

2023



# Mecklenburg County CDBG Entitlement Program

2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	3
<b>CR-05</b> - Goals and Outcomes 91.520(a); (g) .....	4
<b>CR-10</b> - Racial and Ethnic Composition of Families Assisted 91.520(a).....	10
<b>CR-15</b> – Resources and Investments 91.520(a) .....	11
<b>CR-20</b> – Affordable Housing 91.520(b) .....	13
<b>CR-25</b> – Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c) .....	15
<b>CR-30</b> – Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j) .....	17
<b>CR-35</b> - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j); 91.520(a) .....	18
<b>CR-40</b> – Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230 .....	22
<b>CR-45</b> - CDBG 91.520(c) .....	23
<b>CR-58</b> – Section 3 .....	24

## Executive Summary

Mecklenburg County is pleased to present its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (**CAPER**) for the 2023 CDBG Program Year (**PY 2023-2024**) it is Community Development Block Grant (**CDBG**) program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**). In accordance with the federal regulations found in 24 CFR 570, Mecklenburg County has prepared this CAPER document covering the reporting period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, which is the fourth year of the County's five-year Consolidated Plan (**Con Plan**), which prioritized the following goals: Housing, Public Services, Public Improvements and Community Facilities and Economic Development. The CAPER presents the County's progress in carrying out projects and activities pursuant to the Program Year (PY) 2023 Annual Action Plan (**AAP**) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that are received from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to principally benefit low and moderate-income persons in the County.

As an Urban County Entitlement designated by HUD, Mecklenburg County receives Community Development Block Grant funds annually. The 2023 CAPER describes and evaluates how Mecklenburg County invested formula funds from HUD to meet affordable housing and community development needs. Activities and accomplishments described in this report primarily benefit low-income and moderate-income individuals residing in Mecklenburg County, the towns of Matthews, Huntersville, Davidson, Cornelius, Pineville and Mint Hill. Mecklenburg County received a 2023-2024 CDBG Entitlement allocation of **\$969,808.00 for PY 2023-2024**. Through the funding cycle all funds were allocated to programs that would further the goals of the Con Plan and the CDBG program requirements. These ConPlan goals are as followed:

- Sustain and Improve Existing Affordable Housing
- Public Services
- Public Infrastructure
- Access to Quality Community Facilities
- Support Economic Opportunities

This annual report also provides a general assessment of the County's progress in addressing the priorities and objectives contained in its five-year Con Plan covering the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2025. The 2023 CAPER and other pertinent documents may be accessed by sending requests for information to Zsuzsi Kadar, Community Economic Development Administrator at [zkadar@centralina.org](mailto:zkadar@centralina.org).

## CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

CDBG funds provided the following accomplishments in PY 2023-2024:

- PY 2022-2023 Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity - Critical Home Repair Program: five (5) single-family owner-occupied homes were rehabilitated. These eligible homes received repairs, such as roof repairs, flooring repairs, HVAC repair/replacement and weatherization related improvements.
- PY 2022-2023 Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region - Critical Home Repair Program: This project provided critical home repair for eighteen (18) single- family owner-occupied homes in the North Mecklenburg area.
- PY 2022-2023 Davidson Cornelius Child Development Center (DCCDC)- Scholarship Support Project: DCCDC utilized CDBG funding and local donations to provide childcare tuition subsidy to families under the 80% AMI. Using PY 2022-2023 funds, the organization served 15 children.
- PY 2023-2024 Davidson Cornelius Child Development Center (DCCDC) – Scholarship support project: DCCDC changed its previous sliding scale scholarship system, to 95% tuition subsidy to income eligible households. Using PY 2023-2024 funds, the organization served 11 children.
- PY 2021-2022 & PY 2022-2023 Christ Our Shepherd, d.b.a. C.O.S. Kids Child Development Center – Tuition Assistance Program: Tuition assistance in a form of a subsidy was provided for income eligible families through a sliding scale model utilizing CDBG funds. Using PY 2021-2022 funds, the organization served 4 children.
- PY 2022-2023 Christ Our Shepherd, d.b.a. C.O.S. Kids Child Development Center - Tuition Assistance Program: Tuition assistance in a form of a subsidy was provided for income eligible families through a sliding scale model utilizing CDBG funds. Using PY 2021-2022 funds, the organization served 4 children.
- PY 2019-2020 Huntersville Huntington Green Sidewalk Project Phase I – Architecture and Engineering: Phase I entailed architectural design and engineering work along with right-of-way acquisition component of 6,000 linear feet of sidewalk in a historically low-income neighborhood along the Huntington Green mobile home park. This project allows residents of this neighborhood to access services in a safe manner.
- PY 2023-2024 Huntersville Huntington Green Sidewalk Project Phase II- Construction: Phase II includes all construction related activities along with certified engineering (CEI) oversight.
- PY 2020-2021 Pineville South Polk Connector Sidewalk Project Phase I – Architecture and Engineering: The project entails engineering/design and right of way needs’ mapping and acquisition for approximately 1,500 linear feet of sidewalk along South Polk Street. The South Polk Connector will create connections between multiple high density, multi-family residential

developments and key community facilities in the neighborhood.

- PY 2020-2021 Matthews North Ames Street Sidewalk Project Phase I – Architecture and Engineering: This multi-year and multi-phase sidewalk project entailed architectural design and engineering and easement acquisition of approximately 450 linear feet of associated sidewalk, curbing and planting strip.
- PY 2021-2022 Matthews North Ames Street Sidewalk Project Phase II – Construction: the construction part of the sidewalk project was completed in PY 2023-2024.

**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 and Fair Housing	Program Administration and Planning		Other	Other	1	1	100.00%			
Community Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	500	0	0.00%			
Critical Housing Repairs	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$534777.36	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	5	0	0.00%			
Critical Housing Repairs	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$534777.36	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	50	23	46.00%	15	23	153.33%
Expanding Economic Opportunity	Non-Housing Community Development		Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	9				
Expanding Economic Opportunity	Non-Housing Community Development		Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	2	0	0.00%			

Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$1293811	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0	2495	2505	0	99.60%
Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$1293811	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	500	0	0.00%			
Substantial Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing		Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	2	0	0.00%			
Substantial Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing		Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	2	0	0.00%			
Support Access to Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	300	20	6.67%	23	20	115.00%

**Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Da**

**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.**

In PY 2023-2024, Mecklenburg County focused on three key priority goals identified in their 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan:

Critical Housing Repairs: Given the age of the existing affordable housing supply, owner occupied housing requires the CDBG program to support low- and moderate-income homeowners to maintain housing that is in standard condition to ensure high quality of life for residents. Preservation of affordable housing stock continues to be the high priority for Mecklenburg County. With the help of local non-profit housing service providers CDBG funds were used to stabilize and improve living conditions for twenty-three (23) eligible owner-occupied single-family households in the community.

Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity and Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region used CDBG funds to carry out these repairs, which included floor replacements, plumbing, electrical, or roof repairs, heat or AC replacements, and/or accessibility repairs.

Given the age of the current affordable housing stock across the County, the CDBG program is essential for supporting low- and moderate-income homeowners in maintaining their homes to a standard condition, ensuring a high quality of life for residents. Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity utilized PY 2022-2023 CDBG funds; and Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region utilized PY 2021-2022 and PY 2022-2023 CDBG funds to implement a Critical Home Repair Program that carries out work necessary to continue living in the home.

Support Access to Public Services: Daycare costs continue to soar high, along transportation cost, in the community. Providing CDBG funds as a form of subsidy helps low- and moderate-income families afford childcare. By helping more families access childcare, subsidy programs aim to increase parents’ workforce participation and children’s safety, wellbeing, and school readiness. The C.O.S. Kids Child Development Center Tuition Scholarship program, and the Davidson Cornelius Child Development Center Sliding Scale Scholarship program both provide daycare services for low-to-moderate income households. CDBG funds were utilized to subsidize childcare costs with both daycare providers for families under the 80% Annual Median Income (AMI) set by HUD.

Public Facilities and Infrastructure: A critical need exists to provide accessibility to public infrastructure for low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. This includes CDBG funded (partially or in full) ADA compliant new sidewalks to enhance connectivity, accessibility and safety in a HUD qualified low-mod



areas in the Towns of Huntersville, Pineville and Matthews.

All projects listed in Table 1 helped to meet selected Consolidated Plan priorities and objectives.

## 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	25
Black or African American	1
Asian	0
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>
Hispanic	8
Not Hispanic	18

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

### Narrative

The table above reflects racial and ethnic composition of families assisted for CDBG housing activities during the FY 2023-2024. Twenty-six (26) families benefited from the program, 96 % of them were white, 0.4 % of them were Black/African American. 1/3 of the program participants were Hispanic.

## CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

### Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	3,571,902	1,071,066
Other	private	906,800	0
Other	public - local	906,800	0

**Table 3 - Resources Made Available**

### Narrative

As can be noted from the above table, in PY 2023-2024, the County expended a total of \$1,071,065.53 in CDBG funds and \$0 in CDBG-CV funds in the total of \$1,071,065.53

Mecklenburg County had \$969,808 available in CDBG resources for PY 2023-2024 approved projects. According to the IDIS Report PR-26, Mecklenburg County disbursed \$1,071,065.53 in CDBG funds. The County disbursed \$162,935.88 in administrative funds, \$183,965.32 for public services, \$289,790.61 towards home repair housing programs, and \$250,408.40 towards facility improvements and infrastructure.

### Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
ETJ Area			Eligible Geography
Town of Cornelius			LG Member
Town of Davidson			LG Member
Town of Huntersville			LG Member
Town of Matthews			LG Member
Town of Pineville			LG Member

**Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**

### Narrative

Rather than identifying geographic target areas, Mecklenburg County's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan prioritizes that funds be distributed to county-wide to areas that are 80 percent or below the Annual Median Income (**AMI**) defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**). Applications for CDBG funds are received annually from participating municipalities and qualifying area non-profits. Applications were evaluated based on type and severity of need, number of beneficiaries served and meeting national objectives set by HUD. The Mecklenburg County CDBG Consortium reviews the applications and funds projects based on application ratings. The CDBG Consortium seeks to distribute funds equitably throughout Mecklenburg County to meet community needs and best leverage CDBG

funds.

## 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.**

Subrecipients annually leverage CDBG funds to secure state and private foundation grants to achieve community development goals. Unlike some federal grant programs, CDBG regulations do not mandate matching funds from its subrecipients. However, although there are no federal matching requirements for CDBG funds, the County strongly encourages organizations to provide matching funds whenever possible.

## 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	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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	4	23
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

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

Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity proposed to rehab two (2) households in PY 2023, however the organization was behind on spending funds, and completed spending PY 2022 funds in PY 2023. They proposed to rehab four (4) households in PY 2022.

Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region planned on rehabilitating nineteen (19) homes using PY 2021 and PY 2022 funds. They have used 90% of their funds to assist eighteen (18) households in this program year.

The above shown number lists five (5) rehab jobs from Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity and eighteen (18) rehab jobs from Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region.

**Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.**

Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region has not received funding for PY 2023, only for PY 2024. There will be no delays spending these funds.

Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity requested half the amount of funding they received for PY 23, which will help them catch up on spending down these funds (for both PY 23 and PY 24) by June 30, 2025.

**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.**

<b>Number of Households Served</b>	<b>CDBG Actual</b>	<b>HOME Actual</b>
Extremely Low-income	9	0
Low-income	9	0
Moderate-income	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>

**Table 7 – Number of Households Served**

**Narrative Information**

The chart above reflects beneficiaries realized from the projects completed during the PY 2023-2024 program year that required information on income and family size to determine eligibility. A total of twenty-three (23) households were served through the critical home repair program, which number consists of nine (9) extremely low-income households, nine (9) low-income households and five (5) moderate-income households.

## **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**

Mecklenburg County's Community Support Services (CSS) department has made significant strides in reducing and ending homelessness through various initiatives. The CSS Homeless Services Division engages with homeless individuals and families, assesses their needs, and develops strategies to meet those needs and support long-term success. The Coordinated Entry system connects those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to available shelter or housing resources. The Homeless Resource Center collaborates with community organizations to provide meals to those experiencing homelessness during evening and weekend hours.

The federally funded Shelter Plus Care program connects housing needs with supportive services to move homeless individuals and families with disabilities into permanent housing. The Housing Stability Funding collaboration offers supportive housing development, housing subsidies, and supportive services to maintain permanent housing stability. The Mecklenburg Frequent Users Systems Engagement program provides housing and supportive services for homeless individuals with health issues who have frequently used the County jail, street camps, and shelters. Moore Place is a Housing First apartment building for chronically homeless men and women, while the Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg Partnership aims to provide affordable homes and support services for homeless individuals.

These initiatives highlight Mecklenburg County's commitment to ending homelessness and supporting those in need.

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

As the CoC lead entity, Mecklenburg County has diligently developed Continuum of Care services by collaborating with area service providers to offer essential support services to homeless individuals and families. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) utilizes Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funds to provide emergency shelter and necessary support services for homeless people. Mecklenburg County's Community Support Services Department acts as the local System Administrator for the HMIS in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg CoC and represents the CoC on the North Carolina Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Governance Committee.

**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**

Homeless needs are addressed in the community through various organizations. Mecklenburg County CDBG funding is available to eligible agencies that provide services and assistance to those at risk of becoming homeless. Mecklenburg County has actively pursued strategies and initiatives to improve economic opportunities for low-income residents, focusing on education and employment options. The Department of Social Services and Community Support Services offers numerous programs aimed at reducing poverty, including Family and Children's Medicaid, the Food and Nutrition Services Program, and Employment and Career Services.

Additionally, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Opportunity Task Force has identified access to early childcare and education, college and career readiness, and child and family stability as key factors affecting economic opportunity and upward mobility. The County has made significant investments to address these issues. Mecklenburg County is also committed to alleviating the affordable housing crisis, with a set of recommendations for affordable housing development strategies and an action plan that outlines efforts to coordinate with local government bodies, and private and non-profit sectors. The County's goals, programs, and policies for reducing poverty align with the affordable housing plan, as lowering housing expenses is a significant factor in reducing the number of families living in poverty.

**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 Community Support Services (CSS) department of Mecklenburg County's Health and Human Services Agency is actively evaluating regional initiatives aimed at aiding homeless individuals in their transition to permanent housing to support self-sufficiency. The CSS Homeless Services Division is committed to connecting those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with essential community resources and services. Through their collaboration and planning efforts, the Division's goal is to shorten the duration of homelessness for individuals and families, improve access to affordable housing, and prevent those who have recently exited homelessness from returning to instability.

Additionally, the County has invested in strategies and initiatives to develop affordable housing, aiming to promote stability and prevent homelessness among low-income residents. The County is dedicated to bolstering coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies to effectively address housing instability and homelessness at all levels. Collaboration with partner jurisdictions will continue to increase, and administrative and monitoring processes will be standardized, compliant, and efficient.

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

### **Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

Though Mecklenburg County does not currently own or operate any public housing developments or units, it partners with INLIVIAN, a HUD-funded Equal Housing Opportunity agency. INLIVIAN currently administers roughly 100 public housing units, 8,550 Housing Choice Voucher units, and 1,050 local, non-traditional units. Project-based Vouchers, Tenant-based Vouchers and Special Purpose Vouchers for Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, Family Unification Program and Disabled individuals are available to Mecklenburg County residents through INLIVIAN. According to PIC (PIH Information Center), there are forty-two properties owned and managed by INLIVIAN, with approximately 6,900 housing units for families and senior/disabled individuals.

When comparing INLIVIAN's housing assistance distribution to that of all housing authorities across North Carolina, INLIVIAN operates a higher share of public housing units than the state average. Therefore, the share of Section 8 vouchers managed by INLIVIAN is also larger than the average housing authority in North Carolina.

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

INLIVIAN supports Mecklenburg County residents at each of the public housing developments. Through this collaboration, INLIVIAN promotes supportive resident services and programs to meet the unique needs of the community. INLIVIAN has supported 176 families in achieving homeownership through programs such as the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, which is a five-year homeownership education program. INLIVIAN also offers a scholarship program for INLIVIAN students. As of date, 985 scholarships have been awarded to students.

### **Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

N/A

## **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)**

Mecklenburg County is actively working to eliminate or reduce the negative impacts of public policies that hinder affordable housing to ensure affordable housing is accessible to all. Efforts include prioritizing state and local funding, advocating for federal programs to support these initiatives, and promoting the use of affordable housing tools within the county. Additionally, the county is collaborating with the City of Charlotte to create incentives for developers to build affordable housing.

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

Mecklenburg County faces many adversities in increases affordable housing available, such as receiving limited and stringent funding from federal, state, and local sources. However, the County has taken several steps to overcome obstacles in meeting the needs of underserved communities, such as leveraging community partnerships to address priority needs and seeking additional funding and partners. Mecklenburg County also collaborates with other jurisdictions to bolster holistic and wrap-around services.

As an entitlement recipient of CDBG funds, Mecklenburg County provides business opportunities to minority and women-owned businesses. To meet these requirements, the County actively encourages MBE/WBE/SBE firms to participate in CDBG-related contracting activities. The County maintains a database of interested minority- and women-owned businesses.

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

Mecklenburg County is dedicated to reducing lead-based paint hazards. The county incorporates lead testing and clearances for all rehabilitation projects funded by the CDBG program to ensure compliance with federal lead-safe practices. The County also provides safety information regarding lead-based paint to local non-profit agencies, homeowners, and renters. Safety information regarding lead-based paint is also available on Mecklenburg County's website.

The county's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program is administered by the Lodging and Institutions Programs of Environmental Health and the Community-Based Services program of the Health Department. This program aims to prevent childhood lead poisoning, provide medical case management to children under six with elevated lead levels, and enforce state regulations addressing childhood lead poisoning prevention. The program recommends that children under six living in pre-1978 housing have their blood tested for lead at their pediatrician or healthcare provider. If elevated blood lead levels are detected, a follow-up venous test will be conducted. Confirmed blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or greater

will trigger medical, nutritional, and environmental follow-up from health professionals. This program enforces state rules and regulation for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, addressing conditions where children under six have been identified with lead poisoning or elevated blood lead levels or have potential exposure to lead hazards in schools, daycares, or similar settings. Activities include identifying lead hazards through inspections and risk assessments, notifying parents, property owners, and residents of these hazards, and reviewing and approving or disapproving lead abatement and remediation plans. Additionally, the program offers voluntary enrollment in the Preventative Maintenance Program for owners of pre-1978 housing. The program enables property owners to make their housing lead-safe, providing them with certification that offers relief from certain liabilities and financial institution discrimination. North Carolina's Preventative Maintenance Program was created to give landlords and property owners a cost-effective way to establish and maintain lead-safe housing. Enrollees receive a certificate of compliance that provides statutory liability relief if the property remains compliant with the necessary requirements.

These initiatives not only promote childhood lead poisoning prevention but also enhance property values and create lead-safe housing for the community.

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

Through various programs with Mecklenburg County's Department of Social Services and Community Support Services, the County has been working tirelessly to reduce poverty and bolster economic opportunities for low-income residents. Additionally, the County provides local, state, and federal funding, including but not limited to CDBG funding, to organizations and initiatives that provide food, clothing, and emergency services to those in need.

Believing that education and employment opportunities are key to achieving economic independence for those below the poverty level, the Department of Social Services offers programs to help adults and families become self-sufficient through education and employment. Their Family and Children's Medicaid program assists with medical bills, while the Food and Nutrition Services Program supports households with limited income and resources.

Mecklenburg County has approved additional funding to reduce the waiting list for working families seeking assistance with childcare costs. They are committed to continuing this funding to further reduce waiting lists and increase access to high-quality childcare for children. The County has also made significant investments in understanding the affordable housing issue and developing an action plan to address the crisis.

Through these efforts, Mecklenburg County is working towards a brighter future for all its residents.

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

Mecklenburg County has established a robust institutional structure for effectively delivering CDBG

programs and services to low- and very-low-income families and individuals in the County. Participation from public, private, and non-profit entities at local and federal levels is an important component of Mecklenburg County's CDBG program delivery. The primary goal is to address affordable housing and non-housing community development needs.

The County Manager's Office oversees the implementation of CDBG funds, while the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners approves projects and programs that align with the County's and community's goals. This institutional structure is designed to accept and allocate federal grant funds for Consolidated Plan programs, with the Strategic Plan developed based on informed input from county residents.

Non-profits play a crucial role in finding permanent solutions to the housing crisis and enhancing access to services through collaboration and cooperation between service providers. Mecklenburg County continually seeks to develop new partnerships with private and non-profit agencies to expand the reach of the program and better serve the community's needs.

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

Mecklenburg County has taken steps to improve coordination and collaboration between public and private housing and social service agencies to create a more equitable and sustainable future for the community. In doing so, the County supports and participates in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, Inc. (The Housing Partnership). This nonprofit organization is dedicated to expanding affordable, well-maintained housing for low- and moderate-income families in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Through collaboration with The Housing Partnership, Mecklenburg County helps ensure that occupants receive the support they need to enter the economic mainstream and achieve long-term success.

Mecklenburg County, in partnership with the City of Charlotte, launched the Home For All initiative. Developed from extensive research, data analysis and strategic collaboration among 250+ organizations and stakeholders, A Home For All is an initiative designed to address all aspects of homelessness and housing instability to ensure every individual and family has a stable roof over their head. Mecklenburg County leaders selected United Way of Greater Charlotte to lead implementation, and the organization convenes Implementation Teams and a Technical Committee to drive progress for the initiative.

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

Mecklenburg County was involved in several additional federally funded housing and support service programs carried out through the Charlotte-Mecklenburg HOME Consortium for low-income persons in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. The institutional structure for the delivery of housing and support services to low and very-low-income families and individuals in Charlotte-Mecklenburg involves public, private, and non-profit participation at the local, state, and federal levels.

1. INLIVIAN, which owns and manages conventional public housing, develops mixed-income housing, provides City-financed public housing and transitional housing, and administers the Section 8 program.
2. Mecklenburg County's Code Enforcement Department enforces the County's housing, nuisance, and zoning codes.
3. The Housing Partnership, a non-profit housing developer, administers a bank loan pool for single and multi-family mortgage financing and develops and owns multi-family mortgage financing. The Housing Partnership also develops and owns multi-family housing, produces homes for sale to low-income families, provides support services for renters and homeowners and offers homeownership counseling. Habitat for Humanity and Builders of Hope are other non-profit developers of low-income housing working in the community.
4. The private sector, which includes private developers, rental property managers, the banking community, local businesses, and others with resources and/or technical expertise to commit to affordable housing development and management.
5. Housing support service providers including United Way agencies, City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and Community Link that provide emergency housing, human services, and housing counseling to the ELI and LMI families and individuals.

## **CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230**

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

The County follows the CDBG Subrecipient Monitoring Manual and Risk Assessment Matrix, which was developed in PY22 in partnership with Centralina Regional Council to ensure the County is in accordance with applicable federal requirements. A monitoring checklist for each type of CDBG-funded activity is utilized to guarantee long-term compliance with the requirements of the program. The manual continues to structure the programmatic requirements and delivery expectations of the County's CDBG program.

The County encourages subrecipients to follow a monthly reimbursement process and regularly check-in on their progress with scheduled meetings. These frequent check-ins allow the County to identify and address issues early, assisting subrecipients in resolving them promptly. Additionally, the CDBG program is managed respectfully and positively, fostering trust between the County and subrecipients, creating a supportive environment.

Staff monitors federally funded projects implemented by the County using simple project tracking and management reporting systems. This process includes quarterly progress reports, and a review of project expenditures to ensure they align with the project budget.

## **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.**

Mecklenburg County's Citizen Participation Plan fully acknowledges that resident input wields a crucial influence in enhancing the quality of life within their communities. As a result, the plan actively promotes and encourages residents to engage in the processes of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. Active participation empowers individuals to contribute substantially to the betterment of neighborhoods, thus becoming a potent force for positive change.

The Citizen Participation Plan, which determines the County's procedures in generating public involvement in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, also meets the requirements set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for successful CDBG program administration.

The County published a notice in the Charlotte Observer on 8/30/2024, which was advertised a 15-day comment period for the CAPER beginning 8/31/2024 through 9/15/2023; for the purpose of soliciting input from the public and CDBG stakeholders on the County's CDBG program. The same notice was posted on the County's website and Centralina Regional Council's website. The draft CAPER was made available for review in print at the County Manager's Office, also with Centralina Regional Council, and electronically

on the County's and Centralina's website. The Public Hearing is held on 9/12/2024 at 3:00 pm in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Building, Second Floor, Room 266. The public can also attend the public hearing via Zoom. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed and approved the CAPER on 9/17/2024.

### **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.**

Mecklenburg County has updated the CDBG program objectives and remained committed to supporting projects that align with community housing and economic development goals for the last year of the five-year consolidated planning period. The timely expenditure of CDBG funds is crucial for the County. To meet timeliness requirements, the County diligently developed necessary procedures, materials, and reports for the program. Through these steps taken in the previous program year, Mecklenburg County got very close to meeting timeliness requirements in PY 2023. In the next five-year consolidated planning period, the County anticipates that implementing activities identified in the Annual Action Plan will continue to be more efficient and effective, carried out within a more reasonable timeframe. As part of this effort, the County has developed a risk management tool to ensure timely spending of funds.

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

No

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



## CR-58 – Section 3

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

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

**Table 8 – Total Labor Hours**

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

Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					
Other.					

**Table 9 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program**

**Narrative**

Mecklenburg County has established partnerships with INLIVIAN, the local Public Housing Authority (PHA), to work towards the goal of generating job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**August 30, 2024**

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY**  
**2023 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation and Review (CAPER)**  
**Public Review & Comment Period**

Public Notice is hereby given that Mecklenburg County has developed the draft HUD Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. The CAPER document is intended to provide residents with a summary of the annual accomplishments of the Mecklenburg County CDBG program, and the effect program activities have on low and moderate-income households.

The 2023 CAPER is available for public review and comment for a fifteen-day period **from August 31, 2024, to September 15, 2024**. Copies of the 2023 CAPER can be accessed at <https://mgr.mecknc.gov/programs/CDBG> or at [www.centralina.gov/Insights](http://www.centralina.gov/Insights).

The County will hold an in person public hearing on **Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 3:00 PM, at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center, located at 600 East 4th Street, Charlotte, NC 28202, Second Floor Room 266**, to obtain feedback and to enable citizens the opportunity to comment on the County's Community Development Block Grant program. If you wish to attend the meeting and would like to receive the meeting materials, please contact Zsuzsi Kadar at (704) 688-7033 or [zkadar@centralina.org](mailto:zkadar@centralina.org).

If you cannot make it to the meeting in person, you will have the opportunity to join virtually via the following **Zoom link**:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87199447308?pwd=t0b8mWVMug3k6W6PbbbG8SlwBLntU.1&from=addon>

**Meeting ID:** 871 9944 7308

**Passcode:** 648286

Anyone needing special modifications when attending this meeting, has non-English-speaking needs and/or if this information is needed in an alternative format because of a disability, please contact Timothy Tibbs at (980) 314-2915 or [Timothy.Tibbs@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Timothy.Tibbs@mecklenburgcountync.gov). We request at least 72 hours' notice prior to the meeting to make the appropriate arrangements.

Comments can be sent via mail to Centralina Regional Council located at 10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28262, Attn: Zsuzsi Kadar; or emailed to [zkadar@centralina.org](mailto:zkadar@centralina.org). All comments must be received by September 15, 2024, at 5:00 pm, to be considered for the publication of the CAPER.

