RESOLUTION No. 2009-141-1086

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE 4TH PROGRAM YEAR ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR RECEIPT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, every year the City is required to submit an Annual Action Plan that outlines activities to be carried out using Community Development Block Grant Funds ("CDBG"), and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Gardens has been allocated One Million, Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars ($1,377,547.00) in CDBG Funds for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, and

WHEREAS, this amount represents an increase of Ten Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars ($10,762.00) from the previous year's allocation, and,

WHEREAS, staff has created an Annual Action Plan ("Plan") and held public hearings on the Plan, and has advertised the Plan in accordance with HUD requirements, and

WHEREAS, City Council would like to approve the attached 4th Program Year Annual Action Plan for submittal to HUD,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS: The foregoing Whereas paragraphs are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true, and the same are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. AUTHORIZATION: The City Council of the City of Miami Gardens hereby approves the 4th Program Year Annual Action Plan for submittal to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Agency for Receipt of Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JULY 22, 2009.

SHIRLEY GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

RONETTA TAYLOR, MMC, CITY CLERK

PREPARED BY: SONJA KNIGHTON DICKENS, ESQ.
City Attorney

SPONSORED BY: DANNY CREW, CITY MANAGER

MOVED BY: Vice Mayor Watson
SECOND BY: Councilman Gilbert

VOTE: 6-0

Mayor Shirley Gibson	X (Yes)	____(No)
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson	X (Yes)	____(No)
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton	X (Yes)	____(No)
Councilman Aaron Campbell	X (Yes)	____(No)
Councilman Andre' Williams	X (Yes)	____(No)
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett	___(Yes)	____(No)(not present)
Councilman Oliver Gilbert	X (Yes)	____(No)

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City of Miami Gardens
Agenda Cover Memo

Council Meeting Date:	**July 22, 2009**		**Item Type:** *(Enter X in box)*	**Resolution**	**Ordinance**		**Other**	
				X				
Fiscal Impact: *(Enter X in box)*	**Yes**	**No**	**Ordinance Reading:** *(Enter X in box)*		**1st Reading**		**2nd Reading**	
		X	**Public Hearing:** *(Enter X in box)*		**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**
						X		
Funding Source:	N/A		**Advertising Requirement:** *(Enter X in box)*		**Yes**		**No**	
					X			
Contract/P.O. Required: *(Enter X in box)*	**Yes**	**No**	**RFP/RFQ/Bid #:**		**N/A**			
	X							
Sponsor Name	**Danny Crew, City Manager**		**Department:**		**Community Development**			

Short Title:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE 4TH PROGRAM YEAR ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR RECEIPT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Staff Summary:

Background

As required by the US Housing and Urban Development (HUD), each Entitlement City must submit an Annual Action that outlines the activities (programs) to be carried out be each grantee using Federal funds. The Annual Action Plan must coincide with the 5-Year Consolidated Plan (which covers 2006-2011).

Current Situation

The City of Miami Gardens has been allocated $1,377,547 in Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) for fiscal 2009-2010. This amount represents an increase of $10,762 from the previous year's allocation. The attached Annual Action Plan is for the City's Fourth (4th) Program Year and provides the detail of the activities to be carried out. It also incorporates public comments received during the two (2) public meetings held on April 9th and 14th, 2009.

A draft of the attached Action Plan was publicly advertised for thirty (30) days, allowing for public comments. No public comments were received. Upon the City Council's approval, the Action Plan must be submitted to HUD prior to the August 15th deadline in order to secure our funding allocation.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the attached (4th) Program Year Annual Action Plan for submittal to HUD for review and approval.

Attachment:

Fourth Program Year Action Plan (DRAFT)

The CPMP Fourth Annual Action Plan includes the SF 424 and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

Narrative Responses

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

Program Year 4 Action Plan Executive Summary:

Program Year 4 Action Plan for the City of Miami Gardens covers the period beginning October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. As in previous years, the programs and activities described in this Fourth Year Action Plan are developed with three primary objectives, 1) providing benefits to the low- and moderate income individuals, and households, 2) providing benefits to neighborhoods with high concentrations of low- and moderate income residents, and 3) benefits to the City as a whole. The City will also use the plan to coordinate its efforts with other federal, state, and local grant programs to produce decent housing, a suitable living environment and increase economic opportunities in the community.

It is evident from current economic conditions that sustaining affordable housing stock remains the highest priority in this community. With the rapid increase of abandoned and foreclosed homes and the continuing decline in home values, it is imperative to keep focus on preservation of the current housing stock while encouraging homeownership.

In Program Year 4 the City intends to fully utilize the $1,337,547 allocation of CDBG funds to continue addressing the priority needs identified in the 2006-2011 Consolidated Plan. The City expects to expand existing programs and to leverage other funding that was recently awarded, including Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), and Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) program funds.

NSP funds will be used to implement revitalization strategies in communities with high foreclosure rates. This will be accomplished through the purchase of single family housing units that will be rehabilitated and sold to eligible individuals/families at below market rates. The City intends to provide subsidies to eligible homebuyers participating in the NSP program. Also, as a part of the NSP activities, the City intends to partner with a private for-profit developer to create an assisted living facility for the elderly and disabled population. Some of these activities are already underway and will continue as part of Program Year 4 Action Plan. The expected overall outcome of the NSP program is revitalization of communities where foreclosures are prevalent in causing decline in home values and the quality of life. It is anticipated that approximately 10 housing units will be purchased and rehabilitated during Program Year 4.

The City anticipates increasing public service activities through the newly allocated Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) program funds. This new funding stream will provide social services to residents that may be experiencing homelessness in the form of temporary financial assistance and services. We will make a concerted effort to reach out to community based organizations as well as faith-based organizations to partner with to deliver assistance to the community. Additionally, we will continue to provide technical assistance to not-for-profit agencies engaged in these activities in order to ensure the overall success of the programs and provide maximum benefit to program participants.

The overall outcome of HPRP is to provide financial assistance to individuals and households that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to establish stable housing and reduce the instances of homelessness within the City. However, the City intends to provide financial assistance to approximately 75 individuals and households through the HPRP program.

The City also intends to expand its economic development activities through re-evaluation and enhancement of the current façade improvement program and implementation of a program geared more toward financial assistance to new business owners and attracting new business to the community. The City also intends to implement a redevelopment strategy for the Sunshine State Industrial Park, a was once vibrant and thriving business district with both manufacturing and retail businesses. Now the area has deteriorated and businesses have either gone out of business or relocated to another community.

General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.

2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.

3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

Action Plan General Questions response:

1. Geographic areas of the jurisdiction

The City of Miami Gardens was incorporated on May 13, 2003, as the 33rd city in Miami-Dade County. With an estimated population of 105,414, it is the third largest city in the County, according to the 2000 Census. The City is located in North-Central Miami-Dade County and covers an area of approximately 20 square miles. Miami Gardens borders Broward County to the north, the City of Miami Lakes and Unincorporated Miami-Dade County to the west, the City of Opa-Locka to the south, and the City of North Miami Beach and Unincorporated Miami-Dade County to the east.

The City of Miami Gardens is comprised of seven communities identified in the 2000 Census as Census Designated Places (CDP): Andover CDP, portions of Carol City CDP, Scott Lake CDP, portions of Norland CDP, portions of Lake Lucerne CDP, Opa-Locka North CDP, and Bunche Park CDP. The City of Miami Gardens is an urban/suburban community that was heavily developed between 1950 and 1969. It is a solid, working and middle class community of unique diversity and holds the distinction of being the largest predominantly African-American municipality in the State of Florida. The City is 77% non-Hispanic Black, 16% Hispanic, 4% White non-Hispanic, and 3% other.

According to the 2000 Census, 11,151 households in the City of Miami Gardens have income at or below 80% of the area median income and are therefore classified as low or moderate income by HUD. This represents about 38% of the citywide population for whom household income could be determined. Maps I-1 through I-4 in the 2006-2011 Consolidated Plan illustrate the following areas of the City: (1) the City location, (2) the Community Designated Places in the 2000 census that are comprised in the City, (3) the CDBG priorty areas by census block group and neighborhood and, (4) racial demographic by census block group.

2. Basis for Allocating Funding

Since the primary national objective of the Consolidated Plan programs are to benefit low- and moderate-income residents, the City of Miami Garden's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds will be utilized to develop programs and activities that will provide assistance to this target population, and benefit the City as a whole in improving the quality of life for the residents.

Target Areas:

The City of Miami Gardens has identified thirteen (13) areas that have a low to moderate-income population of 51% or more. These areas are designated CDBG priority areas for the purpose of program funding.

Area name	Census Tracts
Andover & Vicinity	009802-(4), 009901-(9)
*Bunche Park	000402-(3)(4) 000403-(1)(5),
Brentwood & Vicinity	010002-(1)
*Cloverleaf Estates & Vacninty	009501-(9)
Eagles Landing/Leslie Estates	010002-(2)
Kings Gardens	010010-(2)
Lake Lucerne	009904-(1), 009904-(9)
LeJune Gardens & Vicinity	010006-(1)(2), 01009-(2)(3)
Myrtle Grove & Vicinity	009400-(4)(3)
Norland & Vicinity	009600-(2), 009902-(3)
Opa Locka North	000501-(2)(4)(5), 000502-(1)
Rainbow Park	000401-(6), 000403-(1)(6), 000402-(2) 000501-(3)(1)
Scott Lake	009502-(4)(6)

*indicates neighborhood with greater than 70% low-mod income

Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy:

The City has designated the area of Bunche Park as a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). This community has more than a 70% low-income population. Community meetings have been conducted with area stakeholders to indentify priority needs and develop a strategy to address the needs.

The City has implemented several programs including, home delivered meals program for elderly residents. This program provides nutritious food for senior citizens. The City has also partnered with a not-for-profit agency that provides assistance to elderly residents through daily phone contacts and referrals to available services. Various housing programs are also available for low- to moderate income residents including a rehabilitation loan program, a disaster recovery assistance program, and a first-time homebuyer down payment assistance program.

Additionally, a Business Incentive Program has been implemented for small business owners in the City. This program provides financial assistance for items such as acquisition, space build-out, and permits and fees. The façade improvement program offers assistance to existing businesses with exterior improvements.

3. Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

One primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is identifying not-for-profit organizations with adequate capacity to deliver and administer social services while meeting all HUD regulations and requirements. In Program Year 3, the City had more success with social services program providers; however, types of programs carried out were very limited. A lack of resources for these programs continues to be an obstacle when compared to the population of low- and moderate individuals and households in the City.

The City is still recovering from the impact of past hurricane seasons. Signs of past storm seasons as long as five years ago or more, continue to be prevalent on the City's housing stock. Limited resources from federal, state and local agencies are insufficient to meet all the needs adequately. The City will continue to seek partnerships with various state, county, and non-profit agencies with existing programs in the community to leverage the City's CDBG allocation.

4. Federal, State, and Local Resources Expected

The City anticipates various sources of federal, state and local resources to carry out activities in the Program Year 4 Action Plan. Among expected resources, the City has already received an allocation of Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds (NSP) in the amount of $6.8 million. Applications for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) in the amount of $567,612, Community Development Block Grant Recovery (CDBG-R) $371,207 have been submitted to HUD for consideration. An application has also been submitted to the Department of Energy for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program in the amount of $989,200.

With these additional resources, our focus will be centered on providing families and individuals at risk of homelessness find stable housing, further preservation of the current housing stock, and re-investing in the local economy and creating an environment-friendly community that is better informed on the importance of conserving our natural resources and more energy efficient. As a part of programs developed with this additional funding, the City intends to strongly encourage the use of local vendors as a method to further stimulate the local economy.

Managing the Process

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.

2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.

3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.

Action Plan Managing the Process response:

1. Lead Agency

As the entitlement grantee for the CDBG programs, the City of Miami Gardens' Department of Community Development is the lead agency for the development of this 2009-2010 Action Plan that outlines the proposed activities and expenditures under these programs. Community Development staff will also act as the public agency that will administer the programs and activities under the plan. This Department will oversee economic development, community development, housing, lead paint abatement, and historic and urban renewal programs (where applicable).

2. Plan Development Process

The City of Miami Gardens has implemented a process for the development of the 5 Year Consolidated Plan and the 2009-2010 Action Plan that encouraged broad participation from the community. This process began with the creation of the City's Comprehensive Development Master Plan. At each step in the process, care has been taken to ensure that low- and moderate-income residents, members of minority groups, agencies involved in the provision of services to these populations, and others who are directly impacted by the programs and projects supported by the Consolidated Plan programs have been actively involved. Table I-6 in the 5 Year Consolidated Plan document lists all the organizations that were invited to participate in the visioning process. Of this list, the organizations that actively participated in the process included seven (7) homeowner associations, five (5) faith-based organizations, four (4) community organizations and two (2) other service providers.

3. Enhanced Coordination

As stated above, the City of Miami Gardens has limited resources to address the many priorities identified by the community. As such, during the upcoming year the City will continue working to create partnerships with public and private housing agencies, and health and social service providers to leverage the 2009 CDBG allocation.

Citizen Participation

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.
3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.

Action Plan Citizen Participation response:

1. Citizen Participation Process

The City of Miami Gardens encourages its citizens to participate in the development of its Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, any Amendments, and required Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The City publicly advertises the meetings and holds the meetings in the City's Council Chambers and other central locations in the City, such as the library, which are publicly accessible.

In addition, the City will take steps to encourage the participation of all its citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities by providing translation services for any public meeting or public hearing, if a request for such services is requested four days in advance of the meeting. In addition, all meetings are conducted in areas and locations that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Citizen Input:

The City, on an annual basis, will make available to citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties, information that includes the amount of assistance the City expects to receive, including specific grant funds, available unspent prior years funds, and related program income. The City will also disclose the range of activities that may be undertaken including the estimated amount that will benefit persons of low and moderate income.

City's Notification Requirement Regarding Draft Plan Availability:
For program year four, notification was advertised in a local newspaper of general circulation to inform the public that a draft Consolidated Plan, or draft Annual Action Plan is available to examine and subject to public comment. The notification will provide a summary of the proposed Consolidated Plan, or Annual Action Plan, and describe the contents and purpose of the particular plan. The notice will also be posted on the City's website (www.miamigardens-fl.gov/cd) and on bulletin boards at the locations below. The public notice will state that copies of the particular Plan will be available for review on the City's website and at the following locations for thirty (30) days:

City of Miami Gardens City Hall
1515 NW 167 Street, Building 5, Suite 200
Miami Gardens, FL. 33169

North Dade Regional Library
2455 NW 183rd Street
Miami Gardens, Fl. 33056

Public comment can also be submitted electronically by sending emails to: hudcomment@miamigardens-fl.gov

Citizen Response Time Frame:
The City will make the Plan public, and upon request in a format accessible to persons with disabilities. The City will provide the citizens a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Plan, and on any amendments to the Plan as defined by this Citizen Participation Plan. The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally, at any of the public hearings, or during the 30-day public review and will address those comments in the preparation of the final Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan. The City will include any written or oral comments in the final Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan submitted to HUD. The City will also make copies of the draft plan, and final plan available to the general public, at no cost on the City's website (www.miamigardens-fl.gov/cd). Hard copies will also be available upon request.

Amendments:
The City will amend its approved plan whenever it makes one of the following decisions:

1. To make a change in the goal, priority, or activity of the Consolidated Plan; or
2. To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the

   Consolidated Plan (including program income), not previously covered in the Action Plan; or
3. To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity included in the Annual Action Plan.

Each amendment must be authorized by the City Manager or his designee, and submitted to HUD. All amendments will also be made public by posting at the City Hall, and on the City of Miami Gardens' website (www.miamigardens-fl.gov/cd). Amendments involving at least $50,000 and/or a change from one activity to another will also be advertised in the local newspaper.

The amendment may be implemented immediately after submitting it to HUD and making it public. A substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan is defined by the City as a transfer between two or more plan activities that is greater than 20% of the CDBG program funds.

Substantial amendments to the Plan will need to be presented to the City of Miami Gardens City Council for their review and approval. The public will also be notified of the amendment by advertising in the local newspaper. The advertising of the substantial amendment will begin a thirty (30) day citizen review and comment period. The City will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing or orally during the comment period, and will be submitted to HUD, and made available at City Hall, the North Dade Regional Library, and the City's Parks and Recreation Department. The City Manager will submit to HUD a letter authorizing the amendment after the thirty-day comment period, and will implement the amendment at that time.

Performance Report:
At the end of each program year, a Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) must be submitted to HUD. The CAPER gives an actual account of the activities that occurred during the previous program year, and how the City maintained and expended the funds outlined in the Annual Action Plan for that program year.

Upon completion of the CAPER, and at least fifteen (15) days prior to its submission to HUD, the City will hold two (2) public hearings to adopt the CAPER. The hearings shall be advertised at least one week in advance in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the area(s) eligible to receive funds under the programs advertised. Additionally, the report will be made available to the general public for a fifteen (15) day public review and comment period. The notice and the draft CAPER will also be made available to the public via the City's website (www.miamigardens-fl.gov/cd) at least two weeks prior to the hearing date. Any comments received from the general public will be included in the CAPER submitted to HUD.

Each public hearing notice must include the availability of an interpreter if a significant number of non-English speaking or hearing-impaired persons are expected to participate at the hearing. It will be the responsibility of the residents to notify the City at least four (4) days in advance of the hearing if interpreter services are needed. Each public hearing notice will indicate this policy and provide a telephone number to contact the City. The City will consider any comments or views
of citizens received in writing, or orally at the public hearings.

Access to Records:
The City will provide citizens, public agencies and other interested parties access to information and records relating to the City's Consolidated Plan and the City's use of funds for the CDBG funds. Citizens will be able to download program information, action plans, and the consolidated plan documents from the City's website. In addition, citizens will be able to request hard copies or to meet with City staff to go over the records.

Technical Assistance:
The Community Development Department will provide technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low and moderate income that request such assistance in developing proposals for funding assistance under any of the federal or state programs covered by the Consolidated Plan. Specifically, as a result of limited Public Service Proposals received, the Department of Community Development has determined to provide technical assistance to non-profit organizations that service this community. The level and type of assistance will be determined by the Department of Community Development, but shall not include the provision of funds to any person, group, or agency.

Complaints:
Citizens with complaints related to the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Action Plan Amendments, and the Comprehensive Annual Performance Reports (CAPER) must submit the complaint in writing to:

City of Miami Gardens Community Development Department
1515 NW 167th Street, Building 5, Suite 200
Miami Gardens, FL 33169
Attention: Daniel A. Rosemond, Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director

If the complaint is given orally, the person initiating the complaint must schedule a meeting with the Director at the above-mentioned address and a formal complaint letter will be transcribed. The person must sign the letter and submit an address for response. Upon receipt of the written complaint, the Director or the Community Development will respond to the complaint in writing within fifteen working days.

Use of the Citizen Participation Plan:
The requirements for citizen participation do not restrict the responsibility or authority of the jurisdiction in the development and execution of the City's Consolidated Plan.

2. Citizens Comments/Views on the plan

The City scheduled two citizens participation meetings to give residents an opportunity to give their input on the use of the program year 4 federal funds. The first meeting was scheduled on April 9, 2009 during business hours at the public library. The second meeting was scheduled at City Hall on April 14, 2009, during the evening to accommodate residents that may not be available for the earlier time slot. It was clear from the turnout during the meetings that there is an apathy and disconnect in understanding this process. In fact, during this year's meetings, the turnout was very poor. Only two people showed up for the second meeting and no one attended the first meeting. However, participants that came were able to give their comments on the plan. Comments were as follows:

Public Comment:

Youth are the foundation of our future. We need to have more programs geared toward youth development?

Community Development response:

The City's is currently funding two not-for-profit agencies with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that offer serves to the youth population. One program is an after school tutoring and the other program is a summer youth employment program. Both of these programs have an emphasis on developing self-esteem, good decision making, effective communication and employability skills, and building a solid character and values. The City's Parks and Recreation Department also has program for youth that provide structured programs for youth in an effort to expose them to positive influences and provide an alternative to activities that may lead to juvenile crimes. The City also invests in the youth through its Junior Council, however, it is not funded with CDBG funds. This program is sponsored by our Vice Mayor. It gives young people a chance to participate and experience the legislative process and what is involved in running a City.

Public Comment:

Seniors are left out. No one has time for seniors.

Community Development response:

Through our Public Services program, not-for-profit agencies have an opportunity to partner with the City to provide programs and services for our elderly residents. Currently, we sponsor an in-home meal delivery service for senior citizens. In our housing rehabilitation program, priority is given to our senior residents that apply for repairs on the homes. We also have a new program coming on line that will provide assistance through frequent phone calls to our seniors that live alone or with an elder spouse. We are always looking for agencies that we can partner with to provide more services to our senior citizens.

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Action Plan Institutional Structure response:

The City of Miami Gardens Community Development Department is the lead administrative agency for the Consolidated Plan programs. The Department provides fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG funding sources, as well as other Federal and State grants for housing, economic, and community development.

The City of Miami Gardens City Council acts as the final authority for the allocation of funds for Annual Action Plan activities under the Consolidated Plan grant programs, following the recommendations of the City Manager.

Within each of the priority funding areas, activities will be completed and managed by a diverse team of public, private, not-for-profit, and institutional partners. The lists below identify some of the principal partners for each priority funding area.

Decent Housing - Programs in Support of this Goal:

Program Partners:

- Miami-Dade Housing Agency
- Miami Dade Office of Community and Economic Development
- Metro Miami Action Plan
- City of Miami Gardens Building Services Division
- City of Miami Gardens Code Enforcement Division
- City of Miami Gardens Planning Department

Housing Rehabilitation Program: Housing rehabilitation provides assistance for low to moderate income residents Citywide. Given the age of the City's housing stock, priority will placed on improving energy efficiency and water conservation in these units by replacing obsolete appliances that are no longer energy efficient, addressing building and code violations, along with meeting Housing Quality Standards (HQS). However, when feasible, this program will also focus on disaster mitigation and weatherization.

Homeownership Assistance Program: Provide both direct and indirect homeownership assistance to low to moderate income first-time homebuyers city-wide.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP): With NSP funds, the City intends to purchase, rehabilitate foreclosed homes. The rehabilitation will be done using the same standards as housing rehabilitation program, however, because of the condition of some of these homes, repairs will be more extensive.

Suitable Living Environment -Programs in Support of this Goal:

Livable Neighborhoods Initiative Program: Funds improvements to residential storm water drainage facilities, street lighting, and landscaping to address flooding, and safety issues in three specifically designated neighborhoods. All three neighborhoods have been determined to be at least 51% low-moderate income.

Program Partners:

- City of Miami Gardens Public Works Department
- City of Miami Gardens Building Services Division
- City of Miami Gardens Code Enforcement Division
- City of Miami Gardens Police Department

Public Services -Programs in Support of this Goal:

Program Partners:

- City of Miami Gardens Parks and Recreation Department
- Faith Based Organizations
- Not-for-Profit Organizations

Youth and Senior Services: Provides funding support to eligible non-profit agencies that will, through a sub-recipient agreement, carry out public service activities that benefit youth and assist elderly residents.

Expanded Economic Opportunities - Programs in Support of this Goal:

Program Partners:

- Beacon Council
- North Dade Chamber of Commerce
- Miami-Dade Office of Community and Economic Development

Commercial Redevelopment Program/Special Economic Development Program (Technical Assistance): Provides funding to improve commercial corridors throughout the City and provides technical assistance and access to capital to City businesses.

Consolidated Plan Delivery System:
As a still relatively new municipality, the City of Miami Gardens will strive to use the CDBG program to create successful partnerships among public and private sector entities. The delivery system for the Consolidated Plan programs is no exception.

Communication and cooperation between the City of Miami Gardens Community Development Department and the partner agencies and organizations that administer activities is strong.

The City has appointed an Economic Development Manager to address potential gaps and deficiencies in the delivery system as it relates to economic development opportunities. The Community Development Department will address these gaps and deficiencies in the coming year, by defining the needs of small business owners and developing appropriate programs to expand economic opportunities. The Department will also aggressively promote the creation and designation of Community Housing Development Organizations and providing support and training to help these groups become more established and successful.

Creation of Economic Development Strategy: to specifically identify the activities that would further engage the City to institute its master plan in the development of neighborhoods by using economic development tools. A written plan of execution for the City of Miami Gardens to use: (1) as a set of guidelines for participation for engaging existing businesses in the growth of the community, thereby escalating their business potential, (2) to forge new partnerships with proposed businesses in the relocation and/or equivalent investment with the city, (3) disseminate a clear planning process for continued development, thereby creating an environment of economic sustainability and (4) encourage additional policy discussions/recommendations regarding density in relation to the proposed use of a site

Monitoring

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

Action Plan monitoring response:

1. Monitoring
The City of Miami Gardens Community Development Department shall conduct an initial site visit with each sub-recipient within the first quarter of the contract period to provide technical assistance with implementing the program. A comprehensive annual on-site monitoring visit will also be scheduled during the program year. New sub-recipients may be visited more frequently in order to assist with questions and check on program progress. A monitoring schedule will be prepared and the sub-recipient visits will be prioritized by determining if any organizations are considered high risk, i.e., new to the CDBG program–first year as a sub-recipient; high staff turnover–especially in key positions; carrying out high-risk activities, such as economic development and/or conducting multiple CDBG activities for the first time.

The annual monitoring visits include the following: First, the assigned monitor contacts the agency to explain the purpose of monitoring and schedules a date and time for the on-site visit. Once this is completed, a confirmation letter is sent before the scheduled visit to confirm all aspects of the monitoring and to explain what can be expected. In preparation for the monitoring visit, the monitor will review all written data on file for the sub-recipient, such as application for CDBG funding, written agreement and amendments, monthly reporting requirements, documentation of previous monitoring, and copies of audits.

During the actual visit, a thorough review of the sub-recipient's files ensures they comply with all regulations governing their administrative, financial and programmatic operations and that they are achieving their performance objectives within schedule and budget. A clear written record of the on-site visit is kept by using one or more of the City's monitoring checklists. The assigned monitor will fill out the form during the visit.

At the end of the visit, the monitor concludes the visit by reviewing the tentative conclusions from the monitoring. At this point, there will be a clear understanding between the monitor and sub-recipient of the areas of disagreement and agreement regarding the monitoring results. Once the on-site visit is completed, the monitor prepares a formal written letter describing the results of the visit, providing recognition of the sub-recipient's strengths and weaknesses. A copy of this letter is kept on file with the sub-recipient's grant agreement and monthly reports.

If the sub-recipient is experiencing problems or is failing to comply with regulations, these issues will be specifically outlined in the monitoring follow-up letter, along with recommendations or requirements to address and rectify the problems. If a concern or finding is issued for noncompliance with federal rules and regulations, the monitoring follow-up letter will provide recommendations on how the situation can be remedied, but no additional action is required. When a finding is issued, the monitoring follow-up letter will identify a deadline for when the specific issues must be corrected. The monitor will then follow-up with the organization to make sure the corrections have been made.

For situations in which the recommended corrections have not been made, the organization will be placed on a probationary period, which must be approved by the Community Development Director, until the issues have been rectified and the sub-recipient is once again in compliance with Federal regulations and the grant

Lead-based Paint

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.

Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:
The City of Miami Gardens may use a portion of the CDBG allocation to continue to administer its Housing Rehabilitation Program. There is a possibility that the housing rehabilitation program may be administered with SHIP funds, contingent upon funding availability. According to SHIP regulations, lead-based paint risk assessment is not required for this program. Thus lead based paint assessment would not be applicable. However, if CDBG funds are used, a lead paint risk assessment will be performed as part of the basic inspection for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. The assessment will be performed for each participating residence receiving assistance of over $25,000 per unit, and where children under the age of seven or pregnant women reside, this only includes hard costs. A lead paint risk assessment will also be performed for homes where the occupants are not yet determined. If the risk assessment determines a lead based paint hazard exists, the reduction or abatement work necessary to remove the hazard will be prioritized.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.

2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. Housing Objectives

The following table outlines the specific Housing accomplishment goals that the City of Miami Gardens hopes to achieve over the 2009-2010 Action Plan period.

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Direct Homeownership Assistance	Households	2
NSP Rehabilitation	Households	10

Rehab, Single-Unit Residential	Housing Units	7

2. Use of Resources

The City of Miami Gardens currently uses its allocation of SHIP funds from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to augment the housing rehabilitation program. Because of budget cuts, we anticipate not receiving an allocation of SHIP funds during Program Year 4. Nonetheless, the City will continue to maximize its resources by leveraging the funds it does receive and work creatively to attempt to meet the community's needs. The allocation of NSP funds will also expand our housing programs activities, including rehabilitation and homeownership assistance.

Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.

2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.

Action Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

1. Partnership with Public Housing Agency

The Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA) encourages public housing residents to become more involved in the management of the housing developments and to participate in homeownership through its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program. MDHA has also implemented a Section 8 homeownership program to provide section 8 participants the opportunity to purchase a home. The housing agency also offers a variety of homeownership programs to low and moderate income families through its Development and Loan Administration Division and New Markets Division. Homeownership programs include: Surtax, State Housing Initiative, HOME, and infill programs.

2. Troubled Designation

Two public housing projects have been identified as troubled designations in the City. These sites have a history of high crime including violent crimes. Although these sites are administered by the Miami-Dade Housing Agency, the City has been actively involved in an effort to increase public safety, health and welfare of citizens residing in this area. The City has held meeting with the local HUD office, as well as with the

County regarding the issues. During the fourth program year, the City will continue in its efforts to resolve issues surrounding these projects.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.

Action Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

1. Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City of Miami Gardens has experienced a tremendous increase in housing prices (120%) over the previous five years (notwithstanding the last year where the national housing market has slumped). This urban community is 93% built out with a forecasted 8% increase in population growth by 2010. In addition, the recent economic crisis throughout the country has created an increase in job losses and foreclosures whereby creating a decrease in persons who are "mortgage ready."

The City of Miami Gardens had to adopt many of the Land Development Regulations and zoning codes of Miami-Dade County. These regulations are in effect until the City completes the lengthy statutory and public participation requirements associated with creating a code specifically for Miami Gardens. While the current codes are appropriate for planning on a countywide level, they lack some of the flexibility and creativity that can be applied by a smaller unit of government. These regulatory barriers can be time consuming and costly to private development and may in some cases result in higher development costs.

2. Strategy to Remove Barriers

The City of Miami Gardens has established a new comprehensive plan and associated land development regulations specific to the City. In recognition of the impact that regulatory requirements have on the cost of development, the City has developed goals, objectives, and policies to address affordable housing issues in the City. These policies will guide all future growth management policies established by the City. The goals are as follows:

- Affordable Housing Incentives: Provide incentives to assist in the provision of affordable housing.

- Adopt land development regulations and appropriate policies that assist private developers with providing (and sustaining) affordable housing.

- Through the comprehensive planning process and the land development regulations, streamline the permitting process providing for efficient review with

minimal delays and waiving or reducing costs for development with a substantial affordable housing component.

- Offer technical assistance and referral services to applicants interested in developing affordable housing opportunities.

- Investigate the feasibility of using inclusionary zoning to encourage or require a certain percentage of dwelling units of new development or redevelopment to be set aside for low or moderate-income housing. The City is drafting a new zoning code that is proposed to have a section that requires certain sized residential developments to include low- and moderate-income housing

- Consider awarding density and height bonuses for the provision of workforce housing in new developments, on infill sites, or within mixed-use developments as referred to in the Future Land Use Element.

- Encourage the development of rental housing alternatives for family households.

- Examine the feasibility of adopting a mixed income ordinance that requires any new mixed-use development exceeding a specific threshold of units to include an affordable component.

- Develop incentive programs in conjunction with a Community Design Element of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan for increasing residential housing densities and providing enhanced urban amenities with funding programs for multistory parking, combining public open space, shared parking areas for use in high density/intensity projects and other similar techniques and mechanisms.

HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)

1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).

2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME or ADDI funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule.

3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:
   a. Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.

b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.
c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
d. Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.
e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.

4. If the PJ is going to receive American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funds, please complete the following narratives:
   a. Describe the planned use of the ADDI funds.
   b. Describe the PJ's plan for conducting targeted outreach to residents and tenants of public housing and manufactured housing and to other families assisted by public housing agencies, for the purposes of ensuring that the ADDI funds are used to provide down payment assistance for such residents, tenants, and families.
   c. Describe the actions to be taken to ensure the suitability of families receiving ADDI funds to undertake and maintain homeownership, such as provision of housing counseling to homebuyers.

Action Plan HOME/ADDI response:

Not applicable

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.

2. Homelessness—In a narrative, describe how the action plan will address the specific objectives of the Strategic Plan and, ultimately, the priority needs identified. Please also identify potential obstacles to completing these action steps.

3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.

4. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.

Action Plan Special Needs response:

1. Source of Funds

The Homeless Trust pools the Entitlement Jurisdiction funds for all of Miami-Dade County to provide a wide variety of Homeless Assistance Programs. The City of Miami Gardens along with the cities of Miami, Miami Beach, Hialeah, and North Miami has joined in partnership with the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust to provide countywide Homeless Assistance Services. These funds will go directly to Miami-Dade County for regional distribution.

The City of Miami Gardens has mirrored the priorities of the Homeless Trust as its regional service provider. The table below outlines the relative priorities of various categories of homeless needs within the Continuum of Care. Activities that are identified as "Medium" priorities will likely receive Consolidated Plan funding if the applicable formula grants to the City of Miami Gardens are increased during the next five years. Activities that receive a "Low" priority will not receive Consolidated Plan funding over the next five years without an amendment to this Consolidated Plan.

A "Low" rating does not necessarily diminish the importance of these activities or indicate that there is no need for them in the City. Many activities that are assigned a "Low" priority for CDBG funding are nevertheless important needs for the community or high priorities for other sources of funding. Some activities receive "Low" ratings if they are funded under the County's programs, if the Consolidated Plan funding would be insufficient to have a meaningful impact on these needs, or if adequately funding them would result in minimal output or outcome accomplishments relative to the amount of funds expended at the expense of other priority programs.

Table III-4: Priority Homeless Needs Funding

Housing Continuum of Care	Individuals	Families	Funding Source
Emergency Shelter	Low	Low	Other, County
Transitional Housing	Low	Low	Other, County

Permanent Supportive Housing	Medium	Medium	Other, County
Chronically Homeless	Medium	Medium	Other, County

The addition of HPRP funds will allow the City to address the needs of individuals and families that are either at risk of homelessness or currently homeless with assistance in housing stability. The HPRP will meet the needs of population that are at or below 50% AMI.

2. Homelessness

As required by HUD each jurisdiction must develop a local continuum of care plan, the City of Miami Gardens in partnership with Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust operate under the Miami-Dade County Community Homeless Plan. The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust serves as the lead agency implementing a countywide strategy to serve homeless individuals and families throughout our community. The Homeless Trust pools the entitlement jurisdiction funds for all of Miami-Dade County to provide a wide variety of Homeless Assistance Programs. The City of Miami Gardens, along with the Cities of Miami, Miami Beach, Hialeah, and North Miami has joined in partnership with Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust to provide countywide Homeless Assistance Services.

Each year the Homeless Trust meets with all of its entitlement partners to establish funding priorities for the upcoming year. The City of Miami Gardens in partnership with the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust established the priority homeless needs identified in this plan.

2. Chronic Homelessness

Chronic Homelessness Strategy:

A. Carry out activities identified in 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, adopted in December, 2004 more specifically outlined below:

B. Coordinated Outreach to the Chronically Homeless- In April, 2005, the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust executed a contract with Citrus Health Network for a County-Wide Chronic Homeless Outreach program based on the Philadelphia Model Coordinated Outreach Program which includes coordination between all outreach teams, licensed clinical staff, and a psychiatrist. This program is identifying and tracking all chronically homeless people in our Continuum of Care (CoC) via Homeless Management Information Strategies (HMIS) (including wireless laptop computers for outreach teams immediate HMIS access and referral services in the field), and providing targeted assessment, clinical, and primary health services, placement of clients into appropriate permanent supportive housing and treatment. All homeless outreach teams now have access to reciprocal information, which allows all of them to focus their

efforts on target outreach services to specific individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Additionally, the contract calls for the identification, by name, of all chronically homeless individuals in Miami-Dade County.

C. Housing First – The Homeless Trust made funding Housing First, and other models serving the chronically homeless population the number one funding priority of new programs in this application.

D. General Obligation Bond- In November, 2004, the voters of Miami-Dade County overwhelmingly passed a General Obligation bond. The Bond included $15 million in funding over the next 15 years specifically for the Homeless Trust, to be utilized for capital for permanent supportive housing. These units are earmarked for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness.

E. Expanded Safe Havens - At present, the continuum has two Safe Havens located in diverse geographic areas. The Safe Haven model has proven highly effective in engaging the chronic homeless, especially those who are also impacted by mental illness. The Homeless Trust has been supportive and instrumental in obtaining $1 million in capital funding from the County's Office of Community and Economic Development, and $700,000 in operational funding from HUD to fund the relocation of Camillus House to a safe haven model. The Camillus House is a homeless shelter provider, serving a high percentage of chronically homeless individuals by offering overnight emergency shelter and a soup kitchen in downtown Miami. This relocation will allow chronic homeless individuals to be served in an indoor, low demand 125 bed open space Safe Haven, combined with mental health and substance treatment beds.

F. Jail Discharge Services – Improve discharge planning from systems most impacted by chronic homelessness, such as local jails, crisis units and hospitals: Misdemeanor arrests account for more than 60% of all homeless arrests. Often, homeless detainees are given "credit for time served," resulting in a very quick revolving door in and out of the criminal justice system. A highly successful jail outreach/discharge program targeting those individuals at release, primarily those released within 1-3 days of arrest, has been implemented inside the County Jail where all releases of homeless individuals are made. Outreach staff are co-located at the Jail and attend arraignments, bond hearings, work with the public defenders and court disposition specialists to identify chronic homeless individuals. Local Judges, the Public Defenders and the State Attorney's Office, and the Corrections and Local Law enforcement departments are all involved. This program provides transportation, assessment, case management, emergency housing, and access to the local Continuum of Care. This program is also tracking recidivism and following up on client placements.

G. Criminal Justice Program- Through the efforts of a Homeless Trust Board member, Judge Steve Leifman, a highly successful and nationally recognized best practice model links chronically homeless mentally ill individuals meeting Baker Act

criteria (voluntary/involuntary commitment) with case management, crisis stabilization services, and outplacement services into mental health crisis beds funded via the Homeless Trust. This program also provides crisis intervention team training to local police officers to encourage the appropriate treatment of mentally ill individuals and reduce harm to all involved. This program reduced recidivism from 1196 people a year prior to this program, to 70 people after the first year of implementation. A SAMHSA grant has been implemented providing case management and evaluation of this best practice model.

H. HMIS- HMIS will offer access and linkages to the criminal mental health project, via a Health Foundation Grant and cooperative agreement, will allow a "super-case manager" to track chronically homeless clients across criminal justice, mental health, substance abuse, crisis stabilization units, and the Homeless Continuum of Care. Client Outcomes, cost analysis, and recidivism, will be evaluated via Florida International University.

I. A Mental Health Drop In Center - located in an area of high concentration of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased contact with case management services, with 651 individuals served since inception.

J. Regional Planning Efforts- The Homeless Trust's Executive Director participates in the Florida Coalition for the Homeless Regional Planning Committee that is addressing regional strategies for the 10 year plan to end homelessness, local, regional and state strategies toward funding supportive housing.

K. State Legislative Budget Request- The Homeless Trust has submitted a $752,000 Legislative Budget Request to fund long term supportive housing initiatives for chronically homeless people with mental health/co-occurring disorders. This request is of course subject to the approval of the State Legislature and Governor.

L. Arrest Information- In order to better track and offer services to chronically homeless individuals, the Homeless Trust is working with the Department of Corrections, the State Attorneys Office, and local law enforcement to modify the arrest forms to indicate whether a person is homeless at the time of arrest. This change, which was just agreed upon, will help identify homeless people upon entrance into the criminal justice system and will assist in discharge planning for those individuals.

M. Florida Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Team- The Florida Department of Children & Families administers two FACT teams, with a third dedicated FACT team designed to provide intensive wrap-around services and housing allowances, to homeless individuals who are severely mentally ill, and those who are mentally ill with addiction disorders.

4. Homelessness Prevention

Through the Countywide Homeless Hotline, individuals and families at risk of homelessness are assessed and provided with or linked to appropriate services, including but not limited to: case management, rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utility assistance, and other services. FEMA funds available through the Emergency Food and Shelter Board, are used for the same purpose. The Greater Miami Prosperity Campaign via the Human Services Coalition provides Tax and Earned Income Tax Credit Assistance to individuals residing in Miami-Dade County Homeless Assistance Centers and in One Stop locations.

During Program Year 4, HPRP funds will be utilized to provide homelessness prevention services to individuals and families at or below 50% AMI. These services include short-term financial assistance, data collection and evaluation, outreach, moving and relocation costs, security and utility deposits, and arrearage of utility payments.

5. Discharge Coordination Policy

The Homeless Trust currently has executed interagency agreements with; the Department of Children & Families for youth exiting foster care, the 11th Judicial Circuit for mentally ill homeless individuals exiting jail who are homeless upon discharge, and outreach and assessment services at the County Jail, where all individuals who are deemed homeless upon arrest are discharged. These strategies are in place to ensure that individuals discharged from these other systems of care are not homeless upon release. The County's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness has as a goal the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Homeless Trust, the Depart of Children & Families, the Courts, the Department of Corrections and the Public Health Trust ensuring that the discharge of individuals discharged from these systems is coordinated and does not result in homelessness.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

Action Plan ESG response:

Not applicable

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.

2. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.
   *Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

Action Plan Community Development response:

As defined in the City of Miami Garden's mission statement, the City's core community development needs are those activities that enhance the quality of life through the efficient and professional delivery of public services. The City is committed to fostering civic pride, participation and responsible economic development for the community, and as such the City anticipates using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to support programs to:

- Improve recreational programs and facilities in the Community
- Improve streets, install sidewalks and provide for pedestrian safety
- Redevelop blighted commercial areas
- Attract new businesses and retain existing businesses

CDBG and other funding will be used to strengthen, preserve, and enhance the physical character of and quality of life in City of Miami Gardens neighborhoods. Designated funding will be used to improve the housing stock, and the public infrastructure and facilities, with particular emphasis on the low-income and moderate-income neighborhoods. In addition, code enforcement for existing residential and commercial buildings will be emphasized, so deteriorating properties do not have a detrimental influence on the neighborhoods. Finally, homeownership programs will be supported to help improve community stability by maintaining homeownership rates in the City.

Develop Economic Development Programs:
The City will seek to partner with entities that provide training, education, and employment opportunities to help expand Miami Gardens' workforce, particularly by lifting low- and moderate-income residents into stronger positions in the evolving economy. Through the creation of business incentive programs, the City hopes to create new jobs that could be filled by individuals that are trained by the City's partners in this effort. To assist in the successful accomplishment of this goal the City has appointed an

economic development manager that will carry out economic development activities utilizing CDBG funds and also on a broader level to benefit the City at large.

Particular emphasis will be placed on programs that cultivate entrepreneurship and create opportunities for larger-scale job creation through site assembly, environmental remediation, building rehabilitation, infrastructure development, technical assistance, and assistance to businesses.

Create Programs and Services for Elderly Residents:
CDBG and other funding will be used to implement programs to assist the elderly in providing them increased access to benefits and credits.

Consistent with HUD Community Development Needs Table, the relative priority of community development activities were identified with input obtained from numerous outreach efforts, and consultations during the 2006-2011 consolidated planning process.

Three distinct tables in the Consolidated Plan document defines activities that received high, medium and low priority ranking during the visioning and focus group exercises conducted in support of the Consolidated Plan. The first table (Table IV-1), identified Public Facilities and Improvements Priorities, the second table (Table IV-2), identified Public Services Priorities, and the third table (Table IV-3), identified Housing, Economic Development, & Historic Preservation Priorities. Activities identified as high and medium priorities were consistent in all three tables. High and medium priorities centered around housing rehab, street and drain improvements, homeownership assistance, energy efficiency, services for youth and seniors.

2. Specific Long Term and Short Term Objectives

Accomplishment goals have been established for those activities that received a high priority ranking. The following tables, consistent with HUD Community Development Need Table provide the specific output accomplishment goals for each activity. These activities are listed under the five community priorities as defined by the stakeholders in throughout visioning process. Because funding for "medium" and "low" priority activities is not may not be available, accomplishment goals have not been provided for these categories. The accomplishment goals represent the activities anticipated in the 2009-2010 Action Plan period. A discussion of anticipated outcomes for each conceptual goal is as follows:

1. Public Services:

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Youth Services	People Served	100
Senior Services	People Served	150

Homebuyer Counseling/ Foreclosure Prevention	People Served	25

Priority projects in this category include support for public service activities that benefit youth and senior populations. These activities will assist the City of Miami Gardens in moving closer to achieving its goal of providing sustained services for the residents of Miami Gardens.

2. Redevelop aging housing stock in residential areas:

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Rehab, Single-Unit Residential	Housing Units	7
Energy Efficiency Improvements	Housing Units	5

The priority projects in this category includes housing rehab project benefiting low- to moderate-income residents with a focus on energy efficiency, code enforcement activities to eliminate substandard and blighted influences.

3. Infrastructure improvement:

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Public Facility and improvement (infrastructure)	Area Benefit (households)	2500

Priority projects in this category include improvements to residential storm water drainage facilities to address flooding issues in specific low-mod census tracts. This activity also includes improvements in designated the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area.

4. Commercial Redevelopment Programs:

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Building Acquisition, Construction, Rehabilitation (façade)	Businesses	2
Direct assistance to new businesses	Businesses	2

Priority projects in this category include Economic Development activities to improve blighted conditions within commercial corridors citywide.

5. Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area

ACTIVITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT UNITS	GOAL
Rehab, Single-Unit Residential	Housing Units	7
Infrastructure Improvements	Area Benefit (Households)	800

Antipoverty Strategy

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

1. Antipoverty Strategy

The City of Miami Gardens Anti-Poverty Strategy describes the programs and policies that will be utilized to reduce the number of households with incomes below the poverty line, in coordination with affordable housing efforts. The Department of Community Development will deploy a strategy responsive to the needs of low-income citizens and disadvantaged populations throughout the City. The Department of Community Development will further the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) national objectives by coordinating the priorities established in the City's visioning process with goals and objectives adopted by HUD.

The City's strategy will:

- Work with existing programs to maximize program dollars for residents.
- Leverage potential CDBG eligible activities with private, state, and local funds.
- Implement programs in the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas to maximize funding and program opportunities in neighborhoods with greater than 70% low to moderate-income residents.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.

2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

The chart below (consistent with HUD Non Homeless Special Needs) outlines the relative priority needs for various identified special needs categories for housing and supportive services in Miami Gardens. Activities which are labeled as "High" priorities in the table below and elsewhere in this plan are those which will receive 2009-2010 Action Plan funding. Activities which are identified as "Medium" priorities are those will not receive Action Plan funding unless additional funds are secured or particularly strong projects are identified. Activities that receive a "Low" priority will not receive Plan funding without a Plan Amendment.

Special Needs Category	Housing	Supportive Services
Elderly	High	Medium
Frail Elderly	High	Medium
Persons w/ Severe Mental Illness	Low	Low
Disabled (Develop. Or Physical)	Medium	Low
Alcohol/Other Drug Addicted	Low	Low
Persons w/ HIV/AIDS	Low	Low

2. Use of Resources

As still a relatively new entitlement, the City of Miami Gardens is working to secure various funding streams to enhance our CDBG programs. Currently, the City of Miami Gardens to expand programs for homelessness prevention that will utilize HPRP funding. The City is also applying for funds from the Department of Energy to implement energy efficiency and conservation strategies that will enhance the CDBG program as well as benefit the City as a whole.

The City does not have the benefit of being able to draw from historical data to estimate other revenue that would supplement the CDBG program since this is only the third program year as an entitlement agency. However, as indicated above, the City is in the process of negotiating with the various agencies to determine the level of funding that can be pooled with CDBG dollars to maximize program opportunities.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.

2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, and assistance for persons who are homeless.

3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.

4. Report on annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access

to care.

5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.

6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.

7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.

8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.

9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.

Action Plan HOPWA response:

Not applicable

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

Not applicable

Other Narrative

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.