



# **New Castle County**

## **Consolidated Plan**

### **Annual Action Plan July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018**

*(for housing and community development programs)*

New Castle County  
Department of Community Services  
77 Reads Way  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 395-5600



## New Castle County, DE

### Annual Action Plan for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

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# ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)



# SF 424 FORM Annual Action Plan

(July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018)



# SF 424


The SF 424 is part of the CPMP Annual Action Plan. SF 424 form fields are included in this document. Grantee information is linked from the 1CPMP.xls document of the CPMP tool.

## SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted: 7/24/2017	Applicant Identifier	<b>Type of Submission</b>	
Date Received by state	State Identifier	<b>Application</b>	<b>Pre-application</b>
Date Received by HUD:	Federal Identifier: 516000160	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction
<b>Applicant Information</b>			
New Castle County		DE109003 NEW CASTLE COUNTY	
87 Reads Way		DUNS: 077095057	
New Castle	Delaware	Department of Community Services	
19720	Country U.S.A.	Community Development and Housing	
<b>Employer Identification Number (EIN):</b>		New Castle County	
516000160		Program Year Start Date (07/01/2017)	
<b>Applicant Type:</b>		<b>Specify Other Type if necessary:</b>	
Local Government: County		Specify Other Type	
<b>Program Funding</b>		<b>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</b>	
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.); Estimated Funding			
<b>Community Development Block Grant</b>		CFDA- 14.218 Entitlement Grant	
New Castle County, DE: CDBG program for July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018		New Castle County Delaware, Urban County	
\$2,079,650 CDBG award	<b>B-17-UC-10-0001</b>		
\$ 769,859 CDBG prior year funds			
\$325,000 anticipated CDBG Program Income			
\$3,174,509			
<b>Home Investment Partnerships Program</b>		CFDA- 14.239 HOME	
New Castle County, DE: HOME program for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		New Castle County Delaware, Urban County	
\$700,878 HOME award	<b>M-17-UC-10-0201</b>		
\$312,137 HOME prior year funds			
\$100,000 anticipated HOME Program Income			
\$1,113,015			

<b>Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS</b>		14.241 HOPWA	
NOT APPLICABLE FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY DE		Description of Areas Affected by HOPWA Project(s)	
\$HOPWA Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)			
<b>Emergency Solutions Grant</b>		CFDA-14.231 ESG	
New Castle County, DE: ESG program for July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018		New Castle County Delaware, Urban County	
\$188,829	E-17-UC-10-0001		
\$188,829			
<b>Total Amounts: CDBG/HOME/ESG- \$4,476,353</b>			
<b>Congressional Districts of:</b>		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?	
At-Large, District 1			
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on:
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	Program is not covered by EO 12372
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Program has not been selected by the state for review

Person to be contacted regarding this application:		
Marcus	Henry	General Manager
Telephone & Fax Numbers:	302-395-5605	302-395-5591
Email Address:	mhenry@nccde.org	
Department of Community Services Website Address:	<a href="http://www.nccde.org/252/Department-of-Community-Services">www.nccde.org/252/Department-of-Community-Services</a>	
Signature of Authorized Representative		Date Signed:
 Mr. Matthew Meyer, County Executive		Aug. 14, 2017

# Executive Summary

## AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

### 1. Introduction

New Castle County Government (NCC), as the recipient of federal entitlement funds from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), administers a number of housing and community development activities either directly or through sub-recipient agencies, usually non-profit housing or social service agencies. Additionally, it passes a portion of this funding to the Cooperating Community, The City of Newark, which operates similar activities. Federal Funding Sources include: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) & Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) grants. Federal funds are supplemented from the following sources: Program income generated from loan programs, Unspent funds from prior years, County operating or capital dollars, Local bank, corporate, and state funding commitments, Non-profits and Private sector.

The federal funding sources are entitlements, meaning the funding is available because certain demographic and housing thresholds are met. HUD mandates New Castle County (NCC) submit a Consolidated Plan (CP) every three to five years and an Annual Plan (AP) every year in order to receive federal entitlement grant funds. Per the mandate, the identification of needs and the adoption of strategies to address those needs must focus primarily on low and moderate income (LMI) persons and households. The CP must also address the needs of persons with special needs, such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, single parent households, children and youth, homeless individuals and families, and public housing residents.

### Purpose of the Consolidated Plan

The purpose of NCC's CP is to guide funding decisions of specific federal funds over the next five year period. The CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's need. These goals are:

- To provide **decent housing** by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for special needs households, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
- To provide a **suitable living environment** through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low and moderate income residents, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods and communities.



- To **expand economic opportunities** through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low and moderate income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

The County's CP outlines how New Castle County will utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds, and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds over the next five year period. Specifically, the CP outlines priority needs, goals, and objectives for the following categories: housing needs, non-housing community development needs, homeless needs, and non-homeless special needs. NCC's AP is submitted every year and lists the activities pursued with federal funds to meet the CP goals.

## **2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

Below is a list of the highest ranking needs identified by the citizens of New Castle County.

**Decent Housing:** Create affordable homeownership opportunities, Assist Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing facilities, and Rapid-Re-Housing Programs, Assist the homeless quickly gain permanent housing through programs, Assist those at risk of becoming homeless (homeless prevention and diversion assistance), Increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing, especially for the growing elderly population, Increase the supply of quality affordable rental housing accessible to people with disabilities, Increase the supply of supportive housing and services to special needs persons allowing them to live in dignity and independence;

**Suitable Living Environment:** Provide public services to special needs populations, those identified as hard to serve, including veterans, the chronically homeless, the homeless, the elderly, persons with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, and youth aging out of foster care, Provide public services for youth, Provide crime prevention programs to targeted neighborhoods, Provide substance abuse services, Provide street lighting and accessibility upgrade projects in low to moderate income neighborhoods, Provide assistance to community facilities for "center-based" care and

**Expanded Economic Opportunities:** Fund economic development activities, Assist the low to moderate income population to become empowered and self-sufficient, Fund Job Creation and Retention Programs, Support Employment Training and Placement Programs, Fund Workforce Development Programs, Fund Literacy Programs, Support General Equivalency Diploma (GED) Preparedness Programs, New Castle County carefully analyzed the responses from the public participation initiatives

and the data from the Delaware Housing Needs Assessment. The following priorities were formulated to address the identified needs.

**New Castle County Priority Needs 2015 - 2020:**

**Priorities for Decent Affordable Housing (Owners):**

- Expand the supply of housing for affordable homeownership
- Support Housing Rehabilitation for LMI homeowners and seniors
- Increase homeownership opportunities for LMI families

**Priorities for Decent Affordable Housing (Renters):**

- Expand the availability of quality rental stock for LMI households
- Support housing for persons with disabilities

**Priorities for Decent Affordable Housing (Homelessness Assistance):**

- Assist those at-risk of becoming homeless
- Assist Homeless Populations

**Priorities for Suitable Living Environment:**

- Strengthen communities by funding public and social services to LMI persons

**Priorities for Expanded Economic Opportunities:**

- Support programs that provide economic opportunities and empower LMI persons to achieve self-sufficiency

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

During the County's 2015-2016 program years, \$4,172,555.52 was expended on housing and community development programs. A total of 2,811 persons were served through the CDBG, ESG and HOME Programs. Overall the programs served a high percentage of persons under 50% of area median income (AMI). For all programs (housing and non-housing), where income information is collected, 66% earned less than 50% of median income, with 39% earning less than 30% of median income.

### NCC Housing Programs

- 52 housing units received needed repairs & rehabilitation through NCC operated programs
- Fourteen group homes for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities received accessibility and bathroom improvements
- 112 households were assisted through the Down Payment and Settlement Program (DPS) and the DPS-Section 8 Homeownership Program offered by the County.

### City of Newark (Cooperating Community) Housing Programs

- Five owner-occupied rehabilitation loans
- Four senior minor home repair loans
- One home energy conservation audit
- Twenty-Eight low-income rental property improvements

### Community Development Programs

- 2,609 LMI persons were assisted through activities with public services and programs for area youth; the disabled, and other vulnerable populations

### Homeless Programs

- In an effort to address the housing needs of people currently in emergency shelters or transitional housing, the County used funding from its ESG and CDBG HUD allocation. Last program year NCC allocated \$75,000 in ESG funding to emergency shelters, \$90,000 to Rapid-Rehousing activities and \$27,500 in CDBG funding to transitional housing projects.
- NCC also used CDBG funding for homeless prevention projects. Last program year a total of \$35,000 was awarded to agencies that address our Housing Priority of assisting those at risk of becoming homeless.

### Economic Development Programs

- 2,034 persons were assisted through various economic development, employment and job training activities offered through Goodwill Industries, Nehemiah Gateway Earned Income Tax Credit Education Program, New Castle County Disabled Youth Program, City of Newark Youth Beautification Program and Tech Impact.
- New Castle County continued to operate the “Rewire to be Rehired Program” which offers independent employment workshops for individuals unemployed and underemployed in the County. Free workshops were offered at County owned libraries.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

New Castle County encourages citizen participation in Annual Action Plan development. In addition to newspaper notices in the state-wide News Journal and the Spanish language monthly publication, El Tiempo Hispano, Annual Action Plan public meeting notices, held twice yearly, were posted at County libraries and emailed to approximately 400 housing and community development stakeholders. The public meeting notices are also posted on the Division of Community Development and Housing's website. Target dates for the Annual Plan funding process were provided to attendees at the fall public hearing and proposal kickoff held on November 15, 2016. Key dates for the upcoming One Year Action Plan are as follows:

April 17, 2017	Draft Action Plan available for Public Comment
April 26, 2017	Spring Public Hearing on Action Plan
May 15, 2016	Close of Public Comment for Action Plan
May 25, 2017	New Castle County Council consideration of Action Plan
July 1, 2017	Program Fiscal Year Begins
TBD	Action Plan Submitted to HUD

One public hearing was held on April 26, 2017. In addition, the 2017-2018 Draft Annual Action Plan was placed on public display for 30 days beginning April 17, 2017 and ending May 15, 2017.

#### **5. Summary of public comments**

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

There were no public comments to report.

#### **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**

Not Applicable.

## **7. Summary**

New Castle County's 2015-2020 CP identified how Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds will be utilized over the next five year period.

Specifically the CP summarized priority needs, goals and objectives for the following categories: housing needs, non-housing community development needs, homeless needs, and non-homeless special needs.

The CP is a comprehensive, long-term plan for the County's Community Development and Housing endeavors and is used as a planning instrument to provide assistance, resources and services for the benefit of the low to moderate income citizens of the Urban New Castle County (New Castle County exclusive of the City of Wilmington).

NCC's Annual Plan is submitted every year and lists the activities pursued with federal funds to meet the goals and priorities outlined in the HUD approved Consolidated Plan.

**PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)**

**1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan**

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	NEW CASTLE COUNTY	Department of Community Services
HOME Administrator	NEW CASTLE COUNTY	Department of Community Services
ESG Administrator	NEW CASTLE COUNTY	Department of Community Services

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

**Narrative (optional)**

The lead agency overseeing the development of the Annual Plan is New Castle County (NCC), Department of Community Services (DCS), Community Development and Housing Division. DCS is the contracting and participating jurisdiction that administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs in NCC. In addition, the DCS also administers the NCC Housing Authority (NCCCHA) Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Numerous housing and social service related agencies partner with NCC each year to provide a multitude of services to the community.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

New Castle County

Department of Community Services

Community Development & Housing Division

77 Reads Way

New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 395-5600 Fax: (302) 302-395-5591 TDD: (302) 395-5593

Website: <http://www.nccdc.org/456/Community-Development-Housing>

Marcus Henry, General Manager- email: [mhenry@nccdc.org](mailto:mhenry@nccdc.org)

Carrie Casey, Community Services Manager - email: [ccasey@nccdc.org](mailto:ccasey@nccdc.org)

Vincent P. Garlick, HOME Administrator – email: [vlgarlick@nccdc.org](mailto:vlgarlick@nccdc.org)

Nicole Waters, CDBG/ESG Program Manager – email: [nwaters@nccdc.org](mailto:nwaters@nccdc.org)