

City of Gary, Indiana
Notice of Funding Application Availability
CDBG, ESG, and HOME Federal Entitlement Grants
2024 Program Year Funding 10-06-23

Notice is hereby given that the City of Gary's Department of Community Development is accepting applications for Program Year 2024 in anticipation of awards for 3 federal entitlement grant programs. The City expects to submit a 2024 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sometime in March or April 2024 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program (CFDA #14.218), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program (CFDA #14.231), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (CFDA #14.239). The City is anticipating on receiving an estimated \$3,000,000 in CDBG funds, \$250,000 in ESG funds, and \$500,000 in HOME funds for use effective June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025.

Please be advised that the City of Gary Department of Community Development has entered into an Inter-Local Agreement with the Gary Housing Authority in support of the development of housing for low to moderate income persons. In connection with this venture, applications may be solicited and received by both the City of Gary's Department of Community Development and the Gary Housing Authority, which may utilize HOME and/or CDBG dollars in addition to Project Based Vouchers (PBVs), Replacement Housing Factor Funds (RHF), Demolition/Disposition and Transitional Funding (DDTF), Annual Contribution Contracts (ACCs) units or any eligible and available funding for projects within the GHA's Real Estate Development Portfolio and/or available properties within the City of Gary.

The CDBG Program, under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 570 and <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/>, provides annual grants on a formula basis to states, cities, and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The CDBG program supports community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities. To support community development, activities are identified through an ongoing process. Activities may address needs such as infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance, etc. For CDBG program funding, the City of Gary will only be accepting applications from public or private non-profit organizations for Public Services, Demolition, and Code Enforcement programs; however, exceptions for other types of activities may be made by contacting Ms. Evelyn Aponte at (219)881-5075. Funding for Public Services has a cap of 15% of the total entitlement which is estimated to be about \$450,000.

The ESG Program (ESG), under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 576 and <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>, assists people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. The ESG program provides funding to (1) Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) Improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) Help operate these shelters; (4) Provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) Rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; and (6) Prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless. ESG funds may be used for five program components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS; as well as activity delivery costs to deliver services from each component. The applicant is required to provide 100% matching funds in an amount that equals the total requested funding amount. Data Collection requirements and participation in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to enter client data is a statutory requirement for recipients and subrecipients of the ESG funds. For ESG program funding, the City of Gary will be accepting applications from non-profit organizations that would like to provide homeless services assistance under the components of Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, and Rapid Re-housing.

The HOME Program, under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 92 and <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/home/>, provides grants to states and local governments often in partnership with for-profit developers, non-profit developers, non-profit organizations designated as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership or providing direct rental assistance to low-income people. For HOME funding, the City of Gary will be accepting applications for the development or rehabilitation of affordable housing for low-income households.

Applications requested will only be provided electronically and must be submitted electronically. Applications will be available for 30 days beginning **October 16, 2023 and ending on November 15, 2023** between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Potential applicants must submit a request for an application for the grant(s) which they are applying for to Ms. Kimberley McClam at kmccclam@gary.gov or to Ms. Felicia Jones at fjones@gary.gov or by telephone at 219-881-5075. Completed applications must be typed, signed, dated, and submitted in .pdf format including all Sections and Attachments to either of the email addresses listed above. Completed applications will not be accepted handwritten or submitted by fax. **The deadline for submitting completed applications electronically is November 16, 2023 by 4:00 p.m. There will be no exceptions.**

Requirements:

- Each applicant, applying for CDBG and ESG funds, must be a public or private non-profit agency, authority or organization with a 501(c)(3) status and must provide documentation verifying such. Private Nonprofits are usually, but not always, corporations, associations, agencies, or faith-based organizations with nonprofit status under the Internal Revenue Code (Section 501(c)(3)). Private For-Profit Entities may qualify as subrecipients when carrying out authorized economic development activities. Community-Based Development Organizations (CBDOs) may be designated as a subrecipient to carry out special activities such as economic development or new housing construction on behalf of the grantee.
- Each applicant must provide services to clients residing in the City of Gary's Corporate Boundaries and programs must primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents. A detailed description of the boundaries can be requested.
- Each applicant must be registered in the System Award Management (SAM) at <https://sam.gov/content/home> prior to submitting an application and maintain an active registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration by the City of Gary. This registration is free.
- Each applicant must provide its Unique Entity ID number in each application submitted to the City of Gary. The Unique Entity ID is a 12-character alphanumeric ID assigned to an entity after registering in the System Award Management website. The DUNS Number has been removed from SAM. Entity registration, searching, and data entry in SAM.gov now require use of the new Unique Entity ID.
- Each applicant must provide proof of registration with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services E-Verify Program as defined in IC 22-5-1.7-3 and verify the work eligibility status of all his/her/its newly hired employees through the E-Verify Program. Entities are not required to participate if self-employed and do not employ any employees.

Review and Selection Process:

The City of Gary has established a procedure whereby each application is reviewed by City staff, recommendations for project funding are submitted to the Mayor for review, a 30-day public comment period is held for citizen input, and HUD review and approval.

1. Applications are reviewed by Compliance Division Staff of the Department of Community Development for content, as soon as possible, in the order that they are received. After review by the Compliance Division Staff, they are then evaluated by the Department of Community Development's Review Committee for eligibility as determined by HUD guidelines. The Review Committee involves the local Continuum of Care and one homeless or formerly homeless person in the process for the ESG Program applications.
2. Evaluations by the Review Committee are based on the following criteria:
 - Need for the service identified in the City's 2021-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan
 - Does it meet a National Objective?
 - Measurable benefit to the City and citizens of Gary, IN
 - Consistency with neighborhood improvement targeting initiatives, as defined by the Mayor and Council
 - Feasibility of the program or project
 - Reasonableness of proposed costs and extent of non-City funding brought to bear
 - Capacity and expertise of the applicant
 - Past performance of the applicant under CDBG, HOME, or ESG funding agreements
 - Addressing emergency health and safety concerns
3. If an application is determined to be ineligible, the applicant is informed and the application is withdrawn from consideration. In some cases, where there is uncertainty as to the application's eligibility, the City's HUD representative will be consulted for a decision.
4. The Review Committee provides a mechanism by which community needs may be recognized, prioritized, and recommended to the Mayor for funding. The Mayor will consider the recommendations in making the final determination as to which agencies/projects to fund and incorporate into the PY 2024 Annual Action Plan for citizen input.
5. Citizen input is obtained through the public hearing process. Notices are published in local newspapers two weeks in advance of all hearings, specifying date, time, and proposed activities. A 30-day comment period begins the day after the public hearing is held.
6. Once the 30-day comment period is over, the Plan is submitted electronically to HUD.
7. Once HUD approves the Plan, the City Council approves the Plan by resolution, and each applicant will be notified of their funding approval.

If you are selected to receive any funding, the funds will not be available at the beginning of the 2024 Program Year. The City of Gary must wait until HUD announces the FY2024 appropriation from Congress to submit its 2024 Annual Action Plan (application for funding). HUD cannot predict when its FY 2024 appropriations bill will be enacted by Congress or when it will be able to announce the FY 2024 allocation amounts.

Your cooperation in providing the requested documentation and adhering to the date of the deadline is critical for funding consideration. Applications submitted after this date will not be considered. Should you have any questions regarding the applications, please contact Ms. Kimberley McClam or Ms. Felicia Jones at (219)881-5075.