



Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report

JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2016

Prepared by

The Rogers Community Development Block Grant Office

For Submission to

The Department of Housing and Urban Development

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.

Communities develop their own programs and funding priorities based on local needs using HUD's established guidelines to define projects/activities that may be undertaken to ensure each project/activity meets one of the national objectives of the CDBG Program. Housing rehabilitation continues to be a focus for using CDBG grant money to meet the City's housing goal of decent housing and objective of benefiting low and moderate income persons by improving the quality of owner housing which will increase the availability of permanent housing in standard condition at an affordable cost and retain attainable housing stock. Eight houses were rehabbed at a cost of \$134,082.30. Four homeowners were very low income and four homeowners were low income. Two of the homes were married couples with no children, and one home was a married couple with a child. Three were widowed ladies which had a child or grandchild living with them. One homeowner was a single Mom with children and one was a widow with no children. Five of the homes were elderly. Four of the homes had someone living in the home with a disability. Work completed on these homes included hot water heaters to code, energy efficient windows, doors and storm doors, energy efficient HVAC units, electrical and plumbing work to code, water and sewer service lines, gutters, downspouts, flooring, ductwork, siding and garage doors. In one home we replaced existing oven which did not work. In another home, we added cabinets and countertops as existing were no longer useable due to foundation problems in the kitchen area. Foundation work was completed before new cabinets and countertops were completed.

The City also provided funding for seven public service projects meeting the City's goals of suitable living environments and objectives of benefiting low and moderate income persons by improving and increasing access to services. The City's transportation assistance public service project improved the mobility of our elderly and disabled income eligible citizens. Transportation assistance was provided to 100 individuals at a cost of \$20,000 (2015 funds) and \$3,307.22 (2016 funds). The Utility Assistance Program assisted with utility payments for extremely low to low-income residents of Rogers. Elderly and homes where children resided were given priority. A total of 157 people benefited from this program at a cost of \$5,355.48 (2015 funds) and \$8,161.47 (2016 funds) with 98 extremely low income and 59 low income. A grant to 7hills Homeless Shelter provided funding to provide transportation and utility assistance to families that had been living in shelters due to homelessness in the past and are now starting out in permanent housing and seeking employment. There were 54 people impacted by the grant--48 extremely low

income and 6 very low to low income at a cost of \$5,000 (2015 project using 2015 funds). A grant to Boys & Girls Club provided after school and summer care for children. There were 178 (149 extremely low and 29 low) people impacted by this project at a cost of \$15,000. A grant to CASA provided advocacy for 20 Rogers's children living in foster care at a cost of \$5,000. All 20 were extremely low income. A grant to Sunshine School in the amount of \$8,000 impacted 24 people with 11 being extremely low and 13 low income. The final Project was a grant to Open Avenues in the amount of \$10,000. The grant was used to help 84 adults (256 people impacted-all extremely low income) with disabilities get to Open Avenues to work, train, and participate in programs with disabilities.

We had two facility projects in 2016. Neither project started prior to December 31, 2016.

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.

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	Administration	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	5000	5000	100.00%	5000	5000	100.00%
Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	30	34	113.33%	6	8	133.33%
Open Avenues - Facility	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	120	0	0.00%			

Open Avenues, Public Service	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	120	256	213.33%			
Public Service - One Child, One Advocate	Neglected and Abused Children	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	125	0	0.00%	25	24	96.00%
Public Service - Sunshine School	Childhood Education for Disabled Children	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	75	69	92.00%	15	24	160.00%
Public Service - Transportation Assistance	Transportation Assistance	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	350	375	107.14%	70	100	142.86%
Public Service - Utility Assistance	Utility Assistance	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	270	457	169.26%	54	157	290.74%
Public Service - Boys and Girls Club (Rogers Unit)	Child Care	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1560	879	56.35%	312	178	57.05%

Sidewalks, Streets, Drainage	Street Improvements	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	5000	5000	100.00%	920	0	0.00%
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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.

Housing and emergency repairs comprised 36% of the grant funds in 2016. The City undertook eight homes for rehabilitation or emergency repair. A total of 16 individuals were helped by this program. The City earmarked 100% of their 2016 housing dollars on this objective. We have applications that were received in late 2016. Those will be processed in 2017 using 2016 funds. For service projects, the City allocated 15% of their funds. All service projects were completed except transportation assistance. We always carry over money each year to keep that program running. The City provided free rides for 100 elderly and/or disabled citizens who met HUD income guidelines. Utility assistance provided help with electric, gas, and water/sewer for 157 extremely to low-income residents of Rogers. After School and Summer Care Programs by the Boys and Girls Club received a 2016 grant. This program provided character education, physical fitness, financial education, leadership and community service as well as providing field trips and special events for these kids. It provided a safe and developmentally appropriate place for children and enabled their parents to maintain their employment. There were 178 people impacted by this grant. CASA, One Child-One Advocate also received a 2016 grant providing advocacy for 20 children in Rogers who were removed from their homes and put in foster care. Open Avenues was also provided a grant to fund transportation to and from Open Avenues for their disabled clients to be able to work, train, and participate in programs and service at this facility. The City also started and completed their 2015 grant to 7hills Homeless Shelter in 2016 by assisting with transportation and utility cost for their homeless moving out of transitional housing to permanent housing and employment. Neither of the two facility projects started in 2017. The city earmarked 39% of their 2016 funding for this objective. Administration accounted for 10% of the 2016 grant.

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	569
Black or African American	13
Asian	4
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	46
Total	632
Hispanic	180
Not Hispanic	452

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

Narrative

According to the 2010 census, 28% of Rogers' population is a minority race. Hispanics make up 31% of the population; however, their numbers are counted with "white" in the census count. As the table above indicates, 28% of the 2016 CDBG Program participants were Hispanic and 10% of the Program participants were non-white.

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		1,705,078	256,757

Table 3 – Resources Made Available

Narrative

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Census Tracts	48	0	Will move dollars to housing rehabilitation. City will pay for this project.

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) makes funds available each year through four programs--CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA. The City of Rogers only receives CDBG funding. The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is the way the City reports its goals to HUD each year.

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 only receives CDBG funding. The amount the City receives makes it difficult to leverage our funding, but we continue to look for ways to make that work. In the past we have purchased land for the development of the first Habitat for Humanity Subdivision in the State of Arkansas, partnered with Open Avenues to help open a new facility that provides employment and care for disabled adults living in Rogers, and partnered with the City to build sidewalks in our census tracts where over 51% of the population were low income.

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	0	0
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	5	0
Total	5	0

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	0	8
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	0	8

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

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

CDBG funds were used to support the rehab of eight very low to low income owner-occupied single-family housing units. At the end of 2016, we still had applications to get ready to bid in 2017. Increased application activity helped us to complete two additional houses beyond our goal of six for the Program Year of 2016.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City of Rogers will continue to make housing rehabilitation a priority in their future Annual Action Plans. The City would like to see a more realistic timeline for completing applications in the year they

received; however, we don't always receive the applications in time to process, inspect, bid and complete construction.

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 Persons Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	8	0
Moderate-income	0	0
Total	8	0

Table 7 – Number of Persons Served

Narrative Information

Safe, warm and dry houses will continue to be the factor in the City's efforts to earmark funding for housing rehabilitation each Program Year.

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

The City of Rogers continues their commitment to decent and affordable housing to address the homelessness situation and those at risk of becoming homeless. The City has worked with the University of Arkansas in their point in time count in 2013 and 2015. The City is also a member of Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care, a coalition of Northwest Arkansas cities and agencies who have teamed together to set a goal of targeting the homeless and assist individuals with accessing mainstream mental health and chemical dependence services as well as many other needs. Part of the outreach is education of both the service providers and the communities to assist in eradicating homelessness. You can either choose to engage the community or you can ignore the problem. The City of Rogers does not want to ignore the problem.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

There are several organizations that exist in Northwest Arkansas that serve families or persons who are homeless or at a risk of becoming homeless. The only homeless agency requesting funding was Seven Hills Homeless Shelter and that request was submitted in 2015. Due to the program the funding was requested for going away, we had to regroup with Seven Hills and come up with a program that would work for Seven Hills. This was done in early 2016 and the 2015 funds were not dispersed until 2016. The City did fund CASA in 2016 which provided funding for children removed from their homes due to an at risk situation in their homes. This basically put the children taken from the homes in somewhat of a homeless condition at that time. The Homeless Needs Assessment and Point in Time Count has been a tool to enable the City to be better prepared to assist the homeless to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. The City has met with organizations interested in bringing transitional living facilities to Rogers; however, those organizations have not moved forward with any projects. The City receives no ESG funds.

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

The City is not an agency that can take this on. All we can do is be involved and provide support in areas

that we are able to lend our CDBG funding to assist in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living and preventing these individuals and families from becoming homeless again.

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 of Rogers continues its ongoing efforts to increase the number of affordable housing units in Rogers and to help rehabilitate homes that would otherwise be destined for condemnation. We feel it is imperative to keep our housing stock in good shape and prevent anyone from being homeless due to the condition of their home. We don't have a large problem with youth living in existing foster care and residential facilities being discharged with no housing in place; however, we need to make sure that adults being discharged from jails and other systems of care are not homeless upon release. This will require good coordination from all agencies involved with homelessness.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City of Rogers does not have a Public Housing Office. All of Benton County falls under the Public Housing Authority at Siloam Springs, Arkansas. All Section 8 vouchers are handled out of the Siloam Springs Office. The City does have 755 units of low income housing available with 56 of those units available for elderly only. Another 72 senior units are scheduled for future construction when Federal funding becomes available. Some of the newer complexes are energy star rated. The City continues to work in any endeavor it can to assure there is affordable housing in Rogers. The CDBG Administrator tries to stay in contact with the Siloam Springs Housing Authority and refers any residents who contact us for low income housing or Section 8 vouchers to the Siloam Springs office. We do get complaints from time to time about the distance from Rogers to Siloam Springs which it difficult for our low income citizens in need of public housing or a Section 8 vouchers.

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

The CDBG Administrator attends and stays involved in any meetings and workshops to encourage involvement in management and participation in homeownership.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Siloam Springs PHA is not designated as troubled.

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)

For several years Rogers saw a drop in home prices that put more homes within reach for the low to moderate-income individuals and families, however, the number of available houses left on the market after the housing crisis has pretty much diminished. Because of this we are seeing prices escalating. The economy has definitely improved in Northwest Arkansas. The City has encouraged development of housing for low-income by being as flexible as we can be with zoning laws to encourage the developer to look at developing lower priced homes and yet still be profitable. Right after the housing bust, we did see developers start building homes in the \$120,000 price range, but those type subdivisions are not coming into Planning at this time. We have one area developed for tiny homes that sell in the \$35,000 to \$55,000 price range and several of those have sold.

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

The major obstacle to meeting all of the identified needs is the lack of funding resources. Applicant request amounts are generally much higher than the entitlement amount especially when it comes to the public service 15% cap. The City, when feasible, partners with other non-profits to leverage their funding application.

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

Since the city uses a portion of their CDBG allocation for housing rehabilitation, we do come in contact with lead-based paint hazards. The City did three houses that were built before 1978 that lead based paint testing was required. When lead-based paint testing is needed, the City hires a certified lead-based paint testing company. Any remediations are done by a contractor who has attended an approved Lead Safe Work Practices training and has received a certificate for this training. Once the work is completed, the initial testing company comes back and re-tests the house to make sure everything has been done in accordance with Federal and State regulations. The homeowners are given a copy of both the initial and final test results.

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

The City continued with their existing programs that promote a stable living environment and helps to reduce dependency. The City did eight housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs to help the low-to-moderate-income remain in their homes. Our housing program promotes a stable living environment and reduces dependency and also prevents homelessness, financial hardships and possibly institutionalization. We will continue to work to maximize program dollars and opportunities in

neighborhoods with the greatest number of low-to-moderate-income residents. The partnership the City has with its non-profit agencies helps to provide services that could go a long way in providing that family with more income for the necessities of life and help keep that family out of the severe poverty level. Transportation assistance impacts our low income elderly and disabled citizens in that it allows them to use the money they need for transportation on other needs in their lives.

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

The Mayor, Financial Director, and CDBG Administrator provide fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG funding sources and Federal grants. All reports in 2016 were submitted timely. Funds were drawn down in a timely manner and the City met their drawdown percentages prior to the November 1, 2016 deadline. The City's Action Plan for 2016 was also submitted on time.

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

The City of Rogers sought partnerships to leverage 2016 funding. If the cap on public service could be lifted, we would have been able to see more partnerships. The CDBG Administrator is a member of the Northwest Arkansas Continuum of Care organization. The membership of this organization consists of the majority of the housing and social services agencies in Northwest Arkansas.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

For many households, low or no income is a major factor in preventing their exercise of housing choice. Minority populations in the City of Rogers are confronted with an ever higher percentage of their populations living in poverty compared to Whites. Households experiencing a severe lack of income and those unemployed typically face limitations in fair housing choice. The City and local Chamber of Commerce are continuing work on expanding job opportunities through the recruitment of corporations, the provision of incentives for local corporations seeking expansion opportunities, and other activities aimed at reducing unemployment and expanding the base of high income plus provide jobs that support persons with high school educations, GED's, community colleges, and technical schools. Recruiting such industries can assist in increasing the local tax base while serving to provide necessary income for more persons to earn a living wage and improve their ability to qualify for home ownership. The City is also working to increase public awareness of fair housing rights and legislation.

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

CDBG Staff administered all activities in compliance with HUD regulations. All agencies receiving funding entered into an agreement with the City of Rogers and were monitored by the CDBG Administrator. All housing rehabilitation activities followed bidding requirements except those that were deemed emergency and required immediate help. An emergency is when a health and/or safety issue is at hand. Work was permitted and inspected prior to the start of the work, during the work, and at the end of the work before final payment was made. Any code violations found at initial inspection were added to the scope of the work. The City's transportation assistance program was monitored to make sure all recipients of free rides met all the income requirements established by HUD for 2015. A file was set up for each activity and documentation for that activity was made a part of the completed file used by HUD for their onsite monitoring. Three City employees--Accounts Payable, Finance Director, and CDBG Administrator--oversaw the handling of the City's CDBG funds. This provided a good check and balance for these funds. The CDBG Office was also a part of the City's annual audit and all paperwork concerning the audit was filed in accordance with Federal guidelines. No files will be archived without inspection by the Arkansas HUD Office. The City made sure all grantees that performed services for the City complied with all applicable Federal regulations governing their administrative, financial, and program operations. The CAPER and IDIS continue to be used as effective monitoring resource documents. They serve as accurate measures of performance in terms of eligible beneficiaries served, program target areas, and dollars identified for the project.

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.

Two public hearings were held prior to the submittal of the 2016 Action Plan. The first public hearing was held in July prior to the planning process and the second was held in December upon completion of the plan. At the second public hearing and in the plans provided for public view, our citizens were informed that the exact dollar amounts could be revised once the entitlement amount was set. A display ad was published in the newspaper a week prior to each public hearing. The CDBG Administrator also contacted numerous non-profits and agencies that provide service to those in need who live in the City. The City gave our citizens a 30-day comment period prior to submitting the 2016 Action Plan to HUD. All public hearings were held in buildings that had access for persons with disabilities. The hearings were scheduled during the evening to provide working individuals and families a greater opportunity to attend. Because Rogers has a large Spanish speaking population, a bilingual (English/Spanish) person was made available to non-English speaking persons. Copies of these plans

were placed in four locations in Rogers as well as online making accessibility to the Plans easy for our citizens. The CAPER was also placed at four locations as well as online and a 15-day comment period was given prior to submitting the CAPER to HUD. Compliance Documentation Checklist, 24 CFR 58.6, was also provided with the submission of the 2016 Action Plan to HUD. No amendment to the Plan was needed in 2016.

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.

There have been no changes to the jurisdiction's program objectives since the Con Plan was developed in June 2013. The city does not plan to change its programs as a result of any experience we have encountered.

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

No

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