facilitate the permitting process locally.

The City continues to seek applicable state and federal funding in support of these housing and community development programs. In addition the City works with not-for-profit organizations to identify and obtain additional sources of funds.

The City continues to implement a variety of economic development programs and initiatives in order to create new and better job opportunities for residents.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is a lack of funds. There are many needs in all of the areas - public facilities, public services, infra-structure, and economic development – and municipal resources go only so far.

The City and its consultants are constantly looking for new and better ways to attract resources for the many community needs. These efforts have succeeded in bringing many needed resources, some of which are used to leverage CDBG and HOME funds. Activities undertaken in 2021 with such resources include infrastructure improvements, public facilities improvements, public services and housing.

In addition to addressing resource shortages, the City also attempts to alleviate demand by attracting jobs and training opportunities to allow residents to improve their incomes. The development of more and better jobs for low and moderate income persons helps reduce the scale or scope of needs. The City's aggressive efforts in Economic Development and regional growth in training opportunities have

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shown some progress in bringing more jobs and a better trained workforce to the City and region.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

During 2021, Millville's residential rehab program continued to help reduce lead-based paint hazards in two ways:

- Education - by providing homeowners with information on the risk of lead-based paint, particularly to small children, and with information on how to reduce those risks.
- Testing & clearance - for all pre-1978 housing in the residential rehab program where painted surfaces will be disturbed or are found to be deteriorated, the program conducted a lead risk assessment and addressed any lead paint hazards through lead safe work practices, interim controls or abatement, as appropriate and in compliance with HUD and EPA regulations regarding lead paint.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City's anti-poverty strategy is linked to the Economic Programs that have been implemented and operated for several years. The objective of poverty reduction requires programming for broad areas including job training and placement, public services, education and basic skills development. The overriding principle however is to create new jobs and opportunities for households with incomes below the poverty level. It is only through comprehensive, coordinated strategies that nurture skills and provide opportunities to gain and retain employment and thus improve the quality of life that people can improve their situation.

Cumberland County and the City of Millville are part of the **South Jersey Economic Development District** (SJEDD). As such they are included in the district's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document, and benefit from projects funded by the US Economic Development Administration (USEDA). The CEDS document is a comprehensive analysis of the area economy, including the City of Millville, and a strategy for the continued growth, prosperity and economic strength of the district, which includes Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties. The strategy includes projects and programs concerned with:

Developable land

Skilled labor force

Financial resources

New and expanding markets

Transportation

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Quality of Life

Technology oriented industrial development

The CEDS Committee monitors economic activity in the region and recommends program and project activities, as well as nominating projects for grant funding each year. Millville is a member of the CEDS Committee, and participates in its regular meetings.

Millville is also a part of the **Cumberland County Federal Empowerment Zone**. This designation is intended to spur the redevelopment of Millville and the other communities in the Zone by directing significant grant and loan funding to the communities. The Empowerment Zone has three basic strategies aimed at improving economic conditions throughout the area. The first is to assist firms that wish to move into or expand in the Empowerment Zone. The second strategy is to establish small businesses, while the third is to renovate and upgrade the areas to make them attractive to businesses and to improve the quality of life for residents. Significant resources have also been allocated to job training, youth services and transportation.

Millville, along with neighboring Vineland, is also a **New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ)**, a state program intended to reduce unemployment and induce private capital investment through the use of tax incentives and the return of state sales tax revenues directly to the community.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City implements its Community Development efforts in partnership with public, private, non-profit and for-profit organizations to meet the stated goals and objectives. This network of partnerships is crucial to the efficient, effective delivery of benefits.

The City actively seeks new partnerships and resources to further the goals of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan and continued to do so in 2021.

Like so many employers, the City faced staffing challenges during the 2021 Program Year and continues to work on a solution.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

As a common partner with so many of the public and private housing and social service providers, the Millville Community Development Program has been a natural conduit for communication and interaction among these entities. The CD Program continued to serve in that capacity during 2021 while respecting the autonomy and uniqueness of each partner.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the

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jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

To promote fair housing choice, the City undertook the following actions:

- publication annually of public notice advertising commitment to fair housing;
- display of fair housing logo on all literature
- provision of fair housing information in rehab office, including Housing Rights pamphlet
- reviewed analysis of impediments for ongoing accuracy

In conjunction with the current Consolidated Plan, the Cities of Vineland and Millville completed a regional Analysis of impediments to Fair Housing Choice to assess the fairness issues surrounding affordable housing. While there is not enough funding available to address all issues and assure absolute fairness, progress can be made by focusing on the issues identified in the Analysis of Impediments.

Those issues include:

- need for additional affordable units
- public transportation is sorely lacking, limiting access to housing and economic opportunities
- need for accessibility improvements to existing units and more accessible units in new construction
- there is evidence of concentrations of poverty and of racial/ethnic minorities
- need for information concerning fair housing responsibilities among developers and landlords
- need among residents for information concerning fair housing rights and complaint processes

While the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic have pushed urgent replies to the hardships it has caused to the forefront, Fair Housing issues have not been forgotten and will be tackled with renewed vigor once the global health and economic crisis has passed. Regarding the identified Impediments to Fair Housing, each item is being addressed as follows with, again, more emphasis to come on these in the future:

- Additional affordable units - continued concentration of CDBG and HOME on the creation of new affordable units and the preservation of existing affordable units
- Public transportation - an issue beyond the ability of local government to solve on a significant scale, but one that the City can support regional action for and can chip away at with support for smaller transit options such as senior buses or local jitneys
- Accessibility - emphasize the creation of accessible units in new residential developments and increase the marketing and implementation of accessibility improvements in the residential rehab program
- Concentrations of poverty and minority populations - while acknowledging the limitations of

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property costs in different geographic areas, the jurisdiction will continue to support the de-centralization of low-income and minority residents

- Information - continue to support the availability of information regarding fair housing to developers, landlords and residents by looking for fair housing advocates with whom to partner.

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CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The City's Community Development Program standards and procedures for compliance monitoring are designed to ensure that:

- 1) objectives of the National Affordable Housing Act are met,
- 2) program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program, and
- 3) recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, and with the requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and minimize displacement of low-income households.

The CD Program continued to carryout monitoring activities and internal audits to ensure that it complies with all CDBG program requirements. The Program has followed the procedures and requirements published by HUD. The City worked closely with particular entities in the execution and monitoring of the programs described in the Action Plan

Action Plan activities were monitored through the use of checklists and forms to facilitate uniform monitoring.

Fiscal monitoring included review and approval of budgets, compliance with Grant Agreements, approval of vouchers and reviews of fiscal reports and sub-recipient audits.

Monitoring of sub-recipients occurred through regular telephone and on-site monitoring visits.

Minority Business Outreach - The City encourages participation by minority-owned businesses in CDBG and HOME assisted activities and maintains records concerning the participation of minority-owned businesses to assess the results of its efforts and to complete the semiannual "Minority Business Enterprise Report" to HUD. Qualified minority contractors are encouraged to bid on properties participating in the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Comprehensive Planning Requirements - To ensure compliance with the comprehensive planning requirements of the Consolidated Plan process, the Community Development Program reviews the process on an ongoing basis. The review ensures compliance with federal requirements concerning citizen participation and consistency of actions taken with those specified in the "Citizen Participation

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Plan." Records documenting actions taken are maintained for each program year.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City of Millville placed the CAPER document on its web site for public display for a period in excess of the required 15 days, from September 1, 2022 through September 21, 2022. The public was notified of the public comment period by an advertisement which appeared in both English and Spanish in the local publication *The Daily Journal*. A copy of the advertisement is provided with this report.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

Ongoing assessments of community needs and ongoing successes of the City's CDBG program in addressing those needs suggest that no significant changes are needed in the program's objectives. The program will continue to seek efficient, effective means to provide housing, facilities and services to our most vulnerable residents. The City will continue to seek community partners capable of assisting in those efforts.

While always aware of opportunities to improve, the City believes that the overall direction and implementation of its CDBG program meet both the requirements of the federal government and the needs of our local residents.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

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CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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While always aware of opportunities to improve, the City believes that the overall direction and implementation of its CDBG program meet both the requirements of the federal government and the needs of our local residents.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

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CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	1	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	3				
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	2				
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	1				

Table 8 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).					
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

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Other.					
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Table 9 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative