

City of Canton  
Department of Development



**Consolidated Plan 2014 - 2018**  
**Annual Action Plan 2014**

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## **Executive Summary**

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

#### **1. Introduction**

The Consolidated Plan is a consolidation of various HUD Programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) Program, and the HOME Program. The City of Canton receives funding directly from HUD. The City's Consolidated Plan covers FY 2014-2018.

As an entitlement community, the City of Canton is responsible for the preparation of a local strategic plan for community development, as well as a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan that describes the housing and community development activities to be carried out with the City's CDBG, ESG, and HOME funding resources.

#### **2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview**

The City of Canton's Consolidated Plan describes the City's priority community development needs eligible for assistance under the CDBG, ESG and HOME Programs, including an assessment of housing, homeless, public facilities, infrastructure improvements, public services, accessibility, historic preservation, economic development, and planning needs. The Plan includes the City's long-term and short-term community development objectives that have been developed to address the national goals of the CDBG, ESG and HOME Programs, which include:

1. The provision of decent housing that is affordable to low and very low income households.
2. The provision of a suitable living environment, improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods, increasing access to quality facilities and services, improving housing opportunities, and revitalizing deteriorated neighborhoods.
3. The expansion of economic opportunities, creating jobs that promote long term economic and social viability and that are accessible to low and very low income persons.

This Consolidated Plan has identified the following priority needs that provide the programming focus over the next five years:

- Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;

- Expand affordable housing opportunities;
- Reduce housing cost burden;
- Address homelessness issues;
- Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;
- Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;
- Remove barriers to accessibility;
- Expand economic opportunities; and
- Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.
- Removal of blight and blighting influences in residential neighborhoods.

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

The City of Canton has been a direct recipient of CDBG, HOME, and ESG grant funds since the inception of these programs. As such, the preparation and development of the current Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan represents a logical continuation of the City's past housing and community development and homeless assistance programs and builds upon the foundation set forth in prior periods' Consolidated and Strategic Plans.

At the end of each program year, the City of Canton prepares the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), which describes the City's progress in meeting its identified needs, priorities and goals as set forth in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. Through the monitoring of performance measures, the City is able to identify operational improvements, resource allocation issues, and policy questions to be addresses in future years.

Overall, the City of Canton continues to strive for success in the implementation of housing and community development and homeless assistance programs and services in order to meet the goals and objectives established in the Consolidated Plan.

### **4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process**

In the development of this Consolidated Plan, the City of Canton undertook a citizen participation and consultation process in an attempt to expand public input into the process and obtain comments, suggestions and feedback from a variety of local agencies, organizations, as well as the general public. Public comments were received through surveys which were mailed out to groups targeted as able to provide input in terms of homeless, housing, planning, and non-housing community development needs. In addition, a series of consultation meetings were held with a number of area organizations, including housing agencies, non-profit organizations, public institutions, and other community groups. In addition, the City made a concerted effort to work together with Stark County and the area CoC in the development of the homeless assessment portions of the Consolidated Plan.

Finally, the City made its Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan available for citizen review and comment for a 30-day period beginning April 7, 2014. The Plan was available on the City's website as well as several locations throughout the community. A public hearing on the Plan was held on April 21, 2014.

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

Public comments received from surveys and the consultations primarily addressed the need for additional affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, public services, and economic development . Other major areas were in regards to the need to provide assistance to homeless and extremely low income families.

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

There were no comments or views that were not accepted.

## **7. Summary**

This Strategic Plan has identified the following Consolidated Plan goals to be addressed during the five-year Consolidated Plan Period FY 2014 – FY 2018.

- Expand, Maintain and Improve Canton's Affordable Housing Opportunities
- Reduce the Number of Residents Experiencing Homelessness
- Improve the Safety and Livability of Low and Moderate Income Neighborhoods
- Expand Economic Opportunities for Low and Moderate Income Persons
- Support Canton's Low Income and Special Needs Residents through Public Services

The City of Canton proposes to undertake the following housing and community development and homeless assistance activities under its FY 2014 Annual Action Plan.

#### Canton FY 2014 Action Plan Funding Sources

Funding Source	CDBG	HOME	ESG
FY 2014 Entitlement	\$2,410,452	\$489,048	\$202,563
Carry-Over for 2014	\$979,978		
Program Income	\$200,000	\$25,952	
Total Estimated Funding	\$3,590,430	\$515,000	\$202,563

#### Canton FY 2014 Action Plan Budget

Project	CDBG	HOME	ESG
1 CDBG Rehab - Single Unit Residential	\$877,500		
2 CDBG Rehab Administration	\$350,000		
3 Public Facilities and Improvements	\$90,000		
4 Clearance and Demolition	\$251,000		
5 Public Service Activities	\$90,000		
6 Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area	\$1,113,930		
7 Economic Development	\$125,000		
8 Relocation	\$200,000		
9 Planning	\$38,000		
10 CDBG General Management	\$455,000		
11 HOME General Management		\$51,500	
12 HOME New Construction		\$238,500	
13 HOME Single Family Residential Rehab		\$200,000	
14 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance		\$25,000	
15 ESG 14 Canton			\$202,563
Total Proposed FY 2014 Action Plan	\$3,590,430	\$515,000	\$202,563

#### 2014 First Year Action Plan

## The Process

### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

The following are the agencies/entities 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	CANTON	Department of Development
HOME Administrator	CANTON	Department of Development
ESG Administrator	CANTON	Department of Development

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

### Narrative

The lead agency responsible for the development of this Consolidated Plan is the City of Canton Department of Development. The Department of Development is also responsible for administration of the City of Canton's CDBG, HOME, and ESG Program. However, the City has subcontracted administration of its ESG Program to the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SRPC). The SRPC works closely with the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC), also known as the Stark CoC. The City of Canton has subcontracted its ESG administration with SRPC to improve coordination and management of homeless program and services in the Canton and Stark County area.

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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## **PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Canton recognizes the need to consult with local agencies as part of the Consolidated planning process.Â This consultation is being done on an ongoing basis through periodic meetings with the City's many subrecipient agencies.Â Because the City of Canton partners with a number of local housing and community development agencies, these partnerships result in ongoing consultation regarding area needs.Â This ongoing consultation is particularly important with regard to implementation of the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Program.

**Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l)).**

The City of Canton has contracted with a local community development activist and housing professional to develop and implement a formal consultation and citizen participation process that is being carried as part of the City's Consolidated Plan development.Â Working with the Department of Development, the consultation consultant has developed a Housing and Community Development Needs Survey.Â The consultation consultant has represented the City in meetings with a number of local housing, homeless, community development, and civic organizations to present and discuss the Needs survey, and to tabulate, analyze and report survey results.Â Agencies that have been consulted include housing providers, SMHA, CHDO's, area public service agencies, as well as local civic organizations.Â

**Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness**

The City recognizes the importance of coordinating with the Continuum of Care process, particularly in the allocation of ESG funding.Â Canton is a designated direct grantee for ESG funding.Â The Stark County Continuum of Care, administered by staff with the assistance of the Stark Regional Planning Commission, is responsible for the Continuum of Care process in the County.Â Both the City of Canton and Stark County are responsible for developing and implementing their separate 5-Year Consolidated Plans.Â To ensure sound planning and a coordinated, comprehensive approach to homeless issues, the two governments are working together to prepare a unified plan to identify homeless needs, set priorities and goals, and develop a strategy to provide needed programs and services to address homelessness.Â The City's consultation consultant, who is a professional with long experience operating area homeless programs, has been the City's representative for meetings with the Stark Continuum of

Care and the Homeless Services Collaborative in working to develop this coordinated homeless strategic plan.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS**

As described above, the City of Canton, in cooperation with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission, has been working together to coordinate with the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (also known as the Stark CoC), to develop a strategy to identify needs, set priorities and goals, and implement programs and activities to address homelessness in Stark County.Â In addition, the City of Canton has contracted with the Stark RPC to administer the City's ESG Grant.Â Stark RPC has prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for local non-profit emergency shelter, street outreach, and homeless prevention providers to use when applying for ESG funding.Â Stark RPC conducted an ESG workshop on December 13, 2013 to review the ESG application process.Â The City of Canton also participates directly in the Stark CoC which manages and administers the continuum of process, including the allocation of funding, development of performance standards, and program evaluation for Stark County homeless and homelessness prevention programs.

**2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities**



1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Stark County Community Action Agency
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Development Department has had multiple meetings and discussions with the Executive Director of the Stark County Community Action Agency (SCCAA) to review City housing and community development programs as well as discuss the range of programs and services offered by SCCAA. As a result of these meetings, the City and SCCAA are now working more closely together than they have in the past and are collaborating on housing weatherization and youth employment programs.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CANTON
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing community development Grantee Department

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City Department of Development staff meetings were held to discuss the consolidated plan as it related to housing and non-housing community development needs. Staff roles and responsibilities in development and implementation of the plan were reviewed. Census and American Community Survey data was collected and analyzed for input into the Consolidated Plan. Meetings were held with various local agencies, including the local Continuum of Care.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	MULTI-DEVELOPMENT SERVICES OF STARK COUNTY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Services-Employment Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City of Canton meets regularly with Multi-Development Services (MDS) of Canton to review the agencies programs and services to discuss ways in which the City and MDS can continue to partner. MDS is a subgrantee under the City under the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Program.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City of Canton and Habitat for Humanity of Stark and Carroll Counties (Habitat) meet regularly to discuss programs and community needs, particularly housing needs for low income families and neighborhood revitalization issues. Habitat is a subgrantee under the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Program.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City of Canton and the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) meet regularly to discuss programs and services, particularly with regard to housing needs and public housing issues, identifying gaps in housing programs and services, and fostering a spirit of cooperation.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	STARK COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Service-Fair Housing Other government - County Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City and the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) meet to review programs and services on an area-wide basis. The SRPC is the agency that works with the Stark CoC on the Continuum of Care and the 10-Year Plan to end homelessness. In addition, Canton has subcontracted with SRPC for administration of the City's ESG Program. This will improve coordination and delivery of services, housing, and shelter to the area homeless and those threatened with homelessness. The City and SRPC also discuss CDBG and HOME program issues.

7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City and the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC, also known as the Stark CoC) have worked closely together on the Consolidated Plan, in particular, the sections dealing with homeless needs, priorities, and goals. This coordination will result in both the City's and County's individual Consolidated Plans providing a coordinated and unified strategy for dealing with homeless issues and allocating funding for homeless shelter, housing, and services.

8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Homeless Services Collaborative
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant met with members of the Homeless Services Collaborative (HSC) and made a presentation before the organization's Planning Committee. The City's housing and community development needs survey was distributed and discussed. Homeless issues were reviewed. Agencies represented at Homeless Service Collaborative Meetings include YWCA of Canton, Refuge of Hope, Faith Family Friends, among others.

9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ICAN, INC.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Employment Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant met with the Executive Director of ICAN Housing Solutions to discuss housing and community development needs. The City's consultant also attended an agency Board of Trustees Meeting to distribute the City's Housing and Community Needs Survey. Through this consultation, ICAN helped identify gaps in homeless housing and services.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CANTON URBAN LEAGUE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant meet with both the Executive Director and the Development Director of the Canton Urban League to discuss housing and community development needs to distribute the City's Needs Survey. Through this process, the agency helps to identify gaps in housing programs and services.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Civic Leaders Foundation



	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant met with the Foundation's Intake and Assessment Committee to make an in-person presentation of the City's Housing and Community Development Needs Survey. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Stark County Department of Jobs and Family Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Child Welfare Agency Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant corresponded with Stark County Jobs & Family Services Human Services Training Supervisor regarding the City's Housing and Community Development Needs Survey. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	UNITED WAY OF STARK COUNTY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's Community Development consultation consultant met with the United Way's Director of 2-1-1- information and referral services to make an in-person presentation on the City's Housing and Community Development Needs survey. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.

14	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CANTON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant met with the Director of the Canton Chamber of Chamber to discuss the City's Housing and Community Development Needs Survey. As a result, the Chamber uploaded the survey online and sent out an email blast to Chamber members inviting them to participate. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.
15	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Services of Stark County, Inc.
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City's community development consultation consultant met with the Manager of Homeless Services at Community Services of Stark County to discuss the City's housing and community development needs survey. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.
16	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Domestic Violence Project
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City community development consultation consultant corresponded with the Domestic Violence Project and received a response to the City's Housing and Community Development Needs Survey. This consultation process provides valuable feedback on the City's housing and community development programs, and helps to identify gaps in services.
17	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	YMCA
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Health

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City community development consultant had telephone and email communication with the Canton YMCA obtaining feedback on future needs, housing and economic development priorities, as well as neighborhood development issues.
18	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Canton City Board of Health
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health Health Agency Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through telephone conversations and email, the City obtained feedback on current lead abatement activities, obstacles and future direction.
19	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	YWCA OF CANTON
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through group meetings and email survey the agency helped identify gaps in homeless housing and services, identify gaps in the City's housing and business development activities, and obtain feedback on the City's performance with subgrantees.
20	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Stark State College
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Education
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through telephone conversations and email/on-line survey, Stark State helped identify gaps in education services as well as an opportunity to discuss future areas of coordinated education and job training efforts.
21	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Mental Health Services & Recovery Board of Stark County
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Health Agency Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through group meetings and email survey the agency helped identify gaps in homeless housing and services, identify gaps in the City's housing and business development activities, and obtain feedback on the City's performance with subgrantees.
22	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	STARK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Foundation
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Through telephone conversation and email, the agency helped to identify gaps in homeless housing and services, gaps in the City's housing and business development activities, identify additional needs in neighborhood development, and offer an opportunity to dialogue about matching funds and coordinated public/private sector activities.

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

### **Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting**

Not applicable.

## Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County	The Strategic Plan goals support the goals of the HCCSC 10-Year Continuum of Care Plan to end homelessness. Canton and Stark County have worked together to develop a strategic plan that supports the continuum of care. In addition, the City's homeless strategic plan was submitted to the CoC for review, comment, and approval prior to its finalization.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

### **Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))**

The City consulted with other public entities in the development of the Consolidated Plan. Specifically, the City has been meeting regularly with Stark County, including the Stark Regional Planning Commission, and the Stark Continuum of Care (Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County) in the planning and development of the homeless portions of the Strategic Plan. Since both the City and the County are in the process of developing new 5-Year Consolidated Plans, both units of government have made a concerted effort to cooperate and work together in preparing a unified homeless strategy. In addition, as mentioned previously, the City of Canton has entered into contract with the Stark RPC for administration of the City's ESG Grant. This action further consolidates this coordinated approach to homeless issues.

### **Narrative (optional):**

During the implementation of its Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area program in 2013, the City of Canton realized the need to expand its partnership with local agencies in order to carry out housing and neighborhood improvement projects more effectively and efficiently. Bringing additional agencies into this effort has increased the level of local commitment to community development and neighborhood revitalization. This collaborative process has carried forward into planning and development of the new 5-Year Consolidated Plan for 2014-2018. The City is continuing its dialogue with local housing agencies and service providers to identify community needs, set priorities, establish goals, and implement programs. Also, the City has become more involved in the Continuum of Care process and homeless issues through its collaboration with Stark County and the Stark CoC in the development of the homeless portion of the Consolidated Plan. As a result, the City has since decided to improve the delivery of homeless programs by subcontracting administration of its ESG Program to the Stark Regional Planning Commission. All these efforts document the City's efforts at collaboration and consultation in development of the Consolidated Plan.

## **PR-15 Citizen Participation**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

In order to broaden citizen participation, the City of Canton used a multi-prong strategy to reach out for comments that included group presentations, on-line survey with links on the web sites of the City and the Chamber of Commerce as well as email notice with a link to the survey that was sent to: Chamber of Commerce members, mainstream service providers, funders, businesses, housers, homeless providers, and City residents.

The Chamber of Commerce sent an invite to complete the Canton City Needs Survey with a direct link to the survey to 715 chamber members in the City of Canton. This includes businesses, service organizations, and foundations. The survey was available through *Survey Monkey*.

Surveys were provided to the Greater Stark County Urban League (GSCUL) to distribute to clients. GSCUL is located in a high poverty, high distressed neighborhood with outreach to neighborhood residents, minorities and persons re-entering the community from a correctional facility. GSCUL has strong roots in the minority community.

A series of presentations were held during regularly scheduled meetings including Homeless Services Collaborative, the Stark Continuum of Care Central Intake & Assessment Committee, and the ICAN Board of Directors (special needs homeless housing provider). Surveys were passed out at the respective meetings with some being turned in immediately. Additional contacts were also provided for persons who agreed to do blast emails to the wider community. An email with an attached survey in Word format was sent to the key contact persons, who then sent out the email blasts with a CC to the City.

In addition to on-line survey, email survey, group presentations, there were also phone calls made to key stake holders, including stakeholders who work with persons with disabilities and non-English speaking persons. These stakeholders were asked to share the survey with clients. The phone calls were followed up with an email with the survey as well as the offer for a face-to-face meeting. Only one key state holder requested the face-to-face meeting.

The City also conducted a public hearing on the proposed FY 2014 Action Plan





### Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community  Homeless	A community needs survey was developed that was made available online at the City of Canton's website and via Survey Monkey. The Chamber of Commerce also assisted in survey distribution. 87 survey forms were completed and submitted as part of this process. Surveys ranked community needs across a broad threshold of categories including housing, homeless, neighborhoods, economic development, and public services	Comments were wide ranging including support for affordable housing, homeless assistance, neighborhood revitalization, including demolition of blighted buildings, economic development including job training, public services including elderly and youth programs.	No comments not accepted.	<a href="http://cantonohio.gov/development">cantonohio.gov/development</a>

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	The City published a public notice in the Canton Repository on April 7, 2014 describing the Consolidated Plan and proposed Annual Action Plan and inviting citizen review and comment.	None received	No comments were bot accepted.	
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The City of Canton conducted a public hearing on the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan on April 21, 2014. The hearing was held in the offices of the Department of Development, located on the Fifth Floor of City Canton Hall.	None received	No comments were not accepted.	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**



## **Needs Assessment**

### **NA-05 Overview**

#### **Needs Assessment Overview**

The City of Canton's need assessment was conducted in a variety of ways, including an online survey, data review and analysis, and by holding community meetings to receive citizen input about housing and community development needs. The City's Community Needs Survey was posted on-line at the City's Development Department website. Citizens could complete the survey on-line and the City tabulated the results. The City also distributed the survey to local organizations, including non-profit agencies, neighborhood associations, housing developers, and others to solicit information regarding community needs.

Community meetings were also scheduled to obtain input from citizens and organizations.

Results of this survey are listed below as follows:

## NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

### Summary of Housing Needs

Using the data below, the City of Canton faces a number of housing needs:

- 23% of all households (7,525) are extremely low income (<30% area median family income).
- 17% of all households (5,485) are low income (31-50% area median family income).
- 21% of all households (6,850) are moderate (51-80% area median family income).
- 61% of all households in the City of Canton are low and moderate income(LMI).
- 28% of all LMI households contain at least one person 62 years old or older.
- 19% of all LMI households contain one or more children 6 years old or younger.
- 3,129 renter households pay over 50% of their income for rent and 2,045 homeowners pay half or more of their income for housing costs, with a total of 5,174 households (16%) with severe cost burdens.

The development of Canton's new Five Year Consolidated Plan follows closely the completion of the recently updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) and coordinates these as well as numerous other strategic plans, studies, and reports developed over the years have highlighted similar problems and called attention to:

- Retention of affordable housing stock by increasing the availability of permanent housing in standard condition that is affordable to low-income and moderate income families;
- Increasing the availability of permanent housing in standard condition that is affordable to low-income and moderate income families, particularly to members of disadvantaged minorities without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability;
- Assisting homeless persons to obtain appropriate housing;
- Assisting persons at risk of becoming homeless;

All of these issues still apply and new ones have emerged, such as the decline of homeownership levels due to the foreclosure crisis starting in 2008. Chronic housing issues which have persisted for decades make it challenging to develop strategies that can make a significant difference in addressing the needs of thousands of City households, especially over a five year period, given the current uncertainty over sustainable Federal funding levels for housing and community development programs.

Demographics	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2009	% Change
Population	80,806	78,799	-2%
Households	35,502	32,481	-9%
Median Income	\$28,730.00	\$29,522.00	3%

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data Source:** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2005-2009 ACS (Most Recent Year)

## Number of Households Table

	<b>0-30% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;30-50% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;50-80% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;80-100% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;100% HAMFI</b>
Total Households *	15,050	10,970	13,700	6,850	9,196
Small Family Households *	5,590	3,470	5,310	13,140	
Large Family Households *	630	740	1,110	1,630	
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	1,840	1,920	2,380	1,160	2,670
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	1,690	2,090	1,990	710	1,080
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	3,690	1,750	2,160	3,410	
* the highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI					

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Alternate Data Source Name:**

2005-2009 CHAS

**Data Source Comments:** Data for Total Households >100% HAMFI added per HUD troubleshooting guide.

	Totals	PerCent Total HH	Small Family HH	PerCent LMI HH	Large Family HH	PerCent LMI HH	HH>62 Yrs	PerCent LMI HH	HH w/Child <=6 Yrs	PerCent LMI HH
Total HH	32,481	100%								
0-30% HAMFI	7,525	23%	2,795	37%	315	4%	1,765		1845	
31-50% HAMFI	5,485	17%	1,735	32%	370	7%	2,005		875	
51-80% HAMFI	6,850	21%	2,655	39%	555	8%	1,745		1080	
Total LMI HH	19,860	61%	7,185	36%	1,240	6%	5,515	28%	3800	19%

## Total Households Summary Table



## Housing Needs Summary Tables

### 1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	130	85	30	0	245	25	0	35	0	60
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	40	30	15	0	85	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	50	105	20	10	185	55	10	40	30	135
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	2,765	360	4	0	3,129	910	840	255	40	2,045
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,110	1,380	670	25	3,185	240	620	1,360	330	2,550

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	345	0	0	0	345	140	0	0	0	140

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**

Data 2005-2009 CHAS

Source:

The following table provides a summary for LMI households in Canton with identified Housing Problems based on having one of the housing needs listed on the above table.

LMI Households with Housing Problems as defined above:				Total LMI Households	Percent LMI Households with Housing Problems
	Renters	Owners	Total	Total	Percent
0-30% LMI	4,440	1,370	5,810	7,525	77.2%
31-50% LMI	1,960	1,470	3,430	5,485	62.5%
51-80% LMI	739	1,690	2,429	6,850	35.5%
Total LMI Households with identified Housing Problems	7,139	4,530	11,669	19,860	58.8%

### LMI Households with Housing Problems

### LMI Housing Problems Narrative

The extent of Housing Problems affecting LMI Canton Households can be summarized below:

50% of LMI households with Housing Problems are very low income (0-30% median income).

76% of Very Low Income Households with Housing Problems are renters.

61% of LMI households with Housing Problems are renters.

77% of all Very Low Income Households have Housing Problems.

62% of all Low Income Households (31-50% median income) have Housing Problems.

35% of all Moderate Income Households (51-80% median income) have Housing Problems.

70% of all Moderate income Households with Housing Problems are home owners.

59% of all LMI Households (0-80% median income) have Housing Problems.

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	2,985	580	70	10	3,645	990	850	335	70	2,245
Having none of four housing problems	2,485	2,525	2,460	930	8,400	580	1,530	3,990	2,420	8,520
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	345	0	0	0	345	140	0	0	0	140

**Table 8 – Housing Problems 2**

Data 2005-2009 CHAS  
Source:

The following table provides a summary for LMI households in Canton with Severe Housing Problems defined as having one or more of the following housing problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden.

LMI Households with Housing Problems as defined above:				Total LMI Households	Percent LMI Households with Housing Problems
	Renters	Owners	Total	Total	Percent
0-30% LMI	3,330	1130	4,460	7,525	59.3%
31-50% LMI	580	850	1,430	5,485	26.1%
51-80% LMI	70	335	405	6,850	5.9%
Total LMI Households with Severe Housing Problems	3,980	2,315	6,295	19,860	31.7%

#### **LMI Households with Severe Housing Problems**

## LMI Households Severe Housing Problems

Severe Housing Problems affecting LMI Canton Households can be summarized as follows:

59% of Very Low Income households (0-30% median income) have severe housing problems.

75% of Very Low Income households with severe housing problems are renters.

26% of Low Income households (31-50% median income) have severe housing problems.

59% of Low Income households with severe housing problems are home owners.

6% of Moderate Income households (51-80% median income) have severe housing problems.

83% of Moderate Income households with severe housing problems are home owners.

32% of all LMI households (0-80% median income) have severe housing problems.

63% of all LMI households with severe housing problems are renters.

### 3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	1,750	685	334	2,769	275	505	630	1,410
Large Related	230	135	80	445	65	115	105	285
Elderly	500	365	59	924	535	470	485	1,490
Other	1,460	665	220	2,345	345	375	410	1,130
Total need by income	3,940	1,850	693	6,483	1,220	1,465	1,630	4,315

**Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Below is a summary table showing LMI households with housing cost burden >30%

LMI Households with Cost Burden >30%:			Total LMI Households	Percent LMI Households with Cost Burden >30%
	Renters	Owners	Total	Percent
0-30% LMI	3,940	1,220	5,160	68.6%
31-50% LMI	1,850	1,465	3,315	60.4%
51-80% LMI	693	1,630	2,323	33.9%
Total LMI Households with Cost Burden >30%	6,483	4,315	10,798	54.4%

#### LMI Households with Cost Burdens

#### 4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	1,355	155	4	1,514	255	255	70	580
Large Related	205	0	0	205	65	55	0	120
Elderly	215	65	0	280	350	275	115	740
Other	1,045	150	0	1,195	305	255	70	630
Total need by income	2,820	370	4	3,194	975	840	255	2,070

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2005-2009 CHAS  
Source:

Below is a summary table showing LMI households with housing cost burden >50%

LMI Households with Cost Burden >50%:			Total LMI Households	Percent LMI Households with Cost Burden >50%
	Renters	Owners	Total	Percent
0-30% LMI	2,820	975	3,795	50.4%
31-50% LMI	370	840	1,210	22.1%
51-80% LMI	4	255	259	3.8%
Total LMI Households with Cost Burden >50%	3,194	2,070	5,264	26.5%

#### LMI Households with Severe Cost Burdens

## 5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	70	95	35	0	200	10	10	10	30	60
Multiple, unrelated family households	4	25	0	10	39	45	0	35	0	80
Other, non-family households	30	15	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	104	135	35	10	284	55	10	45	30	140

**Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2**

Data Source:  
Comments:

**Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.**

**Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.**

**What are the most common housing problems?**

Many LMI households in the City of Canton have moderate to severe housing problems. 11,669 LMI households have one of four identified housing problems (lacks complete kitchen facilities, lacks complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, cost burden greater than 30%). This represents 59% of all LMI households. The most common housing problem affecting LMI households is cost burden. Housing cost burden - needing to pay more than 30% or 50% of monthly income for

housing - affects 10,798 households, which represents 54% of all LMI households in the City. By contrast, the number of LMI households with other identified housing problems: lack of complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, and housing overcrowding, affect only a small percentage of the population (710 LMI households, 3.5% of total LMI households). In addition, a total of 6,295 LMI households (32% of all LMI households) have severe housing problems. Of this total, 5,264 LMI households have a cost burden >50%. From this data analysis, it can be concluded that 93% of LMI households with housing problems are cost burdened and that 84% of LMI households with severe housing problems are cost burdened. Cost burden is the most prevalent housing problem affecting LMI Canton households.

**Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?**

88% of renter households with a housing cost burden greater than 50% of income are very low income (<30% HAMFI). Small family households comprise 42% of this total and Other-type households comprise 37%.

47% of owner households with a housing cost burden greater than 50% of income are very low income (<30% HAMFI) and 40% are low income households (31-50% HAMFI). 36% of severe cost burdened LMI owner households are elderly and 28% are small family households.

**Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance**

The characteristics of individuals and families at imminent risk of residing in shelters or becoming homeless include, but are not limited to, mental illness, whether diagnosed or not, and those households who have lost employment due to the economic recession and have yet to recover. The needs of these households include job stability, medical assistance, rental and/or security deposit assistance, and short- to medium-term case management.

**If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:**

Not applicable.

**Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness**

As shown in the tables above, there are large numbers of Canton households paying more than half of their gross monthly income for housing costs. Food, transportation, healthcare and other costs reduce disposable income and the ability to save. These factors can make households vulnerable to possible eviction and homelessness if their income is reduced for any reason (job loss, reduced hours, etc.) or they encounter an unexpected expense (medical emergency) or experience a condition that prevents them from working.

## **Discussion**

As discussed above, many Canton residents face serious housing needs. Severe housing costs burdens facing very low income renters and low income and elderly homeowners is a major housing issue for the City. The City needs to continue to address these affordable housing issues in the development of this new Five Year Strategic Plan.



## NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

A disproportionately greater need exists when the members of a racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or more) than the income level as a whole. For example, assume that 60% of all low-income households within a jurisdiction have a housing problem and 70% of low-income Hispanic households have a housing problem. In this case, low-income Hispanic households have a disproportionately greater need. Per the regulations at 91.205(b)(2), 91.305(b)(2), and 91.405, a grantee must provide an assessment for each disproportionately greater need identified. Although the purpose of these tables is to analyze the relative level of need for each race and ethnic category, the data also provide information for the City as a whole that can be useful in describing overall need.

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	5,325	1,715	485
White	3,095	1,010	240
Black / African American	1,850	680	230
Asian	15	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	14	4	15
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	10	0

**Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

0% - 30% AMI						
Housing Problem: Households	Has 1 of 4 housing problems	Has 0 of 4 housing problems	No Income & No Housing problem	Total Households	Percentage of Households with Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	5,325	1,715	485	7,525	70.8%	
White	3,095	1,010	240	4,345	71.2%	No
Black / African American	1,850	680	230	2,760	67.0%	No
Asian	15	0	0	15	100.0%	Yes
American Indian / Alaskan native	14	4	15	33	42.4%	No
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	30	10	0	40	75.0%	No

### Disparate Need Analysis 0-30% LMI Households

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,425	2,055	0
White	2,335	1,410	0
Black / African American	1,000	550	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	10	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	55	0

**Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

31% - 50% AMI					
Housing Problem: Households	Has 1 of 4 housing problems	Has 0 of 4 housing problems	Total Households	Percentage of Households with Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	3,425	2,055	5,480	62.5%	
White	2,335	1,410	3,745	62.3%	No
Black / African American	1,000	550	1,550	64.5%	No
Asian	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
American Indian / Alaskan native	10	10	20	50.0%	No
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	30	55	85	35.3%	No

### Disparate Need Analysis 31-50% LMI Households

## 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,435	4,415	0
White	1,840	3,240	0
Black / African American	450	965	0
Asian	0	50	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	20	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	50	64	0

**Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

51% - 80% AMI					
Housing Problem: Households	Has 1 of 4 housing problems	Has 0 of 4 housing problems	Total Households	Percentage of Households with Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	2,435	4,415	6,850	35.5%	
White	1,840	3,240	5,080	36.2%	No
Black / African American	450	965	1,415	31.8%	No
Asian	0	50	50	0.0%	No
American Indian / Alaskan native	0	20	20	0.0%	No
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	50	64	114	43.9%	No

## Disparate Need Analysis 51-80% LMI Households

## 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	440	2,990	0
White	380	2,425	0
Black / African American	45	460	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	50	0

**Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

81% - 100% AMI					
Housing Problem: Households	Has 1 of 4 housing problems	Has 0 of 4 housing problems	Total Households	Percentage of Households with Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	440	2,990	3,430	12.8%	
White	380	2,425	2,805	13.5%	No
Black / African American	45	460	505	8.9%	No
Asian	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
American Indian / Alaskan native	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	15	50	65	23.1%	Yes

### Disparate Need Analysis 81-100% MFI Households

### Discussion

Analyzing the data in the tables above, the City of Canton has concluded that, while there are many LMI households in the City with one or more housing problems, no one racial group has a disproportionately greater need with regard to these housing problems. This conclusion holds true throughout all LMI levels, including very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Only very low Asian households show a disproportionate housing need relative to the City as a whole; however, the number of very low income Asian households (15) is very small compared to the total number of very low income households in the City (7,040).

## NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction

A disproportionately greater need exists when the members of a racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or more) than the income level as a whole. For example, assume that 60% of all low-income households within a jurisdiction have a housing problem and 70% of low-income Hispanic households have a housing problem. In this case, low-income Hispanic households have a disproportionately greater need. Per the regulations at 91.205(b)(2), 91.305(b)(2), and 91.405, a grantee must provide an assessment for each disproportionately greater need identified.

Severe housing problems include:

- Lacks complete plumbing or kitchen facilities.
- Overcrowded households with more than 1.5 persons per room, not including bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls, or half-rooms.
- Households with cost burdens of more than 50 percent of income

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,975	3,065	485
White	2,340	1,760	240
Black / African American	1,315	1,210	230
Asian	15	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	14	15
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	10	0

**Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

0% - 30% AMI					
Housing Problem	Has 1 of 4 severe housing problems	Has 0 of 4 severe housing problems	Total Households	% of Households with Severe Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	3,975	3,065	7,040	56.5%	
White	2,340	1,760	4,105	57.0%	No
Black	1,315	1,210	2,530	52.0%	No
Asian	15	0	15	100.0%	Yes
Am. Indian	4	14	18	22.2%	No
Pac. Isl.	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	30	10	40	75.0%	Yes

#### Disparate Severe Housing Needs Analysis 0-30% MFI Households

#### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,430	4,055	0
White	980	2,755	0
Black / African American	360	1,185	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	10	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	55	0

**Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

31% - 50% AMI					
Housing Problem	Has 1 of 4 severe housing problems	Has 0 of 4 severe housing problems	Total Households	% of Households with Severe Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	1,430	4,055	5,480	26.1%	
White	980	2,755	3,745	26.2%	No
Black	360	1,185	1,550	23.2%	No
Asian	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Am. Indian	10	10	20	50.0%	Yes
Pac. Isl.	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	30	55	85	35.3%	Yes

#### Disparate Severe Housing needs Analysis 31-50% MFI Households

#### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	405	6,450	0
White	295	4,790	0
Black / African American	95	1,320	0
Asian	0	50	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	20	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	115	0

**Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

51% - 80% AMI

Housing Problem	Has 1 of 4 severe housing problems	Has 0 of 4 severe housing problems	Total Households	% of Households with Severe Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	405	6,450	6,850	5.9%	
White	295	4,790	5,080	5.8%	No
Black	95	1,320	1,415	6.7%	No
Asian	0	50	50	0.0%	No
Am. Indian	0	20	20	0.0%	No
Pac. Isl.	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	0	115	114	0.0%	No

**Disparate Severe Housing Needs Analysis 51-80% MFI Households**

**80%-100% of Area Median Income**

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	80	3,350	0
White	70	2,735	0
Black / African American	10	500	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	65	0

**Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%



81% - 100% AMI					
Housing Problem	Has 1 of 4 severe housing problems	Has 0 of 4 severe housing problems	Total Households	% of Households with Severe Housing Problems	Disproportionate Need (>10% more than Jurisdiction)
Jurisdiction	80	3,350	3,430	2.3%	
White	70	2,735	2,805	2.5%	No
Black	10	500	510	2.0%	No
Asian	0	50	50	0.0%	No
Am. Indian	0	20	20	0.0%	No
Pac. Isl.	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	No
Hispanic	0	65	65	0.0%	No

### Disparate Severe Housing Needs Analysis 81-100% MFI Households

#### Discussion

In the City of Canton, the two main racial groups are White and Black/African American. The other racial groups in the above charts: Asian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander, and Hispanic are a statistically small percentage of the City's population. Analyzing the data in the JPEG tables that are attached to this screen, the City of Canton has concluded that, while there are many LMI households in the City with one or more severe housing problems, Black/African American do not have a disproportionately greater need with regard to these housing problems. This conclusion holds true throughout all LMI levels, including very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. This data analysis does show that very low income Asian and Hispanic households and low income American Indian/Alaskan Native households are disparately affected by severe housing needs. However, the number of such households is very small when compared with the total households in the jurisdiction. (and as such may be affected by any margin-of-error resulting from the ACS surveys themselves)

## NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### Introduction:

A disproportionately greater need exists when the members of racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or more) than the income level as a whole. For example, assume that 60% of all low-income households within a jurisdiction have a housing problem and 70% of low-income Hispanic households have a housing problem. In this case, low-income Hispanic households have a disproportionately greater need. Per the regulations at 91.205(b)(2), 91.305(b)(2), and 91.405, a grantee must provide an assessment for each disproportionately greater need identified.

### Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	20,395	6,210	5,324	545
White	16,130	4,355	3,330	285
Black / African American	3,530	1,645	1,605	245
Asian	90	0	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	90	10	15	15
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	275	60	45	0

**Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Housing Cost Burdens: Households						
	<=30% Cost Burden	30% - 50% Cost Burden	>50% Cost Burden	Total House Holds	Cost Burdened House Holds	PerCent Cost Burdened
Jurisdiction	20,395	6,210	5,324	31,929	11,534	36%
White	16,130	4,355	3,330	23,815	7,685	32%
Black / African American	3,530	1,645	1,605	6,780	3,250	48%
Asian	90	0	15	105	15	14%
American Indian / Alaskan native	90	10	15	115	25	22%
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Hispanic	275	60	45	380	105	28%

### Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens

#### Discussion:

As can be seen from the above summary table, 48% of Black/African American households in Canton are housing cost burdened as compared with 36% of all households. Therefore, it can be concluded that Black households in Canton have a disproportionately greater housing need than the population as a whole with respect to housing cost burdens.

## **NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)**

**Are there any income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?**

Within the City of Canton, housing problems affecting LMI households are prevalent across all low and moderate income levels irrespective of race or ethnicity. Table NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems shows no disproportionately greater housing need for any particular segment of the population - these housing problems affect all races within these income categories. The same conclusion is drawn from the statistics in Table NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems - there is little or no statistical variation among racial households. However, Table NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens shows that Black/African American households in Canton are disproportionately affected by housing cost burdens when compared with total households in the City.

**If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?**

As can be seen from this and the preceding tables, the need for affordable housing is the most prevalent problem affecting low and moderate income households in Canton. In particular, Black/African American households are most impacted by housing cost burdens. Affordable housing issues affect by owner and renter LMI households.

**Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?**

In FY 2012, the City of Canton established a Neighborhood Revitalization (NRSA) Program, designed to address housing and community development issues within a defined area of need within the City. The City's NRSA consists of the following Census Tracts: 7001, 7015, 7017, 7018, 7021 and 7023. The NRSA is an area of high LMI population (73%), proportionately higher Black/African American population (44%), and lower homeowner rates (43%) compared with the City as a whole (56% LMI, 21% Black, 57% Homeownership).

## NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

### Introduction

The Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) provides eligible residents of Stark County with quality affordable housing in decent, safe, and nourishing neighborhoods. By working in partnership with the public and private sectors, the SMHA provides families with housing choice and the opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency.

There are a total of 1,462 Public Housing units in the City. All HUD minimum Housing Quality Standard requirements are adhered to, except where SMHA has adopted a higher standard. SMHA inspects each unit at least once annually to determine if the unit is in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition. The total waiting list averages 963 households, with an annual turnover of 637 households.

SMHA also administers the Section 8 Rental assistance Program, the Housing Choice Voucher Program, the Moderate Rehabilitation Program, and Shelter Plus Care. The SMHA Section 8 Homeownership Program is a HUD certified counseling service offering homeownership opportunities to SMHA residents and post purchase counseling to area homeowners. In addition, the SMHA Federal Credit Union provides its residents and employees with sound, affordable financial services and products, including personal finance education programs.

Canton has a strong working relationship with SMHA. The City supports the housing authority's Comprehensive Grant Program and partners with the agency on several projects.

### Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	8	116	2,417	1,433	1	1,272	0	48	90

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

Housing Needs of Families on the Waiting List			
Waiting list type: (select one)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Section 8 tenant-based assistance			
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Housing			
<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Section 8 and Public Housing			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Housing Site-Based or sub-jurisdictional waiting list (optional)			
If used, identify which development/subjurisdiction: Canton			
	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover
Waiting list total	479		426
Extremely low income <=30% AMI	424	88.5	
Very low income >30% but <=50% AMI			
Low income >50% but <80% AMI			
Families with children			
Elderly families	19	4.0	
Families with Disabilities	34	7.1	
Race/ethnicity (white)	249	52.0	
Race/ethnicity (Black)	246	51.4	
Race/ethnicity (Other)	11	2.3	

Characteristics by Bedroom Size (Public Housing Only)	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover *Does not include Rehab units
1BR	312	65.1	105
2 BR	158	33.0	139
3 BR	2	0.4	142
4 BR and 5BR	7	1.5	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>426</b>

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## SMHA Public Housing Waiting List

Housing Needs of Families on the Waiting List			
Waiting list type: (select one)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 8 tenant-based assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Public Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Combined Section 8 and Public Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Public Housing Site-Based or sub-jurisdictional waiting list (optional) If used, identify which development/sub-jurisdiction:			
	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover
Waiting list total	639	100%	12
Extremely low income <=30% AMI	532	83.3	
Very low income (>30% but <=50% AMI)			
Low income (>50% but <80% AMI)			
Families with children			
Elderly families	23	3.6	
Families with Disabilities	157	24.6	
Race/ethnicity (White)	307	48.0	
Race/ethnicity (Black)	335	52.4	
Race/ethnicity (Other)	8	1.2	

## SMHA Section 8 Waiting List



## Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	608	4,878	9,605	9,756	0	9,855	0	5,247
Average length of stay	0	3	6	6	0	6	0	0
Average Household size	1	1	2	2	1	2	0	3
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	9	448	210	0	193	0	0
# of Disabled Families	2	34	565	490	0	409	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	8	116	2,417	1,433	1	1,272	0	48
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	4	71	1,255	768	1	655	0	30	70
Black/African American	4	44	1,145	658	0	611	0	18	19
Asian	0	0	5	3	0	2	0	0	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	1	10	4	0	4	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition</b>									

**Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

## Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	2	19	7	0	6	0	0	1
Not Hispanic	8	114	2,398	1,426	1	1,266	0	48	89
<b>*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition</b>									

**Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

## **Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:**

SMHA has approved and is implementing a 504/ADA Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA) to address accessibility and ADA provisions as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As part of its 5-Year Plan for PHA Fiscal Years 2010-2014, SMHA sets forth a strategic goal to undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required. SMHA has identified 42 units and is under contract to rehabilitate these units in compliance with Section 504/ADA and Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) guidelines. In addition, as part of its Admissions Preferences, SMHA includes inaccessibility as part of its preferences for admission to public housing. SMHA also has on staff an in-house 504 Compliance Officer.

In regards to the Section 504 Needs of families on the SMHA public housing waiting list for the City of Canton, SMHA has reported a total of 34 families with disabilities. This represents 7.1% of the total of 479 families. For Section 8 tenant-based assistance, the waiting list contains 157 families with disabilities, which represents 24.6% of the total of 639 families. HUD/Census disability data indicates that 19% of Canton residents (and 15% of total Stark County residents) have a disability.

## **Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders**

There are 479 families on the SMHA Public Housing waiting list for Canton; with 312 (65%) requiring one-bedroom units and 158 (33%) requiring between two-bedroom units. With an annual turnover of 426 units, families on the can be on the waiting list for almost one year. There are 639 families on the waiting list for Section 8 tenant-based assistance, with 83% identified as being very low income ( $\leq 30\%$  AMI). With an annual turnover of only 12, SMHA does not plan to reopen the Section 8 waiting list any time soon.

The need for affordable rental housing is not only represented by SMHA's waiting list for Public Housing, and in particular, on the long-standing waiting list for Section 8 tenant based rental assistance. The SMHA 5- Year Plan for 2010-2014 establishes a number of strategic goals, including: Expand the supply of assisted housing, improve the quality of assisted housing, increasing assisted housing choices, provide an improved living environment, promote self-sufficiency and asset development, and ensure equal opportunity and fair housing.

## **How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large**

The goals of the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority reflect the overall housing needs of the City of Canton, with respect to the needs of low and moderate income renters. The previous tables have documented the severe housing needs faced by cost-burdened Canton families, including the need for affordable housing, including the need to expand the supply, improve the quality, increase housing choice, improving the living environment, and promoting self sufficiency to LMI households.

## **Discussion**

Improving job opportunities for both public housing tenants and voucher holders will not only allow families to move up and out of assisted housing but it will allow SMHA to assist other needy families. In addition, an improved economy will expand the number of working families that will widen the mix of incomes in our public housing developments which enhances community stability and provides role models for area youth.

## **NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)**

### **Introduction:**

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (also referred to as the CoC) was restructured in July 2013 to conform to the Hearth Act and new HUD regulations. Continuums of Care have been given very specific responsibilities and duties under the HEARTH Act (Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009). This is reflected through the CoC's new governance structure and activities. The primary charge of Stark County's CoC is to develop supportive housing options and to secure federal, state and local resources and other measures designed to:

- Promote community-wide commitment to employ best practices to end homelessness in Stark County, Ohio;
- Secure funding for efforts by providers and government entities to prevent homelessness and quickly re-house homeless individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families in Stark County, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation that homelessness causes to individuals, families, and communities;
- Promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families that experience homelessness.

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County is comprised of representatives from the Cities of Alliance, Canton and Massillon, the Board of Stark County Commissioners, the private sector, foundations, local health care providers, United Way of Greater Stark County, non-profit service and housing providers, law enforcement, Stark County Regional Planning Commission and other interested individuals. The CoC is an outgrowth of the Stark County Homeless Services Collaborative, which continues to be an active partner with the CoC in addressing the issues surrounding homelessness.

The CoC conducts an annual point-in-time count, under the direct supervision of the Homeless Services Collaborative, of homeless persons in Stark County. The most recent results are from the count which took place on January 27, 2013; however, a 2014 count took place in January 2014 with data compilation yet to be completed. The recommendations included in this Consolidated Plan will be based upon the data from the 2013 point-in-time count which is county-wide data and not restricted to the City of Canton. Each count focuses on a specific point-in-time and relies heavily on the participation of all homeless service providers. Providers report the number of persons in shelters and on the streets, as well as those in transitional housing and permanent supportive housing. The CoC's HMIS staff, who compile all the data received during the

point-in-time count, cross-check information on individuals to ensure an unduplicated count. Studies indicate that over a year's time, the homeless population is ten times a one-day count.

### Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	8	222	4,085	2,044	1,627	75
Persons in Households with Only Children	1	0	150	100	89	125
Persons in Households with Only Adults	47	244	1,894	899	502	81
Chronically Homeless Individuals	24	30	233	90	70	300
Chronically Homeless Families	0	6	26	10	6	216
Veterans	8	44	78	32	26	184
Unaccompanied Child	1	0	150	100	89	125
Persons with HIV	0	1	5	1	1	40

**Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment**

**Data Source Comments:** Canton/Massillon/Alliance/Stark County CoC Point-In-Time Date: 01/27/2013

## Point in Time Count

The Point In Time Count is a count of the people in our community who are staying in shelters or transitional housing or living on the streets. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all Continuum of Care entities conduct this count. The count is conducted each January on the date set by HUD. The Stark County Homeless Services Collaborative sponsors and organizes the count. The information that is gathered is tracked in the Homeless Management Information System and can be used to track trends in the homeless population and to plan services to best meet the needs of the homeless in our community.

### Stark County Continuum of Care

2009 Point-In-Time Final Count	
Date: January 27, 2009	
Population	Total Persons
Street Count	77
Emergency Shelters	172
Transitional Housing	157
Total	406
Permanent Supportive Housing	330
Precariously Housed With Friends or Family	246
Total	576
Grand Total	982

2010 Point-In-Time Final Count	
Date: January 26, 2010	
Population	Total Persons
Street Count	53
Emergency Shelters	257
Transitional Housing	121
Total	431
Permanent Supportive Housing	362
Precariously Housed With Friends	97
Precariously Housed With Family	112
Total	571
Grand Total	1002

2011 Point-In-Time Final Count	
Date: January 24, 2011	
Population	Total Persons
Street Count	68
Emergency Shelters	218
Transitional Housing	196
Total	482
Permanent Supportive Housing	341
Precariously Housed With Friends	127
Precariously Housed With Family	128
Total	596
Grand Total	1078

2012 Point-In-Time Final Count	
Date: January 23, 2012	
Population	Total Persons
Street Count	63
Emergency Shelters	207
Transitional Housing	212
Total	482
Permanent Supportive Housing	410
Precariously Housed:Friends/Family	365
Total	775
Grand Total	1257

2013 Point-In-Time Final Count	
Date: January 27, 2013	
Population	Total Persons
Street Count	56
Emergency Shelters	247
Transitional Housing	219
Total	522
Permanent Supportive Housing	433
Precariously Housed:Friends/Family	481
Total	914
Grand Total	1436

### Stark County Point-In-Time Counts

Indicate if the homeless population is: Has No Rural Homeless



**If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):**

Not applicable. Data is provided in the above table.

## Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	294	34
Black or African American	173	21
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	3	1
Not Hispanic	465	55

Data Source

Comments:

01/27/2013 Point in Time Count

### Heartland East Reporting Services



#### Stark County Homeless Hotline Statistics Between 7/1/2013 and 7/31/2013

New Intakes (Gender, Adult/Child, Marital Status)

New Intakes	Males	Females	Unknown Gender	Children	Children			Percent Kids	New Clients		
					Male	Female	Unknown Gender		Single	Married	Other Marital Status
202	166	194	1	219	106	112	1	60.66	283	27	51

Gender and Marital Status of 18 – 25 yr-olds

New Intakes	Males	Females	Unknown Gender	New Clients		
				Single	Married	Other Marital Status
38	10	28	0	26	4	8

Family Composition - Individuals

Individual Adult			Family Adult			Family Adult with Children						Number of
Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal				Total Clients
28	18	46	7	6	13	25	58	83				579

Family Composition - Cases

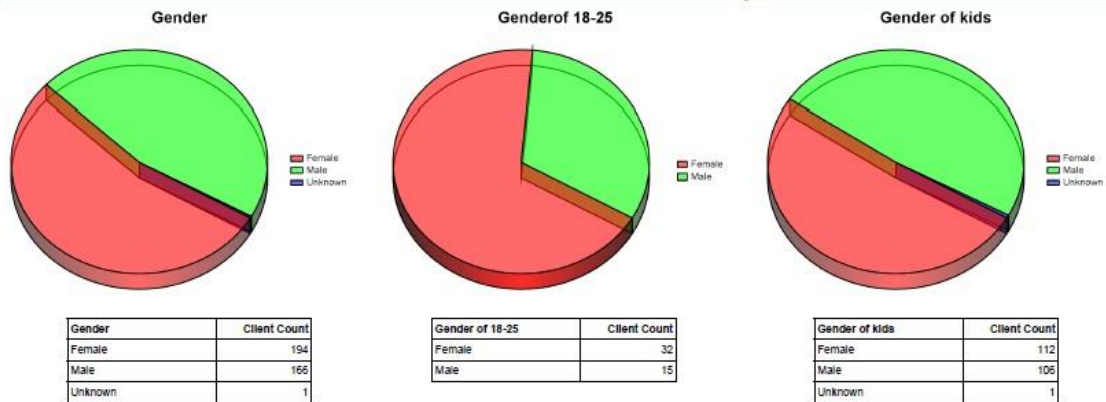
Individual Adult			Family Adult			Family Adult with Children			Number of Children			Number of
Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Subtotal	Male	Female	Total	Total Households
28	18	46	8	6	9	29	63	62	91	87	137	202

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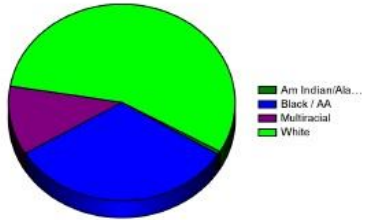


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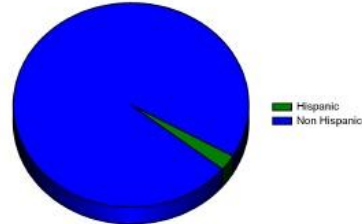
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Race



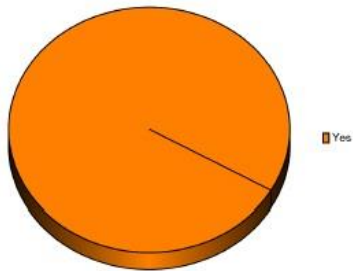
Race	Client Count
Am Indian/Alaskan	2
Black / AA	117
Multiracial	41
White	201

Ethnicity



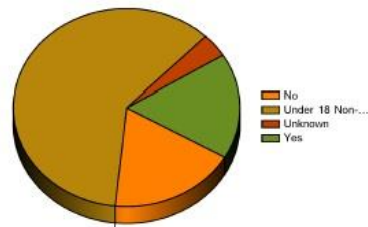
Ethnicity	Client Count
Hispanic	9
Non Hispanic	352

Citizenship



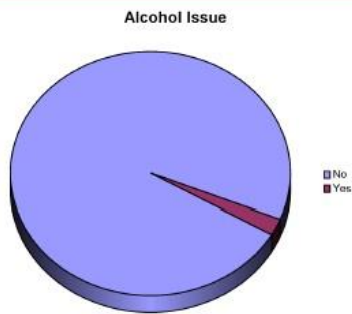
US Citizen	Client Count
Yes	361

Voter

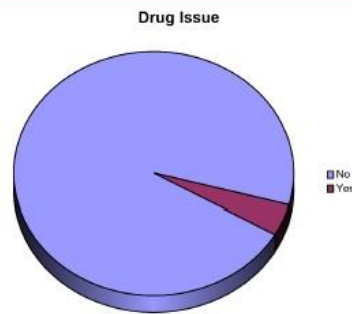


Voter	Client Count
No	66
Under 18 Non-voter	219
Unknown	14
Yes	62

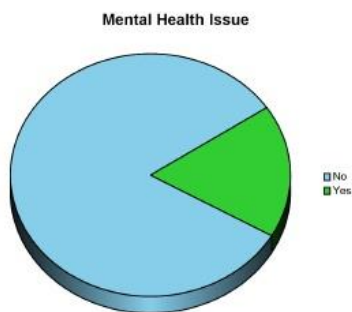
## Stark County Homeless Hotline Statistics July 2013 page 3



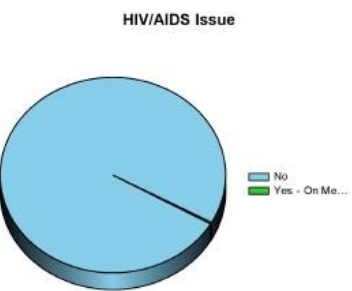
Alcohol Issue	Client Count
No	353
Yes	8



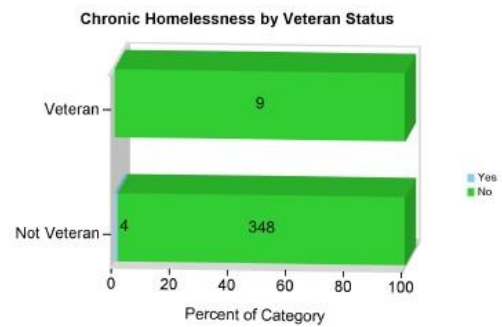
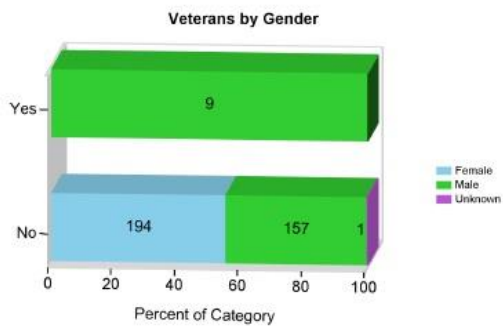
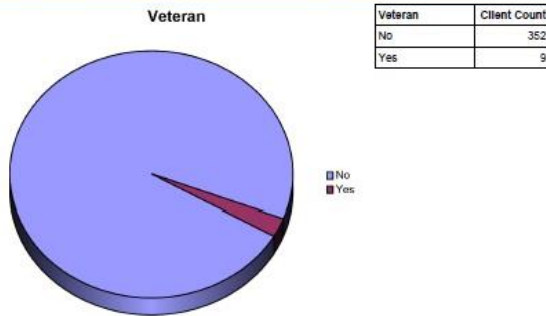
Drug Issue	Client Count
No	346
Yes	15



Mental Health Issue	Client Count
No	297
Yes	64



HIV/AIDS Issue Problem	Client Count
No	350
Yes - On Medication	1



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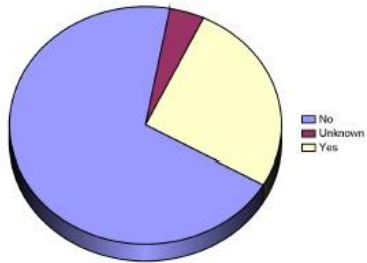
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## Heartland East Reporting Services



Have you ever been evicted?



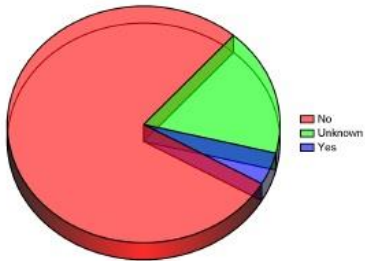
Have you ever been evicted?	Client Count	Eviction History		
		Reason Evicted	Cause	Client Count
No	251	Private	Non-Payment	66
Unknown	15	Subsidized	Non-Payment	18
Yes	95	Subsidized	Broke lease / Rules	6
		Private	Other	1
		Both Private and Subsidized	Non-Payment	1
		Private	Broke lease / Rules	1

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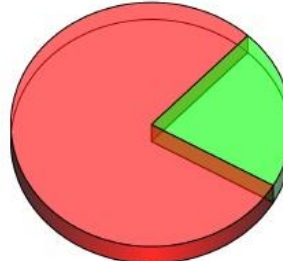
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Physically Disabled



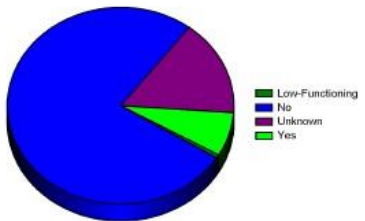
Physically Disabled	Client Count
No	282
Unknown	63
Yes	16

Major Medical Condition



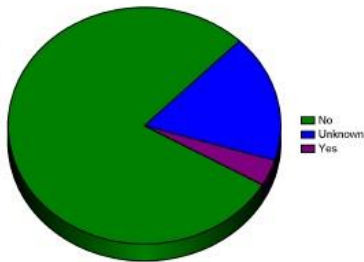
Major Medical Condition	Client Count
No	284
Yes	77

Developmentally disabled



Developmentally Disabled	Client Count
Low-Functioning	2
No	276
Unknown	57
Yes	26

Other Disability

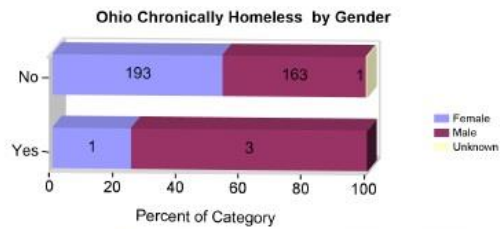
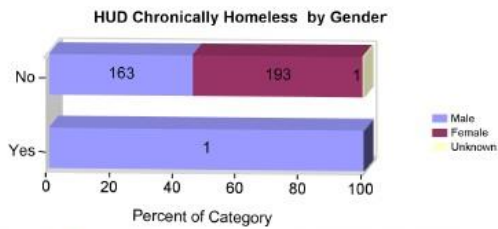
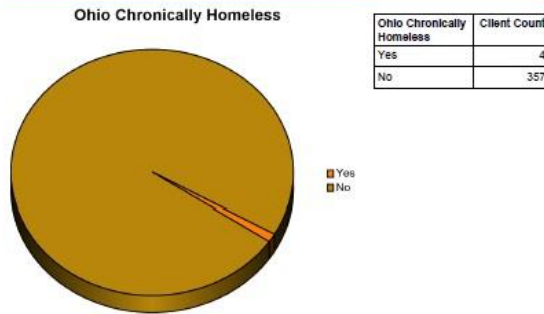
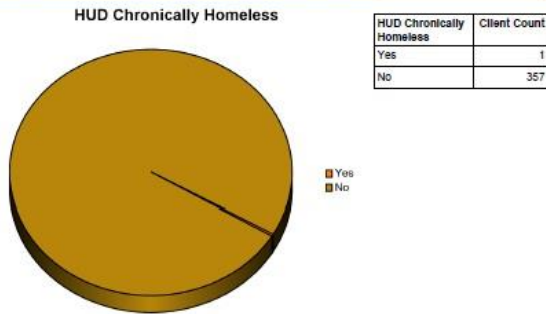


Other Disability	Client Count
No	285
Unknown	63
Yes	13

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## Heartland East Reporting Services



"HUD Chronically Homeless - "an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been on the streets or in emergency shelter (i.e., not in transitional or permanent housing) during these stays."

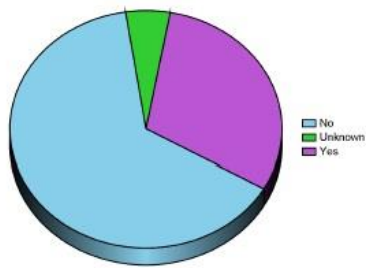
"Ohio Chronically Homeless - "a member of a family of two or more with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been on the streets or in emergency shelter (i.e., not in transitional or permanent housing) during these stays."

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## Heartland East Reporting Services

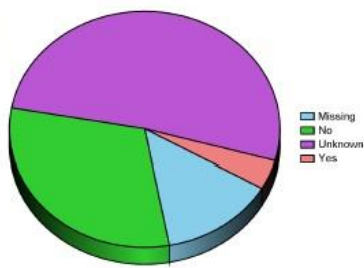


**Victim of Domestic Violence**



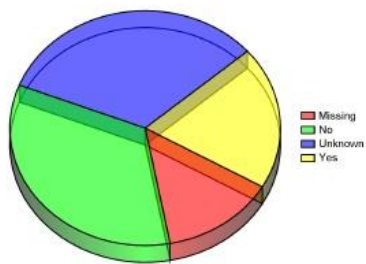
Victim of Domestic Violence	Client Count
No	232
Unknown	19
Yes	110

**Foster Care History**



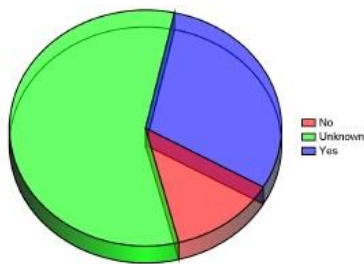
Foster Care History	Client Count
Missing	55
No	123
Unknown	206
Yes	16

**Homeless as a Child**



Homeless as a Child	Client Count
Missing	55
No	136
Unknown	131
Yes	79

**Child Abuse History**



Child Abuse History	Client Count
No	46
Unknown	207
Yes	108

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## Heartland East Reporting Services



Places Clients were referred to		Reason given for homelessness	
Program Code Description	Client Count	Reason	Client Count
YWCA STARR Rapid Rehousing	106	Eviction	83
YWCA Emergency Shelter	57	Put out by family	56
Alliance Shelter	49	Other	42
Community Services Massillon Shelter	42	Put out by friends	33
HMIS Request	27	Domestic violence victim	28
Comm Svcs Rent Assist	23	Non-resident	25
HMIS	22	Major income loss	22
No Referral	17	Cannot find affordable housing	15
Unable to Refer Shelters Full	15	Mental health issues	10
DJFS	14	Divorce/separation	8
Other	13	Released from Jail/Prison	6
Catholic Charities	7	Low-income	4
Crisis Center	7	Unemployed	4
Community Services Homeless Prevention	7	Unsanitary conditions	4
Community Services	6	Renter- threatened w/eviction	2
YWCA Family First	5	Drug Use	2
CPS	4	Foreclosure	1
Haven of Rest	4	Homeless - put out by Family/Friends	1
ACF Trans Housing	3	Does Not Apply	1
Canton Domestic Violence Shelter	3	Criminal record history	1
SMHA HOME	3	Disaster victim	1
Massillon Salvation Army	2	Sex offender - predator	1
PAL House	2	Substance abuse - drugs &	1
Salvation Army CBDG	2	Underemployed	1
American Rescue Workers	2	Aged out of foster care	1

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## Heartland East Reporting Services



Places Clients were referred to		Reason given for homelessness	
Program Code Description	Client Count	Reason	Client Count
Community Services HP ESG	2	Medical problem/physical need	1
Harvest Home	1	Utility shutoff	1
Veteran Services	1	Unknown	1
Re-Entry Bridge Program	1		
Refuge Shelter I	1		
Unable to Refer - Background	1		

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## Stark County Homeless Hotline Statistics July 2013 page 11

Point-in-Time Data  
Canton-Massillon-Alliance-Stark County  
CoC

POPULATION	PERSONS					09 to 13	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	DIFF	% diff
Street Count	77	53	68	63	56	-21	-27.27%
Emergency Shelters	172	257	218	207	247	75	43.60%
Transitional Housing	157	121	196	212	219	62	39.49%
<b>Total</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>28.57%</b>
Permanent Supportive Housing	330	362	341	410	433	103	31.21%
Precariously Housed With Friends or Family	246	97	127	365	481	235	95.53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>58.68%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>1078</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>46.23%</b>

Table - Nature and Extent of Homelessness: PIT 2009-2013

Sub populations	Sheltered (in emergency shelter, transitional housing and safe havens)	Unsheltered
Chronically homeless individuals	30	24
Chronically homeless families	6	0
Chronically homeless persons within the families	17	0
Veterans	44	8
Severally mentally ill	166	21
Chronic Substance Abuse	139	13
Persons with HIV/Aids	1	0
Victims of Domestic Violence	82	12

Data Source:  
Comments:

Canton/Mission/Alliance/Stark County CoC Point-in-Time Date: 01/27/2013

## Table - Nature and Extent of Homelessness: Sub-Populations

### Addendum to Discussion: Challenges Moving Forward

#### NEEDS, CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES MOVING FORWARD.

The following homeless needs, challenges and obstacles were identified during a public meeting with the CoC and general public in May 2013:

#### HOMELESS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Most of the shelters are at full capacity and are often dealing with entire families. The cycle must be broken for the children not to continue in homelessness. Victims of Domestic Violence are often in need of longer term transitional housing and financial independence programs, but these are not supported by current funding requirements. There is a need for more housing for transitional age youth 18–29. Clients need more knowledge of how to access programs. More support services are needed such as: alcohol/drug counseling, mental health case management, education services, financial literacy and budget counseling, health and medical services, assistance with obtaining photo ID's, and mediation to resolve landlord / tenant issues and disputes between residents. There is a need to get "child welfare" representatives to the table, but case managers have high case loads and are under significant time pressure. There is a need for case management to continue after clients receive housing. There is a need for more peer support persons who can assist with engaging the clients. Program staff making referrals can be challenged knowing current eligibility requirements of all programs.

#### HOUSING ISSUES

There is a need for more affordable housing (housing costs that are less than 30% of average incomes). Much of the remaining affordable housing stock does not pass housing quality inspections, and/or is located in unsuitable environments for families with children, or for persons in recovery. This challenge

is beyond the scope of the CoC alone and must be addressed with the active participation of members of the community, law enforcement and the local government. There is a need for more tenant-based rental assistance which are set aside for homeless. There are long waiting lists for Section 8 vouchers. There needs to be a process for getting the courts involved with offering mediation services for eviction cases, as well as being able to have the Health Department, Fair Housing and Service Agencies available at eviction hearings. Landlord/tenant training is needed as renters are not knowledgeable about using escrow for rent when issues with the landlord arise. Accessing utility assistance such as HEAP is very difficult for clients (limited application access time and long lines). A new challenge includes the potential loss of existing affordable housing units to the oil and gas industry, which is bringing in workers from outside of the area who are willing to pay higher rents.

## ECONOMIC ISSUES

It is difficult to income qualify for unsubsidized housing when sufficient living-wage employment is hard to find or unavailable. Living-wage employment opportunities are becoming more difficult to find as there is a trend by employers to cut work hours and eliminate benefits as a cost saving measure. Stark County has limited mass transit, particularly outside the City of Canton. There is not enough housing or employment opportunities for felons. Clients often need assistance with vehicle repairs. This is an ongoing need as many jobs require a person to have reliable transportation. A homeless person with unreliable transportation has to choose between fixing a car in order to keep a job and being able to pay rent going forward, or pay rent and lose a job and not pay rent going forward.

### **Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.**

The number of homeless households with children as reported on the most recent point-in-time count was 81. To reduce the number of homeless households with children, the Stark County CoC is completing an in-depth assessment, under the guidance of the Corporation of Supportive Housing, a nationally recognized consulting organization. The assessment includes a review of county and city resources, homeless gaps and needs in order to assist in allocation of funding, identification of possible new sources of funding, and a review of currently funded projects to identify duplication of services. The CoC will also work more closely with ESG and HCRP funded prevention programs to identify ways to increase the number of families who can be successfully assisted.

The Stark County CoC supports collaboration with entities, particularly education and children's service systems, that are most likely to encounter households with children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This collaboration includes educating teachers, homeless liaisons, counselors, and other direct providers in how to recognize indicators of homelessness, how to engage parents, and how to make referrals for assistance to connect families with appropriate services.

The number of homeless veterans identified during the 2013 PIT count was quite high. Out of 522 homeless persons there were 52 homeless veterans (10%). This represents a significant increase over previous years. During the summer of 2013 Stark County received 25 HUD-VASH vouchers (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing). There is also a Veteran Task Force that is working to demonstrate and verify the need for this funding as well as other available veterans funding. This task force consists of representatives of the various local veterans service groups, the Veterans Administration, the Veterans Services Commission, city and county government, and local housing providers. The Veterans Administration is a member of both the CoC and the Homeless Services Collaborative and is actively involved in Project Homeless Connect. An additional goal of this group is to assist with coordinating efforts to create housing opportunities for this population. Housing of homeless veterans was a selected priority in the 2013 ranking of CoC applications.

### **Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.**

The Stark County 2013 Point in Time Count reported a total of 524 homeless, including 468 sheltered and 56 unsheltered, with the following racial breakdown: White - 328 (63%), Black/African American - 194 (37%), and other races minimal. Hispanics comprise only 0.7% of the total. The percentage of homelessness among Black/African Americans is high when compared to the percentage of the total population in the community. Black/African Americans make up 7.7% of the population in Stark County (and 24.2% in the City of Canton). The disproportionate number of minorities who are homeless is a concern for the City of Canton and the County. The CoC will be comparing the reasons for homelessness between the different racial and ethnic groups to gain a better understanding of this disparity.

### **Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.**

Stark County's most recent Point-In-Time Count took place on January 27, 2013. Since the City of Canton's last Consolidated Plan in 2009 the number of those living on the street has decreased over 27%. This decrease corresponds to an increase in housing units, particularly permanent supportive housing, that serve the homeless population. For 2013, there were 466 homeless counted in shelters or transitional housing programs as compared to 329 in 2009, an increase of 41.6%. Of the 466 sheltered homeless and 56 unsheltered homeless the 2013 PIT Count reveals the following about the sub populations included in these numbers: (see the attached PIT Sub-Populations Table).

As the data indicates, the primary sub populations that make up the homeless population are persons dealing with severe mental illness, chronic substance abuse and victims of domestic violence.

In addition to the PIT Count data required by HUD, Stark County also collected data on the number of persons who were at "imminent risk of homelessness" (temporarily living/staying with family and/or friends or who were being evicted within 14 days) and also on persons who were "at risk" or "precariously housed" (temporarily living/staying with family and/or friends or who were being evicted within 21 days). The number of persons at imminent risk, at risk or precariously housed was 481. The number of precariously housed has increased 95% over the last five years. The data demonstrates that

there are many faces of homelessness in Stark County and "one size fits all" solutions are simply inadequate to address the full scope of needs presented by those struggling to gain or maintain adequate, affordable housing.

### **Discussion:**

Prior to the formation of the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC), the organization that carried out the responsibilities of the CoC was the Stark County Interagency Council on Homelessness (SCICH) which was formed in 2004 and later renamed the Stark County Homeless Council (SCHC). Initially created as an independent body to administer the Continuum of Care process, there was also a desire among council members to more effectively mobilize and coordinate community resources to address homelessness. The first strategic plan was designed as a road map for such mobilization and coordination. This plan (2005-2009) largely focused on establishing the awareness and credibility of SCICH and the initial coordination and organization of community resources to provide housing services, streamline regulations and eligibility criteria among homeless service providers, set up the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and leverage additional funds for homeless services in Stark County. All of these accomplishments were crucial to organizing Stark County's comprehensive response to homelessness.

As the national dialogue moved from one of "managing" homelessness to truly ending it, homeless council priorities have changed as well, adding in the components of rapid re-housing and prevention. The Stark County Ten-Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness continues to build upon the successes of the earlier plan to mobilize our community's resources for systems change in homeless services. The goals and action items of the current Stark County Ten-Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness align with the national energy and momentum to eradicate homelessness. The Ten Year Plan will be updated in 2014, with annual reviews thereafter, and will aim to provide more specific action steps and goals than the current Ten Year Plan. Insufficient resources at all levels, from shelter to operating dollars for new affordable housing, continue to be a primary barrier to successfully accomplishing the goals set out in the Plan. In addition, the economic downturn and collapse of the housing market increased the number of at-risk homeless and newly homeless, putting a greater strain on an already over-burdened system.

The Stark County Homeless Services Collaborative (HSC) is a group of local agencies that work collaboratively to end homelessness in our community. The HSC consists of approximately 50 agencies that provide direct service to homeless clients. The HSC and its Planning Committee is the established network of front line homeless service providers. The HSC's focus is on ending homelessness and assisting those who are homeless by creating an environment meant to do so, identifying gaps in the homeless system, problem solving to eliminate those gaps and proposing solutions to make the system better. The HSC assists with identifying the full spectrum of needs of homeless families and individuals. The HSC provides input into the drafting of local priorities for the CoC which are then reviewed, modified and adopted by the HCCSC. Member agencies implement the components (prevention, shelter, transitional housing, and services) of the CoC system for all homeless subpopulations. In



addition, the HSC conducts the annual Point in Time Count and sponsors an annual event called Project Homeless Connect among other ways to raise awareness about the homeless issues in Stark County.

## **NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)**

### **Introduction:**

This section of the plan includes an assessment of the housing needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, including but not limited to:

- the elderly (defined as 62 and older);
- the frail elderly (defined as an elderly person who requires assistance with three or more activities of daily living, such as bathing, walking, and performing light housework);
- persons with mental, physical, and/or developmental disabilities;
- persons with alcohol or other drug addiction;
- persons with HIV/AIDS and their families;
- and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

### **Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:**

#### Elderly and Frail Elderly

Elderly Households, age 62 and above, comprise 27% of all households in the City of Canton, and 30% of all low and moderate income households. Frail elderly households, age 75 and above, comprise 12% of all households in Canton, and 14.5% of all LMI households. 2,414 elderly households have housing cost burdens >30%, including 924 renter and 1490 owner elderly households. 1,020 elderly households have housing cost burdens >50%, including 280 renter and 740 households. The total number of elderly households with an identified housing cost burden is 3,434, including 1,204 renters and 2,230 owners. The total number of cost burdened elderly households represents 58% of all LMI elderly households and 39% of all elderly households.

62% of all elderly households between the ages of 62 and 74 are low and moderate income. 76% of all "frail" elderly households, ages 75 and above, are low and moderate income. Low income elderly and frail elderly households are often unable to maintain existing homes or to afford rent. In addition, the numbers of elderly requiring medical and other services to remain in homes rather than in medical facilities continues to increase. The Areawide Agency on Aging assists with several programs to prevent the institutionalization of seniors. These include visiting nurses, the home delivery of meals, and emergency response programs.

### Persons with Physical Disability

Census data previously provided by HUD indicate that there are 15,269 disabled persons in the City of Canton, representing 19% of the City's total population. Of this total, 4,672 are elderly disabled, and 2,925 are frail elderly disabled. Females comprise 66% of all elderly disabled persons, and 70% of all frail disabled elderly. The majority of disabled persons are adults 21-64 years in age. Finding housing that is both affordable and accessible is a basic challenge for persons with physical disabilities.

### Persons with Developmental Disabilities

Persons with developmental disabilities are individuals with mental or physical disabilities or a combination of mental and physical conditions resulting in significant impairments to daily functioning, including mental retardation, autism, traumatic brain injury, fetal neurological disorders, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. The disability's origin is in the brain and is usually established early in life and the disability must be expected to last indefinitely. There is clearly a need for more services to help developmentally disabled persons stay with their families as well as additional housing and residential facilities. Other needed services include vocational services, social & community involvement, and transportation.

### Persons with Mental Disabilities

It is estimated that mental disorders affect one-quarter of all Americans. By this count more than 2 million of Ohio's 11 Million citizens experience some form of mental disorder including 200,000 children. Psychiatric problems affect people of all ages, all income groups, all ethnic groups, all religious groups, urban and rural, male and female.

### Persons with Substance Abuse Issues

Substance abuse is a pattern of drug use/drinking that result in harm to one's health, interpersonal relationships or ability to work. It is estimated that over 1.1 million or one in 10 Ohioans are addicted to alcohol and/or other drugs.

### Domestic Violence

Domestic violence and emotional abuse are behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other, including physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, or financial abuse. Victims of domestic violence need emergency shelter, counseling and other supportive services.

**What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?**

### Elderly and Frail Elderly

Low income elderly and frail elderly households are often unable to maintain existing homes or to afford rent. In addition, the numbers of elderly requiring medical and other services to remain in homes rather than in medical facilities continues to increase. These elderly, especially the frail elderly, will need long-term services and support, and they will be challenged affording such care and assistance.

There is a need for more affordable senior housing and housing for frail elderly. Housing types include independent living that is accessible, independent living with in-home care, assisted living facilities, and nursing facilities. Many seniors are also below the poverty level, adding more challenges to finding affordable care and housing. Needed services include healthcare and medication management, meals and nutritional counseling, caregiver support, abuse prevention and advocacy, money management, personal services, housekeeping and homemaker assistance, and transportation.

### Persons with Physical Disabilities

There is a continuing need for housing that is livable, affordable and accessible for persons with physical disabilities. Supportive service needs include transportation, and public facilities and infrastructure that provide for mobility and accessibility. Also important are housing programs that provide home modification and other repairs to enable seniors and persons with physical disabilities to continue to live independently.

### Persons with Developmental Disabilities

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities provides service from infancy onward to nearly 3,000 area residents with mild, moderate, severe, or profound developmental disabilities. Services include school programs beginning with early intervention and preschool, and continuing throughout the school-age years. For adults, the agency provides workshops and supported employment in the community. Senior citizens also benefit from specially designed programs.

Stark DD also provides residential care in the community with appropriate supports based on individual needs. The agency also provides transportation through the County to more than 500 families, traveling more than one million miles annually.

### Persons with Mental Disabilities

Persons with several and persistent mental illness need services such as early intervention, recovery, illness management, and self-sufficiency. These services are often correlated with substance abuse treatment, family psycho-treatment education, supportive employment, medication management training, and outreach programs. As facilities for the mentally ill are decentralized and an increasing number of developmentally disabled persons become semi-independent, the need for residential facilities with supervision has increased. Support for these populations is provided in various group

homes. While some opportunities for appropriate, assisted housing exist, additional units are needed to provide supportive housing for people with a mental illness transitioning from homelessness, and for people in need of higher levels of care and support.

### Domestic Violence

In the greater Canton area, the Domestic Violence Project Inc. (DVPI) a private non-profit organization, is committed to providing a strong comprehensive safety net for area families. The agency's comprehensive programming serves to address many client needs including: 24 hour hotline, emergency shelters in Canton and Massillon, prevention & education, support & legal advocacy, renew counseling & recovery center, and on-going support.

### **Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:**

Not Applicable – The City of Canton does not receive HOPWA funding.

### **Discussion:**

There are a number of agencies in the Canton area that provide services to the City's special needs populations. These include the following agencies: The Stark County Board of Development Disabilities, the Area Agency on Aging, the Mental Health and Recovery Services of Stark County, Catholic Charities of Stark County, Community Services of Stark County, the J.R. Coleman Center, the Domestic Violence Project, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health, Crisis Intervention & Recovery Center, among others.

There is demand for more special needs housing and assistance to help these populations. Many of these residents are in poverty or low-income; some are homeless. Often they can have more than one special need such as being elderly and having mental health issues. Coordination among service providers needs to remain strong. More services and funding are needed to continue to assist Canton's special needs population.

## **NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:**

There is continuing need within the City of Canton for public facilities to serve the needs of low income neighborhoods as well as to rehabilitate existing aging facilities. Many low- and moderate-income areas (LMA) in the City are within older neighborhoods that either do not have proper facilities or where existing facilities suffer from heavy use and deferred maintenance leading to disrepair. Many of these areas are located within the City's two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) areas where CDBG infrastructure and capital improvement funding will be concentrated for maximum leveraging opportunities to provide the greatest impact to residents with the greatest needs.

### **How were these needs determined?**

In 2012, Canton prepared a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) Plan which was designed to focus the City's housing and community development efforts within designated low income neighborhoods, providing a framework for a comprehensive approach to revitalization of targeted neighborhoods. See the City's NRSA Plan for a more detailed description of Canton's public facility needs.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:**

Most streets in the City are asphalt or concrete paved, although there are still some residential neighborhoods with brick-paved streets. The City Streets Department works year-round to ensure that city streets are safe, repaired, and free from major obstructions. Sidewalks line almost all of the city's streets. Well maintained sidewalks are important to overall health, safety and livability of residential neighborhoods. However, many of the city's sidewalks are in disrepair, and the City should consider ways to encourage and promote sidewalk repair and maintenance. Adequate street lighting can also add to the safety and security of neighborhoods. Like sidewalks, street light maintenance and replacement is also an issue needing review and recommendation. The City is currently proposing to undertake a systematic, city-wide program to install curb cuts and ramps at all intersections to improve pedestrian mobility and accessibility throughout the community, including the NRSA areas.

### **How were these needs determined?**

In 2012, Canton prepared a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) Plan which was designed to focus the City's housing and community development efforts within designated low income neighborhoods, providing a framework for a comprehensive approach to revitalization of targeted neighborhoods. See the City's NRSA Plan for a more detailed description of Canton's infrastructure needs.

**Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:**

The public service needs of low and moderate income households, including those at or below poverty levels, at risk of homelessness, unemployed or underemployed, physically challenged, aging, lacking access to health care, or lacking education or literacy skills, have always been a priority area for the City. Today, as Canton struggles to recover the economic recession, unemployment and poverty levels remain high.

As described in previous Strategic Plans, stimulating the economy is vital to the stabilization of the City. Public service activities such as youth education and recreation programs, adult literacy and job readiness programs, elderly services, healthcare, legal services, drug abuse and violence prevention remain a high priority for the City.

**How were these needs determined?**

Demographic statistics document the needs among low income and poverty households for public service activities. Past Consolidated Plans, and the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area plan also stress public service programs as a high priority need for Canton residents. Public forums, neighborhood meetings, and citizen input meetings also indicate the continuing needs for public services.

# Housing Market Analysis

## MA-05 Overview

### Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The purpose of the Market Analysis is to provide a clear picture of the environment in which the City of Canton must administer its programs over the course of the Consolidated Plan . In conjunction with the Needs Assessment, the Market Analysis will provide the basis for the Strategic Plan and the programs and projects to be administered.

The Housing Market Analysis provides data and narrative information regarding the local housing market, including:

- the significant characteristics of the jurisdiction's housing market in general, including the supply, demand, and condition and cost of housing;
- the housing stock available to serve persons with disabilities and other special needs;
- the condition and needs of public and assisted housing;
- a brief inventory of facilities, housing, and services that meet the needs of homeless persons;
- regulatory barriers to affordable housing; and
- the significant characteristics of the City's economy.

### Housing Supply Summary

As shown in the above 2007-2011 American Community Survey data, the City of Canton has a total of 35,337 housing units – 16,527 (47%) are owner-occupied, 13,435 (38%) are renter-occupied, and 5,375 (15%) are vacant.

Since 2000, the total number of housing units in the City of Canton has decreased 0.5%, and the number of occupied housing units has decreased 7.8%. In contract, the number of vacant housing units has increased 78.4%.

Also, since 2000, the total number of owner-occupied housing units has declined 14.8%, while the total number of renter-occupied has risen 2.6%. In a comparison of occupied housing changes since 2000, the percentage of owner-occupied housing units has declined 4.5%, and the percentage of renter-occupied housing has increased the same 4.5%.

The population loss that the City has sustained since the 1950s has resulted in a high rate of vacant buildings. The City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, as well as other low/moderate income neighborhoods, have been hardest hit by economic decline and population loss. Much of the housing



stock in these neighborhoods, both owner occupied and rental properties, suffers from disinvestment and lack of maintenance.

These housing market factors, along with the other factors highlighted above, will be described and analyzed in the following Market Analysis Tables.

CITY OF CANTON SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS						
HOUSING CATEGORY	2001-2011 ACS		2000 Census		Change	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>						
Total housing units	35,337	100%	35,502	100%	-165	-0.5%
Occupied housing units	29,962	84.80%	32,489	91.5%	-2527	-7.8%
Vacant housing units	5,375	15.20%	3,013	8.5%	2362	78.4%
<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>						
Occupied housing units	29,962	100%	32,489	100%	-2527	-7.8%
Owner-occupied	16,527	55.20%	19,394	59.7%	-2867	-14.8%
Renter-occupied	13,435	44.80%	13,095	40.3%	340	2.6%

#### **Canton Housing Supply 2000 - 2011**

## MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

### Introduction

According to American Survey Data for the period 2005-2009 as shown below, the City of Canton has a total of 37,786 housing units. Of this total, 32,481 are reported as occupied, of which 57% are owner-occupied and 43% are renter-occupied. The total number of vacant housing units is calculated at 5,305, which represents 14% of the total housing in the City.

Single unit, detached dwellings (25,200) comprise two thirds of the City's total housing inventory, while structures containing 5 or more dwelling units make up 15% of the City's housing stock.

From the second table, ACS data reports that 76% of owner-occupied dwelling units in Canton are 3-bedroom or larger. However, renter-housing is almost evenly divided among 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units.

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	25,200	67%
1-unit, attached structure	1,494	4%
2-4 units	5,364	14%
5-19 units	3,721	10%
20 or more units	1,966	5%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	41	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,786</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

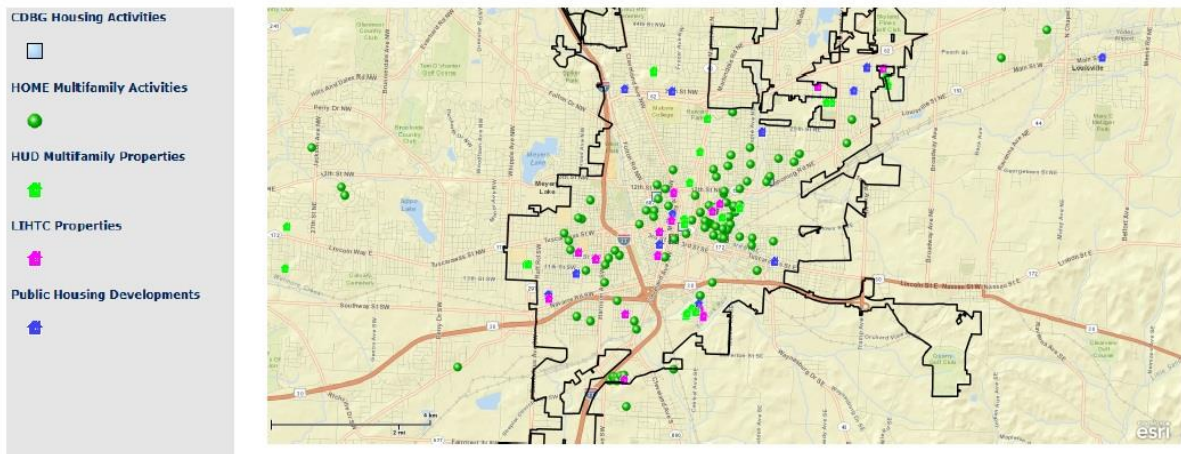
### Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	0	0%	575	4%
1 bedroom	201	1%	3,880	28%
2 bedrooms	4,281	23%	4,976	35%
3 or more bedrooms	13,966	76%	4,602	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,448</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,033</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

## City of Canton - Assisted Housing Projects Federal, State, and Local Programs



**Canton Assisted Housing Map**

### Canton Housing Needs Table

**Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.**

Within the City of Canton, there are numerous long-term affordable housing developments that have been constructed/renovated with Federal and/or State funding. Descriptions of the most common assisted housing programs are listed below:

- HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) – provides Federal HUD funding for the development of affordable housing for very-low, low-, and moderate-income households. This program assists both owner and renter households.
- Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) – provides Federal HUD funding for the repair and rehabilitation of affordable housing for very-low, low-, and moderate-income households. This program can serve both owner and renter households.
- Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) – provides Federal HUD funding for the rehab and development of affordable housing for very-low, low-, moderate-, and middle-income households within neighborhoods that have been impacted by vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed housing. This program can serve owner and renter households.
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) – provides Federal income tax credits to developers who construct, rehabilitate, or acquire and rehabilitate qualified low-income rental housing. These developments can encompass both multi-family and single-family rental housing, for families or senior citizens. Eligible applicants include for-profit and non-profit sponsors.

The attached map provides a graphic representation of the number and types of assisted housing in Canton.

**Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.**

Housing units that receive tax credits or other forms of assistance can be at risk of being converted to market rate housing upon maturity of the tax credits or the affordability period, typically 15, 20, or 30 years. However, the City expects that no regulated affordable housing units that have received financial assistance are expected to be lost from the inventory of affordable housing in the near future. In particular, in regards to affordable housing projects that are owned by non-profit agencies whose missions are either to provide low-income housing and/or serve the elderly or disabled population, it is anticipated that such housing will remain affordable regardless of the situation.

**Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?**

The Housing Needs Assessment in Sections NA-10, NA-15, NA-20, NA-25, and NA-30 of this Consolidated Plan clearly indicates the need for more affordable housing to meet the needs of Canton's very-low, low- and moderate-income households. The analysis of housing affordability found in MA-15 of this market analysis supports these same conclusions.

There is a definite need for affordable housing for the City's LMI households. The attached table shows that there are 6,483 renter households and 4,315 owner households earning less than 80% of the area median income experiencing housing cost burden, with many of these households earning less than 30% or 50% of area median income.

**Describe the need for specific types of housing:**

Low income homeowners with high housing cost burdens need housing rehabilitation programs to bring their dwellings up to code standards, make them energy efficient and help them reduce their cost burdens. Low income renters with housing problems, including high housing cost burdens, need access to quality affordable rental housing. While Section 8 vouchers may provide some financial relief to very-low income renter households, the waiting lists for such assistance are long.

Low-income elderly households are also burdened with high housing costs, and are in need of housing rehabilitation programs to assist owner-occupants and affordable senior housing to assist elderly renter households.

**Discussion**

The narratives in this section continue to emphasize the point that Canton is need of quality, affordable housing for low and moderate households. The next section of the Consolidated Plan will discuss housing costs in detail.

## MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

### Introduction

While the data in the tables below indicate that, within the City of Canton, there is a diverse mix of housing in different price ranges for owner-occupied and rental dwelling units, conclusions about the availability of affordable housing for low and moderate income households need to take into account additional factors such as the age and condition of this housing and the neighborhoods in which such housing is located. The City of Canton was hard hit by the economic downturn of the past few years, which resulted in major neighborhood impacts from increasing numbers of vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed housing. These negative impacts have resulted in low housing values with the City, in comparison with outlying County neighborhoods. Housing needs to be both affordable and good quality and located within safe, stable residential neighborhoods.

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2009	% Change
Median Home Value	66,400	82,100	24%
Median Contract Rent	352	417	18%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2005-2009 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	10,056	71.7%
\$500-999	3,926	28.0%
\$1,000-1,499	19	0.1%
\$1,500-1,999	15	0.1%
\$2,000 or more	17	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,033</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

### Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	2,915	No Data
50% HAMFI	7,080	3,580
80% HAMFI	9,605	4,905
100% HAMFI	No Data	8,980
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,600</b>	<b>17,465</b>

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

City of Canton - Housing Cost Burden by Tenure and Area Median Income (AMI)								
Tenancy Type	Very Low Income 0-30% AMI		Low Income 31-50% AMI		Moderate Income 51-80% AMI		Total LMI Households	
	Cost Burden >30%	Cost Burden >50%	Cost Burden >30%	Cost Burden >50%	Cost Burden >30%	Cost Burden >50%	Cost Burden >30%	Cost Burden >50%
Owner HH's	1,220	975	1,465	840	1,630	255	4,315	2,070
Renter HH's	3,940	2,820	1,850	370	693	4	6,483	3,194
Total	5,160	3,795	3,315	1,210	2,323	259	10,798	5,264

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS

## Hosing Cost Burden by Tenure and Median Income

### Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	394	493	642	843	906
High HOME Rent	460	510	644	813	862
Low HOME Rent	460	510	644	755	842

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

City of Canton			30% of Gross
Household Income in the Past 12 Months	Number	Percent	Monthly Income
Less than \$14,999	7,803	25.38%	\$375 or less
\$15,000 to \$24,999	5,121	16.66%	\$375-\$625
\$25,000 to \$34,999	4,989	16.23%	\$625-\$875
\$35,000 to \$44,999	3,404	11.07%	\$875-\$1,125
\$45,000 to \$59,999	3,289	10.70%	\$1,125-\$1,500
\$60,000 to \$74,999	2,186	7.11%	\$1,125-\$1,875
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,236	7.27%	\$1,875-\$2,500
\$100,000 to \$124,999	810	2.63%	\$2,500-\$3,125
\$125,000 to \$149,999	341	1.11%	\$3,125-\$3,750
\$150,000 or more	562	1.83%	\$3,750 or more
Total	30,741	100%	
Median Household Income:	\$30,043		

Data Source: 2006-2010 CHAS

### Canton Household Incomes Chart

## **Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?**

Canton, like many Midwest “Rust Belt” cities, has experienced a large decline in population since the 1950s. The city’s population peaked in 1950 at around 117,000, and over the next several decades people left the city by the tens of thousands, moving to newly developed, surrounding suburbs or out of the area entirely. According to the 2010 Census, Canton’s population is 73,007, a 9.7% decrease from 2000 and a 38% decrease since 1950. LMI neighborhoods have suffered even greater losses. For example, the Eastside and Central NRSA’s have been greatly impacted by population loss with the Eastside area losing almost 17% and the Central area losing 20% of its population since the 2000 Census.

As people left the city, they often left behind homes that became rental properties or ended up vacant and neglected. This is especially true in the neighborhoods included in the two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas. In many cases, the people who remained in the city did not have the means to maintain their homes, which contributes to the general deterioration of the housing stock in these neighborhoods. In both the Eastside and Central NRSA’s, the percentage of homeownership is below 50%, and the percentage of vacant houses ranges from 18-25%. The median value of owner-occupied housing is also quite low, ranging from \$54,400 in the Eastside NRSA to \$65,625 in the Central NRSA.

Despite the efforts of the City of Canton, in cooperation with neighborhood organizations, housing agencies, and other stakeholders, these NRSA neighborhoods continue to struggle with abandoned and ill-maintained property. While efforts have been made to maintain and rehabilitate old houses, as well as build new ones, the existing housing stock continues to age and deteriorate. Many existing businesses are struggling, and in many neighborhoods there is a lack of access to necessary goods and services. Furthermore, the declining property values and tax base that has resulted makes it difficult for the City to maintain an adequate level of services to its reduced population.

## **How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?**

The Canton/Stark County area has historically been known as an “affordable” community relative to low housing costs. With the recent persistent economic crisis, housing values have been falling for several years, evidenced by Stark County Auditor property assessments. Affordability issues are two fold: 1) Much of the affordable housing stock in Canton is old and in need of rehabilitation; and 2) LMI households in Canton have been shown to be cost burdened, and with unemployment and poverty levels remaining high, such households have difficulties obtaining that is both affordable for their situation and in decent condition.

## **How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?**



FY 2013 Fair Market Rents for Canton/Stark County are as follows: \$394-Efficiency; \$493-one bedroom; \$642-two bedroom; \$843-three bedroom; \$906-four bedroom. The FMR for two-bedroom units actually decreased 0.16% from 2012. Comparing these FMR rents with ACS data for actual rents indicates that many existing rental units in Canton are currently "affordable". The need is for the City to encourage the rehabilitation and preservation of existing rental housing to ensure that these affordable units are also in good condition. New construction of affordable rental housing may only be successful to the extent that the production of such units can be subsidized to enable them to remain affordable and to the extent that existing rental housing is seen as substandard and undesirable.

## **Discussion**

Looking at the Housing Needs Assessment data provided earlier in the City's Consolidated Plan, housing cost burden is a substantial housing issue for a large number of Canton's low and moderate income households. These households include individuals, the elderly, small- and large-family households. The above table titled "Housing Cost Burden by Tenure and Median Income" summarizes housing cost burden by income levels for Canton households.

The above table titled "Canton Housing Incomes Chart" shows household incomes for Canton as reported in the 2006-2010 American Community Survey. The table also calculates 30% of the gross incomes to give an indication of the affordable limit of housing related expenses for households at various income levels. This table shows that over 25% of the households in the City of Canton had an annual income of less than \$15,000. When comparing the Fair Market Rent data found earlier in this table with the large number of Canton households earning less than \$15,000, it further demonstrates the cost burdens and affordability gaps facing these households who are need of quality, affordable housing.

## **MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)**

### **Introduction**

The City of Canton, like many older Midwest communities, has a high percentage of older housing stock. According to the 2006-2010 ACS Data, 46% of the City's total housing stock, or 16,439 units, was constructed prior to 1939. As Canton's population has declined from its peak total in 1950, many of these housing units have been left behind, to become rental properties or simply abandoned. This situation has been exacerbated by the housing crisis of 2007-2009, which saw many households lose their properties through foreclosure action. As a result, the City of Canton is faced with a large number of housing units, many of which are foreclosed, vacant, or abandoned, that are in substandard, even dilapidated, condition.

To compare conditions in the City's LMI neighborhoods with Canton as whole, this discussion uses statistics for the City's designated Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA). Within the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA), 59% of the housing units were constructed before 1939. In regard to occupied housing, 63% of the City's occupied housing that was built prior to 1939 is owner-occupied, while in the NRSA, only 52% of pre-1939 housing is owner-occupied. 14% of total housing units in Canton are vacant, compared to 21% vacancy rate in the NRSA. 67% of all vacant housing in Canton was constructed prior to 1939, compared to 78% of vacant housing within the NRSA. This data indicates that Canton's low income neighborhoods are affected to a greater degree by the problems caused by older, abandoned housing. Due to the age of the housing stock in Canton, many homes are in need of rehabilitation, and are likely to contain lead paint.

### **Definitions**

Standard Condition - A unit of housing is considered to be in standard condition if it is generally in good repair, with no substandard habitability elements (i.e., lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities) or exterior elements. Such units may be eligible for housing rehabilitation funding if interior conditions are such that the HUD Section 8 Housing Quality Standards are not met, or a threat to the integrity or livability of the unit exists and should be addressed. Examples of ways in which the interiors of such homes might be rehabilitated include the replacement of heating systems, electrical system repairs or upgrades, plumbing system repairs or upgrades, energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility improvements.

Substandard Condition but Suitable for Rehabilitation - This category describes dwelling units that do not meet one or more of the HUD Section 8 quality standard conditions likely due to deferred maintenance or work without permits, but that are both financially and structurally feasible for rehabilitation. Such units may be lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities and/or may have exterior elements in need of repair (e.g., a roof in need of replacement, siding in need of repair or replacement, or a missing or failing foundation). In order to be suitable for rehabilitation the unit value generally exceeds the cost of the repairs or upgrades that would be required in order to bring it to

standard condition. This category of properties does not include units that require the correction of minor livability problems, or maintenance work.

Substandard Condition and Not Suitable for Rehabilitation - This category describes dwelling units that are in such poor condition as to be neither structurally nor financially feasible for rehabilitation. Such units will typically have an improvement value that is less than the cost of addressing the habitability and exterior elements that cause its classification as “substandard,” or will be considered to be unfit to occupy for reasons of safety by the City’s Building Official.

## Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	5,154	28%	6,631	47%
With two selected Conditions	78	0%	214	2%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	13,216	72%	7,188	51%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,448</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,033</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 33 - Condition of Units**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

## Housing Condition

Table 33 displays the number of housing units by tenure based on the number of housing conditions per unit. Selected conditions are the same housing problems identified in the Needs Assessment and include: (1) lacks complete plumbing facilities, (2) lacks complete kitchen facilities, (3) has more than one person per room, and (4) cost burden greater than 30%. Housing cost burden has been identified as the City of Canton’s biggest housing problem, accounting for most of the units listed in this table.

## Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	395	2%	429	3%
1980-1999	723	4%	1,381	10%
1950-1979	5,315	29%	5,810	41%
Before 1950	12,015	65%	6,413	46%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,448</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,033</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 34 – Year Unit Built**

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

HOUSING: TOTAL UNITS AND TENURE BY YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT	CANTON	NRSA
Total: Housing Units	35,952	9,302
Built 1939 or earlier	16,439	5,520
PerCent Built 1939 or earlier	46%	59%
Total: Occupied Housing Units	30,741	7,309
Total Occupied Housing Units: Built 1939 or earlier	12,959	3,966
PerCent Built 1939 or earlier	42%	54%
Owner occupied:	17,331	3,130
Built 1939 or earlier	8,132	2,054
PerCent Built 1939 or earlier: owner occupied	63%	52%
Renter occupied:	13,410	4,179
Built 1939 or earlier	4,827	1,912
PerCent Built 1939 or earlier: renter occupied	37%	48%
Total: Vacant Housing Units	5,211	1,993
Percent Vacant	14%	21%
Built 1939 or earlier	3,480	1,554
Percent of Vacant Units	67%	78%
2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates		

#### Pre-1939 Housing: Tenure for Canton City and NRSA areas

#### Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	17,330	94%	12,223	87%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	4,935	27%	2,125	15%

**Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

**Data Source:** 2005-2009 ACS (Total Units) 2005-2009 CHAS (Units with Children present)

#### Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	2,564	483	3,047
Abandoned Vacant Units	2,367	483	2,850
REO Properties	1,720	0	1,720
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

**Table 36 - Vacant Units**

**Alternate Data Source Name:**

City of Canton Data Sort

**Data Source Comments:** Data for this table obtained from HUD Provided Local Level Data for the NSP Program and from the Canton City Building Department Severely Blighted Properties spreadsheet

## **Vacant Units**

This section requires the City to estimate the number of vacant or abandoned buildings and whether the units are suitable for rehabilitation to the extent information is available. The following tables report information on vacant housing units from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

This table reports a total of 5,211 vacant housing units, which represents 14% of the City's total housing stock. Subtracting from this total, those units current for sale or for rent, sold but not yet occupied, rented but not yet occupied, and seasonal units, leaves a balance of vacant units totaling 3,047 and classified by the Census Bureau as "Other Vacant". According to a February 2013 Report titled "Other Vacant Housing Units: 2000, 2005 and 2010", a housing unit is classified as "other vacant" when it does not fit into any other year-round vacant category. Common reasons that a housing unit is labeled "other vacant" is that no one lives in the unit and the owner:

- Is making repairs or renovations.
- Does not want to rent or sell.
- Is using the unit for storage.
- Is elderly and living in a nursing home or with family members.

Additional reasons are that the unit is being held for settlement of an estate or that the unit is being foreclosed. While foreclosed properties may be classified as "other vacant," they may also appear in any of the vacant or occupied categories.

<b>City of Canton: Vacant housing units</b>	
Total:	5,211
For rent	1,135
Rented, not occupied	125
For sale only	530
Sold, not occupied	313
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	61
For migrant workers	0
Other vacant	3,047
<i>Data Source: 2006-2010 ACS</i>	
Total:	5,211
Built 2005 or later	0
Built 2000 to 2004	158
Built 1990 to 1999	101
Built 1980 to 1989	127
Built 1970 to 1979	285
Built 1960 to 1969	197
Built 1950 to 1959	575
Built 1940 to 1949	288
Built 1939 or earlier	3,480
Percent Built 1939 or earlier	67%
<i>Data Source: 2006-2010 ACS</i>	

### **Canton Vacant Housing Units**

### **Canton Foreclosed Abandoned Housing**

To make a determination regarding the number of vacant buildings that are abandoned, foreclosed, suitable for rehabilitation, or substandard/not suitable for rehabilitation, the City of Canton has conducted the following analyses:

As part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), HUD made available to units of local government, data including foreclosure rates and housing units vacant for over 90 days. This NSP data for the City of Canton is provided on the accompanying table:

This table reports a total of 1,720 foreclosures in the City of Canton at a foreclosure rate of 12.3%. The table also reports a total of 2,850 residential properties vacant for more than 90 days, with an estimated 90 day vacancy rate of 8.3%.

In addition, the City of Canton Building Department maintains a database of severely blighted properties. This list contains a total of 483 vacant, severely blighted properties that are not suitable for rehabilitation and that should be demolished. The City is undertaking the demolition of these residential properties using funds provided by the Ohio Attorney General's Office under the Moving Ohio Forward Program.

<b>Canton NSP Foreclosure Data</b>	
	<b>Totals</b>
Total Households	32,564
Estimated Number Foreclosures	1,720
Estimated Number Mortgages	13,936
Estimated Foreclosure Rate	12.3%
Total 90 Day Vacant Residential Addresses	2,850
Total Residential Addresses	34,540
Estimated 90_day Vacancy Rate	8.3%
<i>Data Source: HUD Provided Local Data - NSP Program</i>	

## **Canton NSP Housing Data**

### **Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation**

Based on the data in the accompanying tables to this section of the Plan, 5,232 owner-occupied housing units and 6,845 renter-occupied units have one or more selected housing problems. These numbers represent 28% of all owner-occupied housing and 49% of all rental housing. In addition, 8,132 owner-occupied housing units were constructed prior to 1939 and 17,330 were constructed prior to 1980. For renter housing, 4,827 units were constructed prior to 1939 and 12,223 units were constructed prior to 1980.

The Needs Assessment section of the Consolidated Plan concluded that the City of Canton's most significant housing problems revolve around housing cost burden, particularly for LMI households. Based on the number of households with documented housing problems and the age of Canton's housing stock, there is a demonstrable need for both owner and rental rehabilitation programs.

### **Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards**

Since lead-based paint was banned from residential use in the U.S. in 1978, housing units built before 1980 are more likely to contain lead hazards. Data for Canton indicate that 4,935 homeowner households with children present occupy housing that was constructed prior to 1980. 2,125 renter households with children present occupy housing units that was constructed prior to 1980. Using the data from Table NA-10, it showed that 61% of total Canton households are low-moderate income. By applying that percentage to the above data, it is assumed that 3,010 LMI owner households and 1,302 LMI renter households can be estimated to occupy housing units that could contain lead-based hazards.

## **Discussion**

The City of Canton has many housing units that need substantial repairs and improvements in order to keep them livable and affordable. There continues to be a real need the City of Canton to provide housing rehabilitation, repair and maintenance programs to address the problems of substandard housing occupied by the City's low and moderate income residents.

In addition, as has been explained here and elsewhere in the Consolidated Plan, as Canton's population has declined from its peak total in 1950 to the present, many of the City's housing units have been left behind, to become rental properties or simply abandoned. This situation has been exacerbated by the housing crisis of 2007-2009, which saw many households lose their properties through foreclosure actions. As a result, the City of Canton is faced with a large number of housing units, many of which are vacant and abandoned, that are in substandard, even dilapidated, condition.



## MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

### Introduction

The Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) provides eligible residents of Stark County with quality affordable housing in decent, safe, and nourishing neighborhoods. By working in partnership with the public and private sectors, the SMHA provides families with housing choice and the opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency. All HUD minimum Housing Quality Standard requirements are adhered to, except where SMHA has adopted a higher standard. SMHA inspects each unit at least once annually to determine if the unit is in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition. SMHA also administers the Section 8 Rental assistance Program, the Housing Choice Voucher Program, the Moderate Rehabilitation Program, and Shelter Plus Care.

### Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	3	116	2,546	1,552	0	1,552	0	0	870
# of accessible units									
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Describe the supply of public housing developments:**

**Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:**

SMHA owns and manages total of 1,462 public housing units within the City of Canton. Of this total, 983 are family units, and 479 are elderly. These housing units are part of 18 separate projects, including both project and scattered site locations. The following chart provides the inspection scores for SMHA public housing units. HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center conducts physical property inspections of properties that are owned, insured or subsidized by HUD, including public housing and multifamily assisted housing. Making these inspection details available will enable researchers, advocacy groups and the general public to

- 1) better understand the physical condition of the HUD-assisted housing stock, as well as changes in the stock over time;
- 2) hold providers accountable for housing quality; and
- 3) plan for future affordable housing needs.

## Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
OH018001 SHERRICK COURTS	84
OH018002 SHERRICK COURTS	85
OH018003 MCKINLEY APTS	72
OH018004 JACCKSON PARK HOMES	65
OH018006 GIRARD GARDENS	86
OH018007 KIMBERLE/ROSELANE GARDENS	90
OH018008 LINWOOD ACRES/MAHONING	77
OH018009 CHERRIE TURNER TOWERS	92
OH018010 ELLISDALE HOMES	83
OH018012 PLAZA TERRACE	86
OH018013 SCATTERED SITES	76
OH018019 SCATTERED SITES	73
OH018020 SCATTERED SITES	81
OH018023 SCATTERED SITES	76
OH018025 SCATTERED SITES	86
OH018026 SUNSET HOMES	80
OH018031 SCATTERED SITES	73
OH018036 SCATTERED SITES	76

**Table 38 - Public Housing Condition**

STARK METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY: PROJECT LOCATION IN CANTON						
DEV #	DEVELOPMENT NAME	UNITS	YEAR	TYPE	CITY	
18-1	Sherrick Ct.	96	1963	Family	Canton	
18-2	Sherrick Ct.	100	1965	Family	Canton	
18-3	McKinley Park	81	1969	Elderly	Canton	
18-4	Jackson Park	130	1969	Family	Canton	
18-6	Girard Gardens	100	1970	Elderly	Canton	
18-7A	Kimberle Gardens	31	1971	Elderly	Canton	
18-7B	Roselane Gardens	19	1971	Elderly	Canton	
18-8L	Linwood Acres	112	1971	Family	Canton	
18-8M	Mahoning Manor	82	1972	Family	Canton	
18-9	Metropolitan Arms	134	1972	Elderly	Canton	
18-10E	Ellisdale Homes	141	1972	Family	Canton	
18-10G	Gage Gardens	54	1971	Family	Canton	
18-12	Plaza Terrace	100	1974	Elderly	Canton	
18-13	Lesh, Neal Ct., Sct.	90	1974	Family	Canton	
18-19	Scattered Sites	106	1974	Family	Canton	
18-25	Scattered Sites	22	1982	Family	Canton	
18-26	Sunset Homes	14	1959	Elderly	Canton	
18-36	Scattered Sites	50	1992	Family	Canton	

#### SMHA Public Housing Sites in Canton

#### Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

The Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority 5-Year Plan for 2010-2014 establishes the goal of improving the physical condition of existing SMHA-owned or SMHA-managed housing units to achieve comparability with standard quality housing in the local private housing market by the following objectives:

##### Objectives

1. Conduct a comprehensive physical needs assessment to identify improvements needed to correct deficiencies and to achieve market standards.
2. Prepare a 5-year capital improvement plan.
3. Undertake and complete capital improvements to achieve market standards in the physical conditions and amenities of existing public housing.
4. Achieve a PHAS physical inspection score of 27 (90%) or greater.
5. Have an on-going program to evaluate housing units and to identify other properties that should be considered for demolition and/or disposition.
6. Identify areas for energy related improvements within the physical needs assessment to include insulation, weatherization, energy star rated windows and appliances.
7. Develop and implement a plan to identify and maintain properties in compliance with Section 504,

Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) and American with Disability Act (ADA) needs

B. Maintain the level of elderly resident satisfaction with their housing, services

**Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:**

Along with its goal of improving the physical condition of public housing, SMHA plans to implement a comprehensive strategy to improve the living environment of its many residents. Actions include:

1. Facilitate the provision of programs for all seniors and disable residents that enhance their ability to live independently.
2. Seek to reduce violent crime and other unlawful activities on SMHA sites by conducting routine safety talks, increasing communication between police and residents, enforce lease violations, encourage residents to report criminal and/or suspicious activity, and implement a monitoring system for vehicles parked on SMHA property.
3. Increase SMHA resident knowledge of resources available in the neighborhood to meet their social and economic needs.
4. Maintain and improve the overall appearance of SMHA sites through removal of graffiti, enforcement of housekeeping standards, reducing trash and litter, and improving the appearance of common areas.
5. Improving employee performance, productivity and customer service to better serve residents.
6. Fully utilize SMHA community spaces to better serve housing authority program residents.

**Discussion:**

The City of Canton and the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority have a good working relationship and cooperated on many recent projects and developments. Canton has provided SMHA (and the Freed Housing Corporation) with NSP funds to purchase housing for development. Canton and SMHA have worked on a project using HOME funds to develop energy efficient housing. SMHA and Canton have cooperated on the development of Hunter House, a 48-unit permanent supportive housing complex on the City's southeast side.

To improve the physical condition of SMHA-owned and -managed units, the agency undertook a physical needs assessment in 2011. SMHA's goal is to achieve a PHAS physical inspection of 27 (90%) or greater. As a result, SMHA has identified 42 units and is currently under contract to rehabilitate these units in accordance with Section 504/ADA and Uniform Accessibility Standards (UFAS) guidelines.

SMHA has launched the Resident Safety and Security Initiative to create a greater partnership and communication with residents, security, law enforcement, and management in the prevention and

suppression of drug and criminal activity in SMHA housing. A 24/7 hot line has been installed to allow residents to report confidentially any drug or criminal activity on SMHA property. SMHA reports a 11% decrease in police calls to its Canton properties in 2011 since launching this initiative.

SMHA is evaluating new Section 8 rent reasonableness programs that will assist with productivity and efficiencies, including an outside assessment of its programs to address streamling operations.

SMHA staff training is ongoing in the following areas: public housing and HCV eligibility, rent calculation, and hoarding. SMHA has provided a client suggestion box in the central office main lobby.

## **MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)**

### **Introduction**

The Consolidated Plan must include a brief inventory of facilities, housing, and services that meet the needs of homeless persons within the jurisdiction, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. The inventory of services must include both services targeted to homeless persons and mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons.

Emergency Shelter: According to the Stark County January 2013 Point in Time Count, there are currently a total of 254 emergency shelter beds available in the County, compared to 223 beds available in 2008. Of these 254 emergency shelter beds, 49 are targeted towards individual males; and 205 are designated for families with children and single females.

Transitional Housing: Six area providers offer a total of 50 individual beds and 144 family beds for transitional housing, a slight increase from the 52 Individual beds and 141 family beds available in 2008. One of the county's Transitional Housing programs specifically targets the transitional age youth population, while another assists families with children.

Permanent Supportive Housing: is currently being offered by four providers. The current inventory of permanent supportive housing consists of 116 individual only beds, 36 family only beds and 289 individual and family beds, for a total of 441 beds. This is up substantially from the 306 individuals beds and the 85 family beds, for a total of 391, that were in the inventory in 2008. The increase is due to completion of projects that have been developed since 2008 and the reclassification of certain types of assistance. Of these 441 currently available beds, 168 are targeted towards chronically homeless individuals. Since the 2013 Housing Inventory Count the county has also opened a new Permanent Supportive Housing facility which has 48 beds for individuals, with 8 designated for those who are chronically homeless.

## Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	205	11	144	325	0
Households with Only Adults	49	12	50	116	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	168	0
Veterans	0	0	0	7	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households**

**Data Source Comments:** Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County

## Narrative - Emergency Shelter Facilities

### EMERGENCY SHELTER:

Stark's emergency shelters include four sub-populations: single men, single women, families, and persons fleeing domestic violence. All shelters are currently challenged with moving residents out to other housing due to a shortage of all types of housing. All shelters are located in one of Stark County's three major cities.

### **Dedicated Men's Shelters:**

- Refuge of Hope - 42 beds.
- American Rescue Workers - 19 beds



The CoC has only two shelters for the entire county, and both house the chronically homeless. Refuge of Hope is the only shelter that will take sex offenders (must be from Stark County) with a limit of 8 sex offenders at a time. Both run regularly over capacity as local need far exceeds capacity

#### **Dedicated Women and Family Shelters:**

The following two shelters are for women and children and are located in the City of Canton. There is also a child care facility on site.

- YWCA (Canton) - 56 beds single women, single parent female headed households with male children age 6 or under
- YWCA (Canton) - 12 family beds (including older male children, single parent male headed households, intact couples with or without children). The shelter also has the ability to house a disabled person with a service animal.
- Family Living Center (Massillon) - 35 single and/or family beds (single females, households with children including female or male headed households, or couples with children. The shelter does not house single males.

#### **Fully Inclusive Shelter:**

- Alliance for Children & Families (Alliance) - 21 beds (single males, single females, families with children, excludes sex offenders due to the mix of genders and presence of children).

#### **Domestic Violence Shelters:**

- Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter (Alliance) – 18 beds.
- Domestic Violence Project (Canton) - 32 beds
- Domestic Violence Project (Massillon) - 19 beds

#### **Motel Beds:**

Several organizations offer motel vouchers which provide temporary shelter when shelters are full. There are no services directly linked to these vouchers but the agencies providing the vouchers do offer housing case management, food assistance and linkages to mainstream services.

- Faith Community - 5 beds

- Salvation Army Canton - 720 nights of lodging (July 2012 - July 2013)
- Salvation Army Massillon - 379 nights of lodging (January 2013 - November 2013)

### **Narrative - Transitional Housing Facilities**

#### **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:**

All transitional housing programs operate at full capacity with long waiting lists, reflecting the CoCs additional housing need for the targeted sub-populations (families and transitional age youth). The programs also have high rates of success in transitioning program participants into permanent housing. Most are transition-in-place models.

#### **Families with Children:**

- Alliance for Children and Families (Alliance) - 76 beds
- New Beginnings Transitional Housing (Canton) - 41 beds

#### **Males:**

- American Rescue Workers (Canton) - 15 beds

#### **Domestic Violence Victims:**

- Domestic Violence of Canton - 11 beds

#### **Transitional Age Youth:**

- P.A.L Mission (Exodus and Genesis Program) - 16 beds
- SMHA Hope Program - 21 beds
- MHRSB Reach (Recovery and Empowerment Achieved with Community and Housing)Program – 60 transitional-age youth to be assisted over a 3-year period.

### **Individuals with Mental Health and/or Alcohol / Drug Issues:**

- SMHA Home Program - 14 beds

### **RAPID RE-HOUSING:**

Stark County's only "Rapid Re-Housing" program targets families and individuals who are in a crisis state of homelessness and who will be able to sustain themselves after a minimal amount of assistance. Rental assistance is provided for typically one month, as well as security deposits and housing inspections. Case management is typically provided for 3 months with linkages to other mainstream services.

- YWCA Stark Area Rapid Rehousing (STARR) Program - 264 clients (in 2012)
- ICAN Housing Solutions Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) - 25 clients

### **SAFE HAVEN:**

Safe Havens serve as refuge for people who are homeless and have a serious mental illness. Safe Havens provide more than shelter. They close the gap in housing and services available for those homeless individuals who, perhaps because of their illness, have refused help or have been denied or removed from other homeless programs. A safe haven is a form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who are on the street and have been unable or unwilling to participate in supportive services.

- ICAN Housing Solutions Basic Accommodations - 20

### **Narrative - Permanent Supportive Housing**

### **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING:**

All of the following Permanent Supportive Housing programs provide comprehensive supportive services to this population which includes case management, linkage to and collaborating with mental health case managers, financial management assistance and activities to promote independent living and community awareness. Some programs also include health care facilities, tutoring and music classes for the children, life skills instruction and safety, wellness and nutrition classes, on-site security systems, tenant council meetings, transportation assistance, YWCA

memberships, children's enrichment programs and outdoor playgrounds, employment training and search assistance, Ohio Benefit Bank service and further assistance with connecting clients to mainstream services and drug/alcohol abuse treatment services.

**Individuals:**

- New Beginnings (Canton) - 10 beds
- Gateway Estates (Canton) - 36
- Gateway House II (Canton) – 43 (has limited ability to house a family household with 1 or 2 children)

**Families:**

- Alliance for Children & Families (Alliance) - 36 beds

**Individuals / Families with Mental Health and/or Alcohol / Drug Issues:**

- ICAN - Housing First - 6 beds
- ICAN - Supported Apartments- 41 beds (these beds are reserved for chronically homeless individuals)
- ICAN - West Park - 16 beds
- ICAN - Otis Gibbs Veterans Housing - 7 beds (veteran dedicated housing)
- SMHA - Tenant Based Rental Assistance - 41 beds
- SMHA - HAP - 60 beds
- SMHA - Hunter House - 7 beds (chronically homeless individuals only)
- SMHA Shelter & Care - 145 beds

**Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons**

**Mainstream Services**

Three primary county-wide service systems provide mainstream systems that complement services targeted to homeless persons:

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board serves as a coordinating and funding body for programs serving persons with mental health or addiction issues.

United Way of Greater Stark County targets over six million dollars annually to the following program areas: Education (helping children and youth achieve); Family and Financial Stability (helping families become safe and financially stable); Health & Basic Needs (health care and disaster needs). In addition UWGSC has strategic initiatives that support programs targeted to homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless. Programs include substance abuse services, education initiatives for at-risk youth, parenting, emergency services (shelter funding), domestic violence housing and services, services to the developmentally disabled, foster care programs, financial stability including financial literacy and employment programs, and access to basic health care including mental and physical care.

Stark County Job and Family Services mission is “to partner with our customers, community and other service providers to protect children and vulnerable adults, stabilize and strengthen families and encourage self-sufficiency and personal responsibility.” SCDJFS provides assistance with: cash, food, medical and emergency assistance, childcare, child protection, child support case management, and employment services.

**Health Care:**

All the major hospitals in Stark County provide assistance to homeless and low income clients through medical debt forgiveness or cost write-down based upon income and household size. There is also a local Community Clinic that serves homeless clients free of charge. Homeless service and housing providers offer case management to all clients, including referrals to health care professionals.

**Mental Health:**

In addition to the MHRSB, Stark County’s Board of Development Disabilities (SCDD) targets persons with developmental issues. There is also a strong partnership between several Stark County's Housing Providers who offer Permanent Supportive Housing and MHRSB agencies who provide the mental health and case management services for those most in need of these services. Community Services of Stark County, Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center and Coleman Behavioral Health also provide mental health case management assistance to other homeless individuals who are not in permanent supportive housing.

### **Employment Services:**

Assistance with employment is provided through a number of agencies: The Stark County Department of Job and Family Services operates a Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) Work Program providing employment services to recipients of Ohio Works First (OWF) cash assistance and Food Assistance. The Employment Source is a local workforce development and training center that connects job seekers with employers by providing numerous resources in a single location. The Stark County Community Action Agency operates the Center for Education and Employment Opportunities (CEEEO). Goodwill Industries offers job readiness assessment and training. Most CoC-funded programs offer referrals and some provide transportation assistance to employment/training opportunities and job fairs. For example, the Preparation for Adult Living Mission (P.A.L.), which operates transitional housing for homeless and disabled youth between the ages 18-24, provides employment services including job readiness skills, resume writing, job searching and interviewing skills. Other housing providers offer this type of assistance through their case workers.

**List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.**

Stark's CoC provides the full continuum of housing and services from emergency assistance to transitional and permanent housing. All CoC facilities provide housing/shelter with wrap-around services such as case management and linkage with other services including counseling, budgeting assistance, education, life skills training, meals, mainstream services through SCDJFS, mental health case management, and drug/alcohol abuse treatment. Homeless participants enter this housing with the understanding that they will engage in services appropriate to their individual needs through a service plan which is part of the programs contract and which is created by the provider and the participant working together. Service plans are modified as needed to adjust for a person's improvement (decreasing the level of services) or relapse/return to problem behavior (increasing the level of services). The success of the various programs is measured by a low turnover rate and by number of clients successfully exiting to permanent housing. Included in the accompanying list of services and facilities are programs specifically targeted to the needs of chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and transitional age youth.

## **MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)**

### **Introduction**

There are many agencies in the Canton/Stark County area that offer a comprehensive set of services to meet the needs of special needs populations. In addition to the homeless services described in the previous of this Plan, a network of providers also deliver housing and supportive services to people who are elderly or frail elderly, people with mental, physical and/or developmental disabilities, people with substance abuse addictions, individuals and their families living with HIV/AIDS, and youth aging out of foster care.

**Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs**

Elderly and frail elderly are served by the Area Agency on Aging with programs to help them remain in their homes instead of being placed in nursing homes. The Area Agency distributes federal, state and local funds to service providers. Numerous non-profit and for-profit providers of these in-home services are working in the community to assist this population. The Area Agency provides assessments, case management, information and referral to service agencies, and assists consumers of long-term care services with choices and concerns. The service providers assist with ongoing needs such as home maintenance, and in-home medical and non-medical assistance, including bathing, dressing, food preparation and housecleaning. There are multiple housing complexes in the area that serve seniors and disabled including public housing, tax credit developed housing, and other federally sponsored housing through private housing providers. These programs include on-site senior services and activities as well as case management where appropriate.

The community system for persons with development disabilities (DD) falls under the auspices of the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Stark DD). Individuals with developmental disabilities rely on SCDD to provide assistance, life-long learning and activities that add to the quality of life. Services include early intervention with children and educational services through school-age years. Adult services include workshops, supported employment, and job training programs. Stark DD also provides residential care in the community with appropriate supports based on individual needs. Individual supports include adult day services (employment, life skills, motor skill development, respite), transportation, home modification, meal and nutrition, and assistive equipment. Over 3,000 persons were served by SCDD in 2012.

Persons with mental health issues, and persons with alcohol or other drug addictions fall under the umbrella of the Mental Health and Recovery Service Board (MHR SB). The MHR SB provides the majority of funding for support services for these populations. The MHR SB Provider Network includes Canton

Community KidSummit Against Drugs, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health, Coleman Behavioral Health, the Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center, ICAN Housing Solutions, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Stark County, and Quest Recovery and Prevention Services.

Persons with HIV/AIDS are served by Community Services of Stark County (CSSC) which has one HOPWA program as well as counseling services.

For children aging out of foster care, and young adults, there is an active collaboration between SCDJF, Pathways Caring for Children (the largest foster care program), MHR SB, Community Services, and housing providers. Through the collaboration, case managers work with housing and service providers to place these young adults into the most appropriate housing available. MHR SB has a grant to assist with helping young adults with significant mental health and/or behavioral issues obtain housing with intensive support services. The YWCA TH program works directly with SCDJFS for placement of young adults who have lost custody or at risk of losing custody of their children. Through the housing placement and support services appropriate interventions assist the parent and break the intergenerational cycle of poor parenting and life skills. Community Services hosts The Shelter Program which provides housing support and services to young adults (ages 18-25) that are homeless or are in danger of becoming homeless and have mental health or mental health & substance abuse concerns.

### **Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing**

MHR SB has a specific protocol for persons returning from a mental health or substance recovery program. This protocol includes discharge planning, case manager assistance locating appropriate housing and advocacy for acceptance, and support services after housing placement. For persons with the most severe mental health issues, the protocol complies with state requirements for discharge planning for persons leaving institutions of care. Following the protocol that the MHR SB started several years ago in the Stark County Jail system, MHR SB created a system to track individuals with a mental health diagnosis while institutionalized.

An ongoing partnership exists between housing providers and mental health providers who offer case management under the auspices of the MHR SB for those with mental illness. MHR SB has an intense service program that includes visits to residents 5 days a week, to ensure that the resident is taking required medication, paying rent, and that basic needs are being met.

Using the CoC tier assessment process, appropriate housing programs are identified and application is made for housing. Housers include YWCA, SMHA, ICAN, and private landlords. Housing options include; Permanent Supportive Housing, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing based on need and level of severity of mental health and health issues. In addition, Canton has provided HOME funding to Freed Housing, the non-profit arm of SMHA, to provide tenant-based rental assistance to special needs persons .



All of these programs include support services and case management (appropriate to need level). Case management agencies include Phoenix Rising, Coleman Behavioral Health, and Community Services. Case management supportive services are detailed in individual service plans and cover a range of activities such as counseling, crisis intervention, advocacy, follow-up continued treatment, assistance with carrying out activities of daily living (ADLs), assistance in developing support systems, education, vocational training, and identification of obstacles barriers and new challenges to maintaining housing.

**Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)**

For 2014, the City of Canton has proposed to allocated a portion of its HOME funding to Freed Housing Corporation for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) serving special needs populations, enablshing such persons to secure affordable permanent housing and helping them achieve self-sufficiency. The City of Canton will also utilize CDBG funding to provide housing rehabilitation, repair and maintenance programs to lower income households, including senior citizen homeowners. By providing needed repairs and upgrading, this housing assistance enables low income seniors to maintain and remain in their homes, preserving their independence. In addition, the City of Canton operates a summer food voucher program, serving elderly persons, providing additional resoureces to support good nutrition and a healthier life style. The City of Canton will also continue its city-wide program of installing ADA curb ramps at various intersections to improve pedestrian mobility and accessibility.

Additionally, the City will continue working with the CoC in analyzing and addressing ongoing needs in the community.

**For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))**

As described above, the specific activities that the City of Canton plans to undertake in 2014 to address the housing and supportive services needs with respect to persons who are homeless but have other special needs include: Housing Rehabilitation and Repair/Maintenance Programs (HOME and CDBG), Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (HOME), ADA Curb Ramps (CDBG), and Food Vouchers (CDBG).

## **MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)**

### **Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment**

#### Land Development Policies

The City of Canton has a wide variety of residential districts. Four R-1 districts (R-1a, R-1b, R-1c and R-1d) are single-family zones at various densities. The two-family R-2 district allows duplexes. The R-3 garden and townhouse apartment district allows R-2 uses as well as multi-family dwellings less than 28 feet in height. R-4 allows all R-3 uses and multi-family dwellings up to 45 feet high. Single-family dwellings are also permitted in the municipal agriculture district, and most residential uses are permitted in the City's business districts.

The vast majority of residential space in the City is zoned R-1, leaving only extremely limited developable land available for the construction of multifamily housing. Multi-family housing represents an important affordable housing option for lower-income households. A lack of affordable housing may impede housing choice for LMI households.

Excessively large lot sizes may deter development of affordable housing. In Canton, the minimum lot size in R-1 districts ranges from 6,000 square feet per family (R-1a) to 43,560 square feet per family. While larger lot sizes are considered excessive relative to the development of affordable units, the zoning map demonstrates that many smaller-minimum areas exist throughout the City. Considered as a whole, the variety of R-1 districts provides for a wide variety of neighborhoods accommodating a range of housing types and levels of affordability. The minimum lot sizes for multi-family districts are also not considered prohibitive.

Allowing alternative designs provides opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing by reducing the cost of infrastructure spread out over a larger parcel of land. Alternative designs can promote other community development objectives, including agricultural preservation or protection of environmentally sensitive lands, while supporting the development of varied residential types. Consideration should be given to alternative design developments that seek to produce and preserve affordable housing options for working and lower income households.

#### Public Policies Regarding Investment of Federal Housing and Community Development Funds

Housing choice can also be affected by the allocation of staff and financial resources to housing related programs and initiatives. The City of Canton receives Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD under the Community Development Block (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to carry out projects designed to address priority needs such as decent affordable housing, safe neighborhoods, and access to needed services.

In addition, Canton has developed an Affirmative Marketing Policy. Under this policy, the City has obligations which include community outreach and education, while also requiring developers to advertise availability of HUD-assisted units with local minority newspapers and with applicable social service and housing agencies. The City annually assesses the effectiveness of the Affirmative Marketing Policy and the efforts taken by the City and HOME/CHDO participants.

Site selection for HOME-assisted construction of new rental units should promote greater choice of housing opportunities and avoid undue concentration of assisted persons in areas containing a high concentration of LMI households. The City identifies its southern two-thirds in the Consolidated Plan as an area of investment of entitlement funds by virtue of predominantly low- and moderate-income households and minority concentration. The City should expand housing choice by creating new housing opportunities in non-concentrated areas.

## **MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)**

### **Introduction**

The City of Canton is located in northeastern Ohio and is the county seat of Stark County. Canton was founded in 1805, and became a manufacturing center owing to its location with numerous railroad lines. Canton is the home of major manufacturers such as The Timken Company. After the decline of heavy manufacturing in the latter decades of the 20th century, the city's industry has since diversified to include a service economy, including retailing, education, financial, and healthcare sectors. Canton is home to such well-known national landmarks as the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame, the William McKinley Presidential Library/National Monument, and the National First Ladies Library and Research Center. Canton is also home to a vibrant arts community, including the Canton Symphony Orchestra and Canton Museum of Art as well as a local artists' community that is increasingly well-known in the region. World-class hospitals and five area universities contribute a great deal to residents' quality of life, along with the natural beauty of public parks and green spaces. With the cost of real estate estimated at less than half of the national average, Canton is considered an affordable community according to cost of living indices.

Due to its strategic location in northeast Ohio, Canton is strategically located at the crossroads of the Eastern and Midwestern U.S. markets. Within a 500 mile area, Canton provides companies with access to 30% of the total U.S. Personal Income; 30% of total U.S. Retail Sales and 30% of the U.S. population. The city's location also provides businesses with easy access to customers and supply chains. Other competitive advantages include the availability of a skilled workforce, a transportation hub, low-cost utility infrastructure, and local universities that collaborate with businesses to help them innovate and adapt, train and prepare employees for jobs in emerging technologies.

On a state-wide level, manufacturing is projected to maintain its share of total output, but increased productivity in this sector will likely result in a continued decline in employment. As a result, large manufacturers may not provide many new jobs, but they will be a major source of replacement jobs for those seeking employment in the future. Employment growth in manufacturing will most likely be seen in highly entrepreneurial companies that manufacture a product with global demand, invest heavily in new product innovations, and utilize efficient production processes.

The unemployment rate in Canton continues to be high 13.47% according to ACS data, with the unemployment particularly high for young adults ages 16-24 (34.76%). Unemployment remains a major issue within Canton's LMI neighborhoods. Within the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, the unemployment rate is 21.2%. The unemployment rate for Black/African American persons in Canton is 26.8% and is even higher for Black/African American males (31.2%).

Due to the high unemployment rate, there is a great need to expand economic development efforts in Canton. The City will continue to explore ways to invest CDBG funding to leverage new jobs through business expansions, including the establishment of emerging industries and small businesses. Coordination among the area service providers is needed to ensure the workforce is trained to meet the needs in growing sectors of the economy.

Education is the key to future business success and a revitalized local economy. Businesses need schools to help prepare students for an ever-more-sophisticated work future, a future driven by technology that is advancing at an amazing rate. Schools, colleges and universities need businesses to help them direct educational programs for 21st century learners and workers.

## Economic Development Market Analysis

### Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	75	53	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	3,780	3,275	12	6	-6
Construction	1,818	2,525	6	5	-1
Education and Health Care Services	7,981	17,014	24	31	7
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,337	2,121	4	4	0
Information	562	593	2	1	-1
Manufacturing	5,739	10,653	18	20	2
Other Services	1,698	3,127	5	6	1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	2,857	1,233	9	2	-7
Public Administration	792	2,589	2	5	3
Retail Trade	3,973	3,613	12	7	-5
Transportation and Warehousing	1,010	4,734	3	9	6
Wholesale Trade	1,068	3,021	3	6	3
Total	32,690	54,551	--	--	--

**Table 40 - Business Activity**

**Data Source:** 2005-2009 ACS (Workers), 2010 ESRI Business Analyst Package (Jobs)



## Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	37,777
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	32,690
Unemployment Rate	13.47
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	34.76
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	8.34

**Table 41 - Labor Force**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	7,431
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	68
Service	8,292
Sales and office	8,585
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	2,155
Production, transportation and material moving	6,159

**Table 42 – Occupations by Sector**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	25,180	81%
30-59 Minutes	4,460	14%
60 or More Minutes	1,500	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,140</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 43 - Travel Time**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

## Education:

### Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	2,537	556	3,524
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	10,623	1,500	4,612
Some college or Associate's degree	8,485	1,093	2,105

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Bachelor's degree or higher	4,419	215	643

**Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)				
Educational Attainment	In Labor Force			Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	
Less than high school graduate	2,537	556	18.0%	3,524
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	10,623	1,500	12.4%	4,612
Some college or Associate's degree	8,485	1,093	11.4%	2,105
Bachelor's degree or higher	4,419	215	4.6%	643

#### Educational Attainment by Employment Status

#### Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	148	180	239	891	1,066
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,679	1,384	1,027	2,896	2,449
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	3,341	3,722	4,621	8,392	4,233
Some college, no degree	2,718	2,820	2,336	3,880	1,274
Associate's degree	271	1,013	590	1,065	234
Bachelor's degree	476	1,087	1,006	1,486	568
Graduate or professional degree	24	607	356	735	270

**Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data



Educational Attainment by Age				
Educational Attainment	Age			
	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than high school graduate	14%	12%	20%	35%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	34%	45%	43%	42%
Some college or Associate's degree	26%	23%	20%	13%
Bachelor's degree or higher	25%	19%	17%	11%

### Educational Attainment by Age

### Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	14,007
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	21,151
Some college or Associate's degree	24,916
Bachelor's degree	38,927
Graduate or professional degree	44,837

**Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS Data

### Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

Canton has a rich manufacturing heritage, going back more than 100 years. However, like a lot of older communities in the Midwest, the City suffered from the decline in manufacturing that occurred in the latter decades of the 20th century. The Midwest had long been associated with heavy manufacturing such as the steel and automotive industries. Part of the reason for the area's early economic success was the presence of solid infrastructure in the form of railroads, canals, and navigable rivers that made the transport of manufactured goods relatively easy. After the Civil War, workers flooded into the area, both from overseas and from other parts of the U.S. As industry grew, Canton's population more than tripled in the years from 1900 – 1930, growing from 30,000 to over 100,000 persons.

Since the end of World War II, the area's share of U.S. industrial production has fallen dramatically. This, in turn, has led to decreases in the population of once booming factory cities as workers have moved elsewhere to find jobs. Today, the service industry accounts for a higher percentage of U. S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) than 20 years ago. The service sector includes the following types of industries:

- Trade, transportation and utilities
- Information
- Financial activities
- Professional and business services
- Education and health services
- Leisure and hospitality
- Government

For the City of Canton, in particular, education and health care services now represents the largest segment of employment, with 24% of all workers. Manufacturing is second with 18%, followed by retail and arts & entertainment, each with 12%. For example, according to a 2012 report issued by the Ohio Department of Development Policy Research and Strategic Planning Office, the Aultman Health Foundation now employs as many, if not more, persons than the Timken Company.

### **Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:**

#### Workforce Development

A major asset of the Canton/Stark County area is its labor force committed to high quality and productivity. The Canton area has been a successful location for business since the mid-nineteenth century. The area has produced generations of well-educated and diverse workers, which reflect the broad base of the area's economic mix.

Another major asset of the area is The Employment Source. The Employment Source provides excellent services for both employers and job seekers. Its Business Services Department was created to provide a single point of contact for employers to find qualified job candidates. The services provided are at no cost to the employer. Job seekers also have an array of services available to them at no cost, including workshops and a job matching system.

On a State-wide level, the Office of Workforce Development (OWD) administers federal programs that create a comprehensive statewide workforce system of employment services, hiring support, labor market information, and tax credits to employers and workers. The OWD supports One-Stop centers like the Employment Source. The OWD also administers Workforce Investment Act programs. The Dislocated Worker Program is designed to assist laid-off employees in obtaining new jobs with comparable wages. OWD also partners with the Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio Department of Development, the Governor's Office and the U.S. Department of Labor.

#### Infrastructure Needs

The aging infrastructure in many older Canton neighborhoods often makes development more expensive. Most streets in the City are asphalt or concrete paved, although there are still some residential neighborhoods with brick-paved streets.

Through its highway improvement, CDBG, and Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Programs, the City of Canton is addressing the needs to improve and redevelop major commercial/industrial corridors of the City. Canton, with the assistance of state and federal funds, is planning corridor projects totaling \$50 million. The so-called “complete streets” concept goes beyond paving roads and upgrading drainage. The projects call for improved walkways, ornamental lighting and shared lanes for buses and bikes. A bulk of the work will be along the Mahoning Road and 12th Street corridor. Other work includes the recently completed Walnut Avenue “transit corridor.” The project faced several years of delays until the state announced plans to inject \$15 million. Work on Mahoning Road will begin in 2014.

Sidewalks line almost all of the city’s streets on both sides. Well maintained sidewalks are important to overall health, safety and livability of residential neighborhoods. However, many of the city’s sidewalks are in disrepair, and the City should consider ways to encourage and promote sidewalk repair and maintenance.

Adequate street lighting can also add to the safety and security of neighborhoods. Like sidewalks, street light maintenance and replacement is also an issue within the community. The City is considering a program to install more energy efficient LED-type lighting throughout the City.

The City of Canton is currently undertaking the renovation of its Water Treatment Plant, which is being gutted and refurbished to handle the City’s future water needs. With these improvements in place, the City will be able to meet Canton’s drinking water needs for the next several decades.

**Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.**

#### Oil and Gas Industry – Shale Development

An event that is promising a significant impact to Ohio and the Canton area economy is the discovery of vast Marcellus and Utica shale deposits in the state. The extraction of oil and gas resources from the these shales in Ohio is still in its early stages, but hold the promise to provide an economic boom to the state, similar to what has occurred in states like Pennsylvania, North Dakota and Texas. Energy companies have invested over \$2 billion on energy leases in the Utica shale area. As horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing activities expand locally and nationwide, so will these companies’ revenues, which can be reinvested in their companies and local economies. In addition, the Canton area’s involvement in oil shale drilling could attract new manufacturers to the area, creating more job opportunities for area workers and supplementing local tax revenue.

While the economic potential created by drilling the Utica Shale is considerable, there are environmental, health and safety concerns that must be addressed to ensure the wellbeing of Stark County residents. Some challenges – like excessive traffic to and from drill sites – are related to

transportation infrastructure, noise and other issues that could continue during the 10-15 year development phase. Others, like potential water contamination, hydrocarbon emissions and hazards from faulty well completions can have serious, long-term implications. These issues deserve study and analysis and policy formulation as this industry moves forward.

### Downtown Development

Several projects slated for downtown, either under construction or in the planning stages, could have a major impact on the City. These include:

- Stark State College's Energy Campus - Stark State has announced plans to buy the Cornerstone II building, 400 Third St. SE, for \$4.9 million for its Satellite Center and Energy Institute. The campus could begin offering classes in late 2014 or early 2015. Ohio gave Stark State \$10 million for the project.
- Sale of McKinley Grand Hotel - A national real estate development, investment and management company is currently negotiating for the sale of the downtown McKinley Grand hotel, which opened in 1986. This developer recently purchased the adjacent 11-story Huntington Plaza and parking deck.
- Eric Snow YMCA - Slated to open in January 2014, the new 27,000-square-foot , \$5 million YMCA replaces the former downtown facility that's been closed since 2008.
- Corridor projects - The city, using state and federal highway funds, is planning corridor projects totaling \$50 million. The so-called "complete streets" concept goes beyond paving roads and upgrading drainage. The projects call for improved walkways, ornamental lighting and shared lanes for buses and bikes. A bulk of the work will be along the Mahoning Road and 12th Street corridor. Other work includes the recently completed Walnut Avenue "transit corridor." Work on Mahoning Road will begin in 2014.
- Revitalization of the former Hercules Engine Co. site - A private developer has secured financing of the \$28 million first phase of the Hercules redevelopment project, which would include 95 market-rate apartments. Long-term plans for the 26-acre site have included retail shops, a boutique hotel and a convention center. The site at Market Avenue S and 11th Street SE has qualified for state and federal historic tax credits.
- Renovation of the Onesto Hotel - The nearly \$7 million project was announced way back in 2002, but has met with numerous delays. The developer continues to work on this restoration project, which could provide needed downtown market-rate housing.

### **How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?**

To meet employment opportunities in a modern economy, an economy increasingly driven by fast paced and ever changing technology improvements, education will be a key component in workforce development. ACS data in the Table "Educational Attainment by Employment Status" indicates that

unemployment is higher among those persons with less education, including lack of a high school diploma.

ACS data in the Table "Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months" also shows that median income is higher for persons with a higher level of educational attainment. In addition, as summarized from ACS Table "Educational Attainment by Age", the level of educational attainment is higher among younger age levels.

These tables show the need for additional education and workforce training for Canton residents, particularly those in older age groups, to prepare them for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

**Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.**

There are a variety of workforce training initiatives and opportunities available in the Canton area, including the following:

Stark State College - has been awarded more than \$3.26 million from the Department of Labor and the Timken Foundation to fund oil and gas related labs and equipment at the Energy Innovation Center of its Downtown Canton Satellite Center scheduled for completion in 2015. Funding will cover curriculum development for new associate degrees and certificates related to the emerging oil and gas industry, as well as costs associated with creating and supplying training labs for commercial driver's license, computers, geographic information systems (GIS), geology, valves, and welding. Funding will also cover the development of a ShaleNET-US and lease operator lab which includes mock-ups and supplies for well head, tank battery, pumping well, natural gas compressor and production/well site training.

The Employment Source – is northeastern Ohio's premier workforce development and training center that connects job seekers with employers by providing numerous resources in a single location. It is a free service made possible through funds provided by the U.S. Department of Labor and operated locally by the Workforce Investment Board, the Stark and Tuscarawas County Commissioners and the Mayor of the City of Canton. Services for job seekers include on-line job openings linked with the State database, job search workshops, career research library, and use of research equipment for preparation of resumes, accessing employer information, and scheduling job interviews.

The Stark County Community Action Agency Center for Education and Employment Opportunities (CEEEO) - offers education, skills training, and employment assistance to help program participants become better-prepared for the job search. Obtaining secure, gainful employment that will provide economic self-sufficiency can be challenging for even the most qualified candidates. Add to that the barriers of an unstable work history, lack of marketable skills, or a criminal background, and it can be next to impossible. Current Courses and Services Offered include: Adult Basic Education (ABE) Classes, GED Preparation ; Job Readiness Skills; and Computer Training.

Goodwill Industries provides a comprehensive set of services designed to improve employment skills, including: vocational evaluation, career counseling, work-related skills training, jobs seeking assistance, as well as operating a Work Experience Program, a Center for Entrepreneurial Success, and Developmental Disabilities Services.

The Stark Education Partnership, Inc., is a 501(c)-3 non-profit education reform support organization in Stark County, Ohio crossing the lines of 17 public school districts. The Partnership collaborates with educators, business, community and civic leaders to create and respond to opportunities that will add substantial and measurable value to education. Program such as the high school based dual credit (HSBDC) program work to overcome the issues of college access and affordability for the county's most underrepresented students. In 2001, fewer than half the students graduating from high school in Stark County went to college.

In 2007 the SCESC, representing all 17 schools districts and six local colleges and universities, formed the first local Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on dual credit. The result has been phenomenal and sustained growth, not only in HSBDC but in other post-secondary opportunities for Stark County students. In scarcely a decade, Stark County has seen its direct college-going rate increase to 63%, effectively matching the state average of 62.7% and the national average of 63.3%. The county's "within two-year" college-going rate is even more dramatic at 73%.

**Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?**

Yes

**If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.**

In 1978, NEFCO (Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization) was designated as an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the counties of Portage, Stark, Summit, and Wayne. This designation gives member communities ongoing eligibility for economic assistance programs through the EDA. NEFCO maintains this eligibility by updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), an annual document required by the EDA and containing the region's goals and objectives, and the economic development priorities of NEFCO members.

Every three years, NEFCO prepares a Revised Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS, which represents the consensus of NEFCO's membership, articulates the economic development planning priorities of the region. NEFCO's regional economic development planning program strives to grow the region's economy through collaborative planning efforts with NEFCO's area governments and by providing assistance in activities that:

- Promote a diversified and sustainable economy
- Support the most economically distressed areas of the region
- Capitalize on the region's existing strengths and assist with efforts to promote innovation and technology
- Ensure the efficient use and development of land and resources.

Canton is a participating member in NEFCO, and as such, participates in the development of the CEDS. Canton projects listed in the CEDS Priority List include the Mahoning Road Corridor, the I-77 and Faircrest Interchange Area, and the Stark Ceramics property at the east end of the City. All of these projects, in particular, the Mahoning Road Corridor, are developments which could be coordinated with the City's Consolidated Plan, based upon their location and economic impact on the community.

## **Discussion**

The City of Canton has a large array of assets and incentives to offer businesses and companies who are looking to expand their operations locally or build new operations in the city.

### Limitless Water Supply

For companies that need large amounts of fresh water for processing or manufacturing, the City of Canton owns and operates one of the largest underground freshwater aquifers in the state.

### Site-Ready Facilities

The City of Canton has a wide variety of out-of-the-box facilities and build-ready sites to offer to companies that need large amounts of space for research, offices, or manufacturing.

### Global Access

The City can help companies compete in the global economy by partnering with state trade offices in more than a dozen countries, giving local businesses access to markets, suppliers, and customers outside of the United States. Also, with a Foreign Trade Zone (see [www.neotec.org](http://www.neotec.org) for more information) located only minutes from downtown, products can be shipped or received worldwide.

### Public/Private Partnerships

Local businesses benefit from a number of grants, tax incentives, and low-interest loans from city, county, state, federal, and private/non-profit sources. Companies also have access to a wide variety of services offered by the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

### Workforce

By working closely with its local partners in secondary and higher education, the City tries to ensure that local companies possess a workforce of skilled and highly-trained employees to operate their businesses.

#### Passenger Air Travel

The Akron-Canton Regional Airport (CAK) is one of the fastest growing airports in the country. The low cost and efficiency of CAK gives local companies the freedom to conduct business around the country without having to worry about long lines and highly-priced fares. With \$110 million in expansions planned over the next ten years, CAK will be positioned to offer more domestic and international flights than ever before.

#### Highway Transit

Canton is located at the intersection of two major highway systems - I-77 and US-30 - connecting businesses to more than 50% of the nation's population in less than a day's travel. This gives businesses the freedom to deliver their products to an ever-growing customer base both quickly and efficiently.

#### Rail Freight Service

The Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Co. operates more than 800 miles of freight line stretching from western Ohio into Pennsylvania, with additional trackage rights into Maryland. The Wheeling serves Canton, Toledo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Akron markets. The Norfolk Southern Corporation provides freight service to Cleveland, Toledo, and Norfolk, VA.

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#### Business Incentive Programs

In addition to these assets, the City of Canton offers several programs that provide incentives to companies looking to locate or expand:

- Income Tax Incentive programs, such as the Job Creation Incentive Program and the Net Profit Tax Incentive.
- Property Tax Incentives, such as the Enterprise Zone Program, Tax Increment Financing, and Community Reinvestment Areas.
- Economic development financial assistance.



## **MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion**

### **Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

The City of Canton has analyzed 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) data to determine whether or not there are areas of the City with concentrations of households with multiple housing problems. For purposes of this discussion, a concentration of households with multiple housing problems is expected to occur when the percentage of such households is 10 or more percentage points higher than the percentage for the City as a whole.

Multiple housing problems include one or more of the following: lacking complete plumbing facilities, lacking complete kitchen facilities, housing costs greater than 30% of income, and having more than one person per room. According to the ACS 2006-2010 data, 37.5% of the households in the City of Canton have multiple housing problems. The following census tracts have a concentration of households (as defined above) with multiple housing problems: 7003, 7013, 7018, 7123, and 7132.02. Census Tracts 7123 and 7132.02 are located on the periphery of the City and contain only a few residents in each area. For this reason, these two tracts will not be part of the following discussion.

Census Tract 7003 is located on the City's northeast side, north of Mahoning Road NE, east of Harrisburg Road NE, west of Grace and Gridley Avenues NE, and south of 30th Street NE. According to ACS Data, 52.0% of the households in this census tract have multiple housing problems. HUD LMI statistics indicate that this area has 62.5% low-moderate income (LMI) population. ACS data reports that this census tract has a poverty rate of 44.8%, a homeownership rate of 59.8%, and a Black/African American population percentage of 37.6%.

Census Tract 7018 is also located on the City's northeast side, south of 12th Street and Mahoning Road NE, east of Cherry Avenue NE, north of the railroad and 8th Street NE, and west of Trump Road NE. According to ACS Data, 50.5% of the households in this census tract have multiple housing problems. HUD LMI Statistics indicate that this area has 75.4% LMI population. ACS data reports that this census tract has a poverty rate of 43.3%, a homeownership rate of 49.5%, and a Black/African American population percentage of 55.5%.

Census Tract 7013 is located on the City's southwest side, south of Tuscarawas Street, east of Maryland Avenue SW, north of Navarre Road, and west of Harrison Avenue SW. According to ACS Data, 58.6% of the households in this census tract have multiple housing problems. HUD LMI Statistics indicate that this area has 56.7% LMI population. ACS data reports that this census tract has a poverty rate of 31.4%, a homeownership rate of 49.7%, and a Black/African American population percentage of 4.4%.

By way of comparison, the City as a whole has a poverty rate of 27.1%, a homeownership rate of 56.4%, and a Black/African American population percentage of 22.5%. Canton's percentage of residents that are low or moderate income, according to HUD LMI statistics, is 56.3%.

As was discussed at length in the Needs Assessment portion of the Consolidated Plan, there are a large number of households, including a large number of LMI households, impacted by one or more housing problems. While three of the City's many census tracts do contain a higher than average percentage of households with housing problems, the City concluded from its prior analysis that households with housing problems are found in all areas of the City and that additional factors need to be included in the Needs and Market Analysis. This discussion will now turn to an analysis of areas with concentrations of low income families or minority residents.

**Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

Areas of Concentration – Low Income Households

The Needs Assessment section of the Consolidated Plan concluded that a significant portion of the City's low income population is impacted by multiple housing problems. To determine if there are areas of the City with a concentration of low income families, the City utilized the HUD online CPD Maps Program to review 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) Data. The City analyzed Census Tract level ACS Data for Rate of Poverty and for PerCent of Households at or below 50% Area Median Income.

The City considers a Census Tract to have a high concentration of low income persons if those tracts had Poverty Rates or 50% LMI Rates that exceed the overall City rates by 10 percentage points or more.

According to ACS Data, the following Census Tracts have a high concentration of poverty:

7001 (40.0%), 7003 (44.8%), 7015 (45.3%), 7018 (43.3%), 7023 (63.0%), 7124 (49.6%), and 7131 (38.9%). The poverty rate for the City as a whole is 27.1%.

The following Census Tracts have a high concentration of low income persons :

7001 (58.2%), 7015 (53.3%), 7018 (55.0%), 7021 (47.6%), 7023 (65.1%), and 7124 (70.1%). The percentage of City of Canton residents with incomes at or below 50% of the area median income is 36.8%.

Areas of Concentration – Minority Households

The City of Canton has reviewed 2006-2010 ACS Data to determine if there are areas of the City with a concentration of minority households. The City considers a Census Tract to have a high concentration of minority households if the percentage rate of Black/African American households in the tract is more than 10 percentage points larger than the percentage rate for the City (22.5%).

The following Census Tracts were found to have a high concentration of minority households:

7003 (37.6%), 7005 (39.6%), 7018 (55.5%), 7021 (72.9%), 7023 (62.6%), 7124 (55.3%), and 7131 (63.3%).

Please refer to the maps and charts attached at the end of this discussion for further information regarding this analysis.

### Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area

In 2013, the City of Canton designated two areas of the City as Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA). A NRSA, per HUD guidelines, is an area where at least 70% of the residents are LMI persons, and where the local government proposes a multi-year comprehensive approach to revitalization efforts. The City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Program was created as an amendment to the FY 2013 Annual Action Plan and it is being carried forward into the new 5-Year Consolidated Plan for 2014-2018. The two areas that have been designated are known as the Eastside NRSA and the Central NRSA.

The Eastside NRSA includes the neighborhoods around East Tuscarawas Street, Sherrick Road, and Mahoning Road and includes the following Census Tracts – 7018, 7021, and 7023. The Central NRSA includes the downtown area and the surrounding neighborhoods to the west from Navarre Road to 12th Street NW and includes the following Census Tracts – 7001, 7015, 7017. As was detailed in the prior section, the City's NRSA areas represent neighborhoods with high concentrations of low income households, minority households, and households with housing problems.

### **What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?**

The Eastside and Central NRSAs are two areas faced with many social and economic challenges. The Eastside NRSA is an area where 60% of the residents are Black or African American, a percentage that is 2½ times larger than the City as a whole. The Eastside NRSA is plagued by a high degree of poverty (45%), a very low median household income (\$18,700), high unemployment (25%), a high percentage of adults over 25 without a high school diploma (30%), below average percentage of owner-occupied housing (45%) with low median housing values (\$54,000), a high rate of vacant housing (18%), and relatively high housing overcrowding (2.7%). 43.2% of the households in the Eastside NRSA receive some type of public assistance. The Central NRSA has suffered significant population losses in the last 10 years (20%), and is also characterized by a high degree of poverty (39%), a very low median household income (\$21,200), high unemployment (17%), a high percentage of adults over 25 without a high school diploma (24%), a low percentage of owner-occupied housing (37%), and a very high number of vacant housing units (25%). In addition, the Hispanic population in this area has increased 115% over the past 10 years, with 4.6% of the population foreign born, and 3.7% of the population over 5 years of who do speak English "less than well". Just under 32% of the population receives some form of public assistance.

Attached charts provide a breakdown of the population within each NRSA compared with the City of Canton as a whole, including data by race as well as by Hispanic ethnicity. The Eastside NRSA is a

predominantly minority area, with 60.1% of the population being Black or African American, 6.6% two or more races, and 31.6% White. The percentage of Hispanic residents, however, is smaller than the City as a whole. The Central NRSA population is 63.5% White, 27% Black or African American, with 5.9 % of the population being of two or more races. The percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents is over 1½ times larger than for the City as a whole. Another chart highlights a variety of demographic factors and statistics regarding income, poverty, and unemployment for residents within the two NRSA areas. These indicators demonstrate the barriers to economic empowerment for NRSA households. Poverty and educational achievement are closely linked. The lack of a high school diploma can make it exceptionally difficult to find work and improve one's socio-economic standing, perpetuating the cycle of generational poverty. Similar barriers to economic empowerment are faced by households headed by single females, which are far likelier to fall below the poverty line.

Another attached chart demonstrates the range of housing problems found in the City's two NRSA areas, including low homeownership and housing values, coupled with high vacancy rates and housing overcrowding. The Eastside NRSA faces many types of housing problems, including less than 50% homeownership, high vacancy rates, low median home values, and higher than average housing overcrowding. In the Central NRSA vacancy rates are very high (25%), 61% of the residents are renters, and 73% of the structures were constructed prior to 1939. Combining such factors as the low incomes among residents, the high number of rental properties and the large number of vacant/abandoned units all add up to severe housing issues for this part of the City. The City's two NSRA areas have been hardest hit by economic decline and population loss. Much of the housing stock in the NRSAs, both owner occupied and rental properties, suffers from disinvestment and lack of maintenance.

### **Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?**

The housing problems identified in these two NRSA areas can be linked to additional problems, such as increased crime, neighborhood tensions, and lack of business investment. The City has been somewhat successful in initiating some housing programs in the downtown, promoting the area to artists and young professionals. However, more needs to be done to improve existing housing conditions for the current residents, homeowners as well as renters, the majority of who are low income, with limited resources and options. These NRSA areas also need to be upgraded to attract private housing investment, to rehabilitate existing structures and to construct new market rate developments to improve the economic diversity within these neighborhoods. More low income family housing is not the answer for these neighborhoods. Rather the solution will involve the demolition and removal of vacant/dilapidated structures, the rehabilitation of existing housing already occupied by low and moderate income families, and the rehab/restoration of existing housing and the development of new housing for middle and higher income families. These goals are interconnected and will not be accomplished easily or quickly but will require a long term, comprehensive approach by the City, in cooperation with local housing providers, neighborhood organizations, and private developers, to achieve the ideal result - suitable, livable, sustainable neighborhoods.

These City's NRSA areas do have a number of community assets, including the following:

Neighborhood Associations - the City of Canton has encouraged the establishment of neighborhood associations to empower citizens to become involved with and actively work toward improving their neighborhoods. Within the City's two NRSA areas, there are a number of existing neighborhood associations. The City will continue to work closely with these groups to help identify and resolve problems that continue to impact the quality of life in these neighborhoods.

Southeast Community Center - Built in 1985 with a \$2.2 million Community Development grant and United Way funds, the Edward L. Coleman Southeast Community Center, located at 1400 Sherrick Road SE, has been a neighborhood hub for over 25 years. The multipurpose center features a full-sized gymnasium, weight room, game room, community room, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, playground, tennis courts and Crenshaw Park.

J.R. Coleman Center - Founded in 1974 as an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Catholic Church, J.R. Coleman Center comprises several 501(c)(3) private not for profit organizations that share a common mission to assist families and individuals in achieving and maintaining independence, security and personal well-being.

Nimisilla Park - Once home to the Stark County Fairgrounds, the Canton Garden Center, and a fondly remembered zoo, the area now known as Nimisilla Park, located at the corner of 12th Street and Maple Avenue NE, has entertained thousands of families for more than a century on the northeast side of Canton.

### **Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?**

The Eastside NRSA includes a number of neighborhood commercial corridors: Mahoning Road, 12th Street, East Tuscarawas Street, and portions of Cherry Street. Some of these are more vibrant and active than others, but most support a variety of retail and service activities. The primary commercial corridors in the Central NRSA include Market Avenue, Cleveland Avenue, West Tuscarawas Street, and McKinley Avenue.

Neighborhood commercial corridors, as well as the City's Central Business District, struggled in the economic climate of the 1970's and 1980's, which favored strip mall development and big box stores with acres of automobile parking. As urban cities seek to revitalize themselves in the 21st century, a resurgence of public appreciation for walkable, urban neighborhoods can help encourage the type of neighborhood improvements envisioned by the NRSA Program. A program to revitalize the City's commercial corridors will, by necessity, include funding for activities such as façade rehabilitation/restoration and streetscape improvements to make these areas attractive for investment.

Revitalization of the City's Central Business District has been underway for several years. Older office buildings have been refurbished and restored, attracting new workers downtown. Trendy restaurants

and artist galleries have opened. And there is an organized series of events like First Friday, and music concerts, that serve to attract the general public to sample what downtown has to offer.

To carry this approach into the surrounding NRSA areas, the City recognizes that its investment in housing and neighborhood revitalization must include incentives to rehabilitate and reoccupy vacant, underused, and abandoned commercial buildings.

MA-50 Chart	% of households with 1 of 4 housing unit problems		Poverty Rate		% of households with income = 50% HAMFI		% Black or African American	
Census Tract	PerCent	High Concentration	PerCent	High Concentration	PerCent	High Concentration	PerCent	High Concentration
39151700100	18.51	No	39.98	Yes	58.21	Yes	31.83	No
39151700200	25.35	No	22.46	No	30.36	No	25.26	No
39151700300	52.02	Yes	44.83	Yes	44.44	No	37.64	Yes
39151700400	44.63	No	14.11	No	31.40	No	24.54	No
39151700500	37.01	No	32.65	No	44.88	No	39.57	Yes
39151700600	44.76	No	25.77	No	34.62	No	29.43	No
39151700700	27.00	No	15.63	No	28.42	No	5.15	No
39151700800	44.08	No	20.70	No	31.36	No	20.77	No
39151701000	43.43	No	28.34	No	35.06	No	8.19	No
39151701100	36.39	No	22.57	No	25.51	No	6.71	No
39151701200	25.54	No	22.59	No	32.00	No	9.56	No
39151701300	58.58	Yes	31.37	No	44.01	No	4.36	No
39151701500	41.61	No	45.27	Yes	53.28	Yes	11.60	No
39151701700	46.09	No	29.22	No	40.43	No	29.76	No
39151701800	50.50	Yes	43.34	Yes	55.00	Yes	55.45	Yes
39151702100	42.12	No	36.27	No	47.56	Yes	72.90	Yes
39151702300	41.09	No	63.02	Yes	65.09	Yes	62.56	Yes
39151702500	35.23	No	22.24	No	33.33	No	3.63	No
39151711600	23.08	No	30.46	No	23.08	No	6.90	No
39151711700	31.43	No	12.82	No	22.57	No	1.11	No
39151711800	40.48	No	20.16	No	28.57	No	20.78	No
39151712201	21.69	No	5.23	No	10.84	No	0.00	No
39151712202	25.41	No	1.59	No	6.63	No	3.50	No
39151712400	17.20	No	49.62	Yes	70.97	Yes	55.31	Yes
39151713100	40.63	No	38.90	Yes	40.63	No	63.25	Yes
Canton City	37.54		27.12		36.76		22.52	

**Chart - Areas of Concentration: Housing Problems, Poverty, Race**

Population: 2010 Census Summary File 1	Eastside NRSA		Central NRSA		Canton	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population:	8,768	100.0%	7,488	100.0%	73,007	100.0%
White	2,775	31.6%	4,753	63.5%	50,458	69.1%
Black or African American	5,270	60.1%	2,023	27.0%	17,666	24.2%
American Indian/Alaska Native	59	0.7%	101	1.3%	349	0.5%
Asian	9	0.1%	18	0.2%	253	0.3%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	4	0.0%	15	0.2%	35	0.0%
Some Other Race	72	0.8%	134	1.8%	734	1.0%
Two or More Races	579	6.6%	444	5.9%	3,512	4.8%
Hispanic or Latino:	169	1.9%	351	4.7%	1,899	2.6%

**Chart - NRSA Population Data**

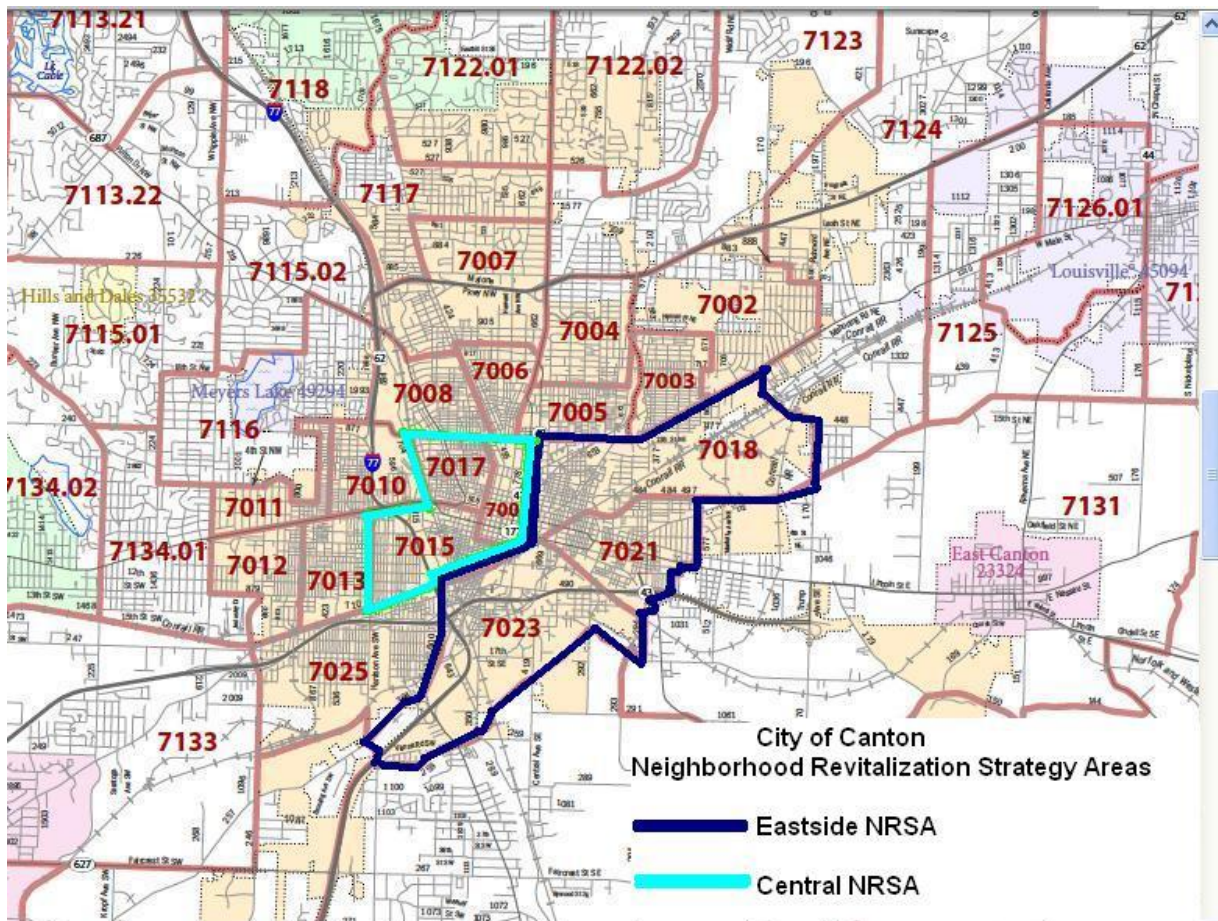
Demographic Data	Eastside NRSA	Central NRSA	Canton
Low-Moderate Income Persons*	74.8%	70.1%	56.3%
Female Headed Households	58.3%	43.8%	48.0%
Median Household Income	\$18,738	\$21,207	\$30,043
Poverty Rate - Households	45.2%	39.4%	25.6%
Poverty Rate - Female Headed Households	55.9%	51.2%	38.9%
Adults over 25 without High School Diploma	30.3%	24.1%	19.2%
Unemployment Rate	24.9%	17.0%	13.7%
Households without Access to a Vehicle	25.0%	28.7%	15.7%
Households Receiving Public Assistance	43.2%	31.8%	24.7%
Percent Foreign Born Persons	0.9%	4.6%	2.1%
Persons Over 5 who speak English "Not Well"	0.2%	3.7%	0.9%
2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates			
* HUD Census 2000 Low and Moderate Income Summary Data			

**Chart - NRSA Demographic Data**



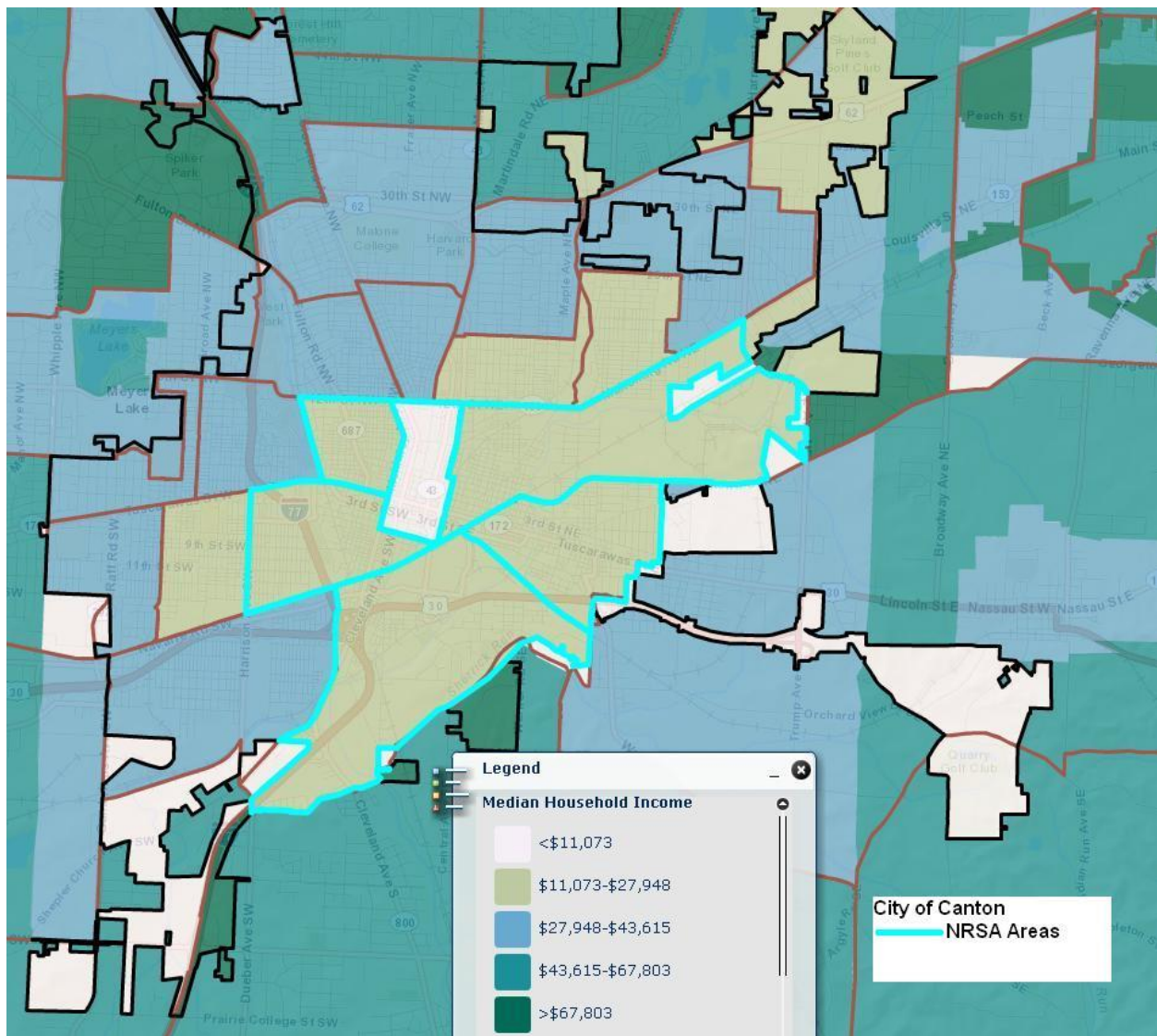
Housing Data	Eastside NRSA	Central NRSA	Canton
No. of Housing Units	5,045	4,257	35,952
1 Unit, Detached Structures	62.1%	52.4%	67.5%
Owner Occupancy Rate	45.9%	38.9%	56.4%
Owner Occupancy Rate - Black Householder	41.9%	37.1%	38.7%
Renter Occupancy Rate	54.1%	61.1%	43.6%
Vacancy Rate	18.3%	25.1%	14.5%
Housing Units Built 1939 or Earlier	48.1%	72.6%	45.7%
1.01 or more occupants per room	2.7%	2.5%	1.5%
Median gross rent	\$363	\$474	\$535
Median Value Owner Occupied Housing	\$54,400	\$65,625	\$82,000
2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates			

Chart - NRSA Housing Data

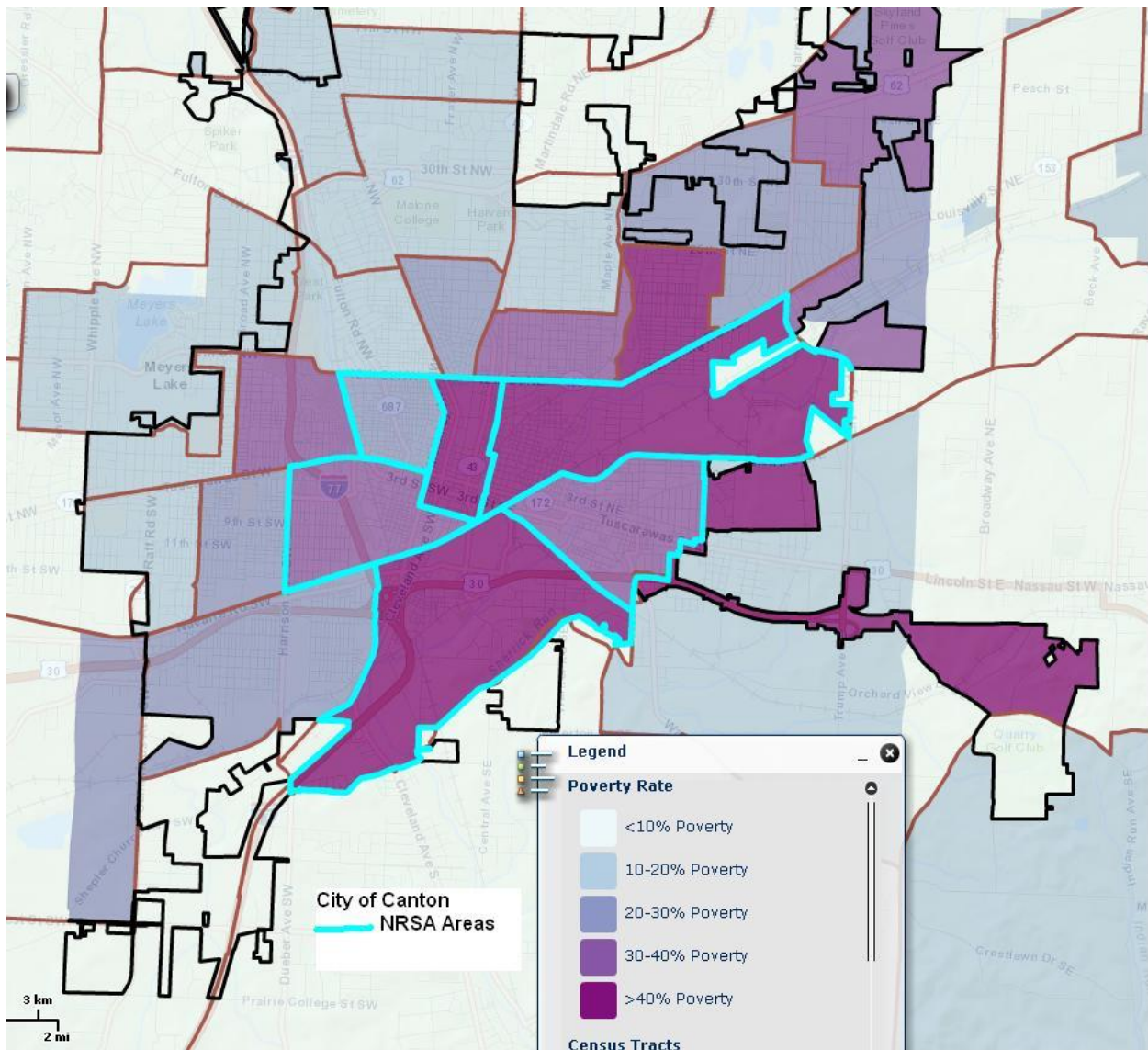


Map - NRSA Area/Census Tracts

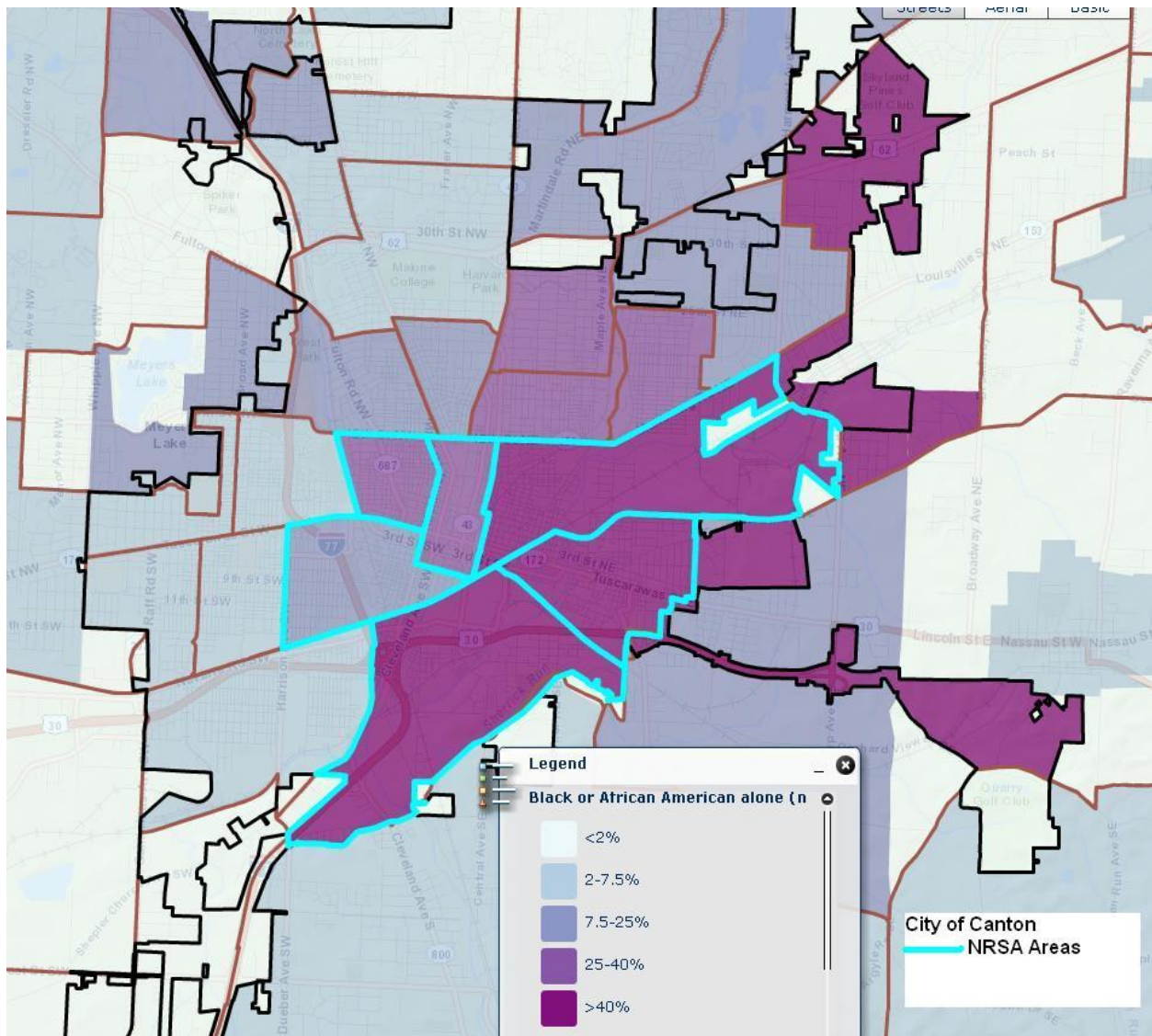




Map - Canton/NRSA Median Household Income

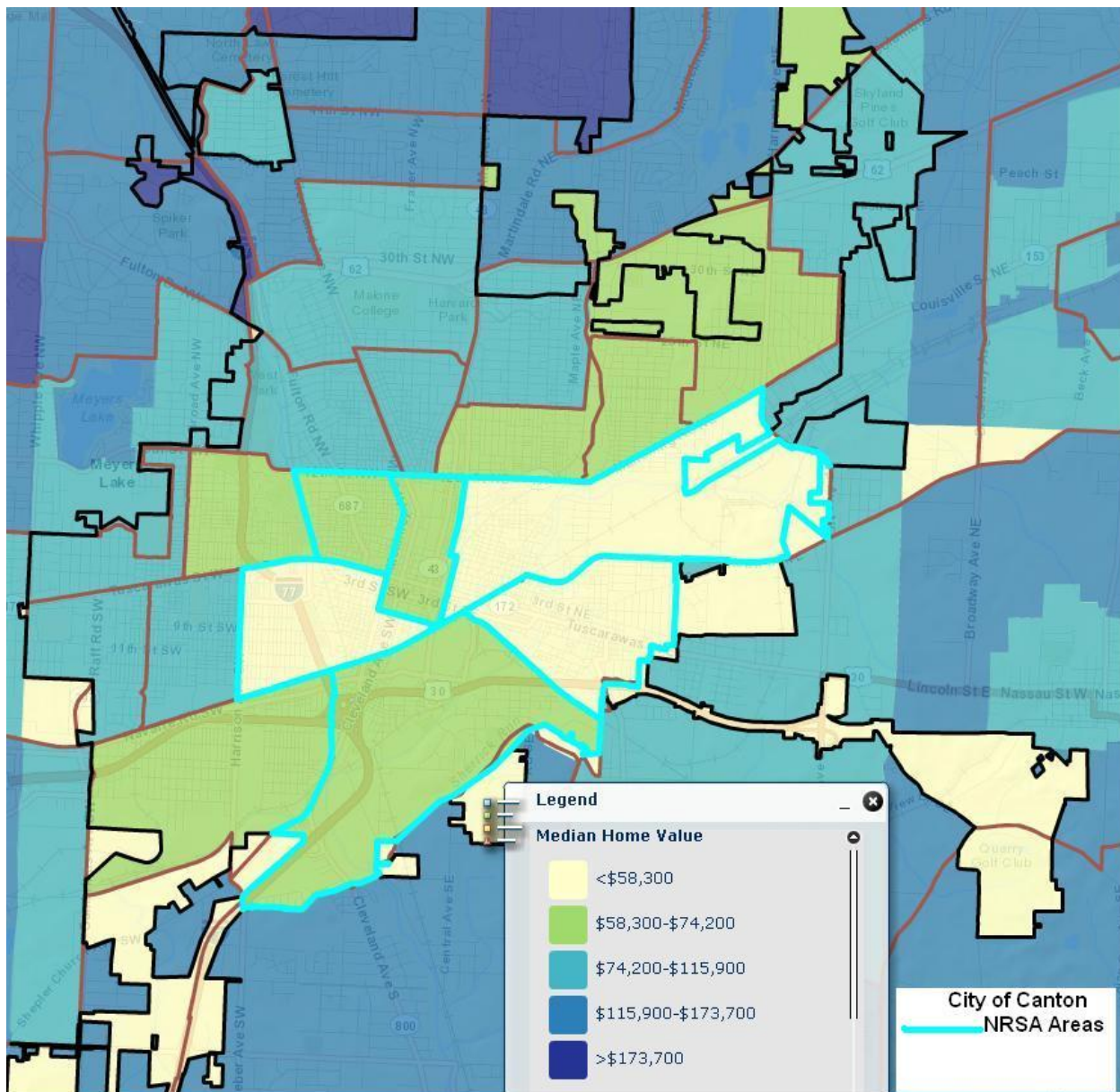


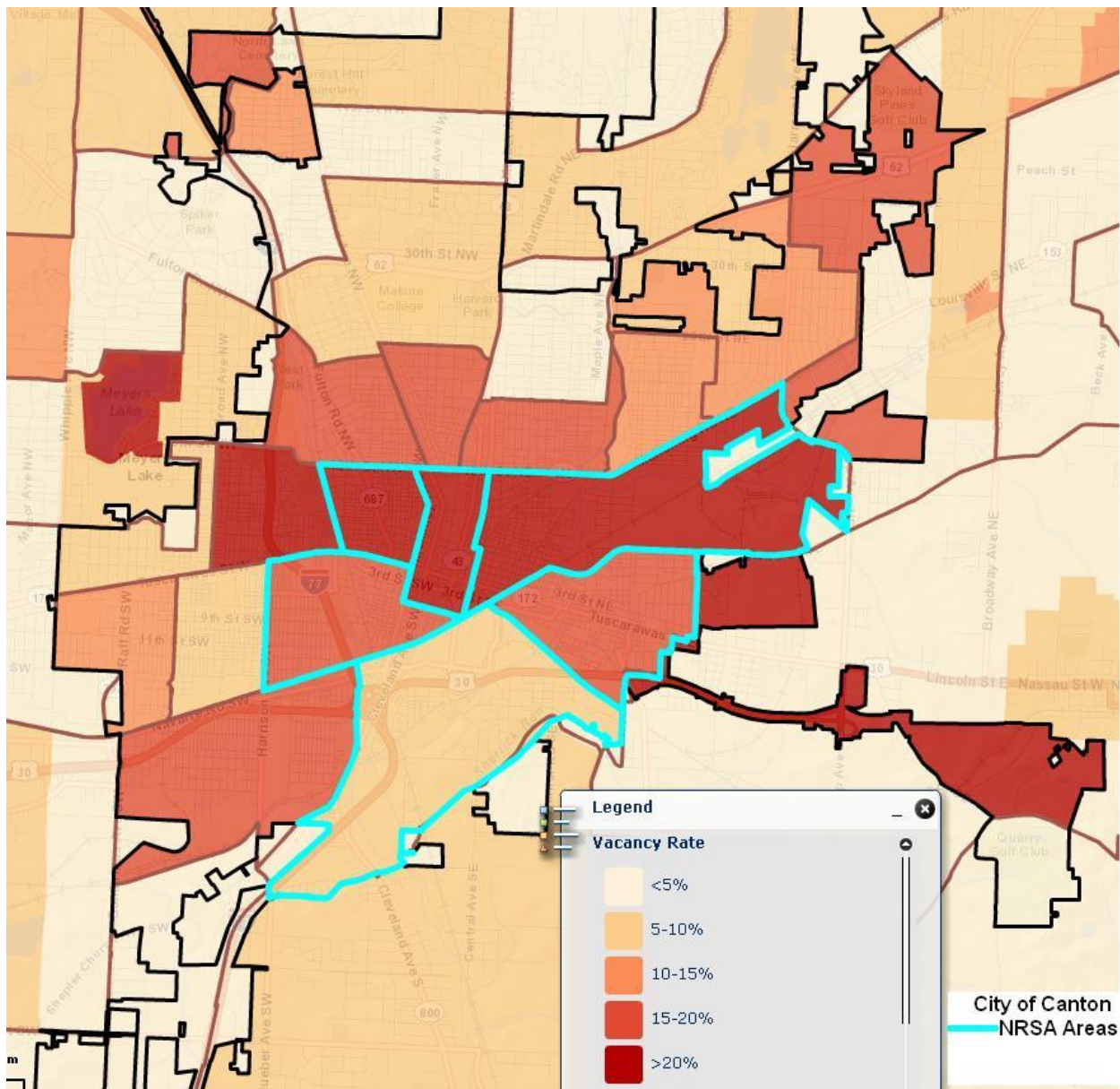
**Map - Canton/NRSA Poverty Rates**



Map - Canton/NRSA Black/African American Population

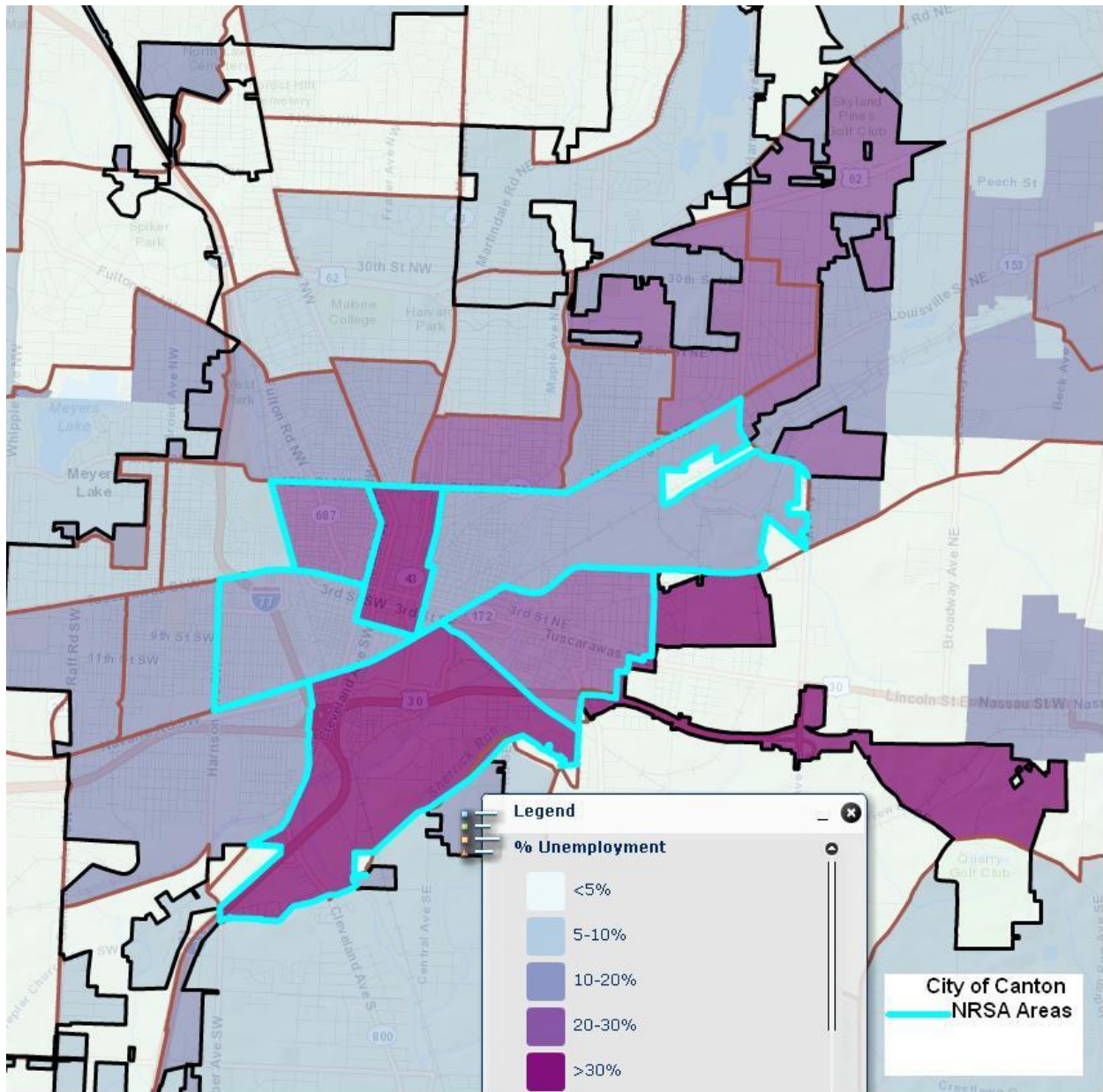






Map - Canton/NRSA Housing Vacancy Rates





**Map - Canton/NRSA Unemployment Rates**

# Strategic Plan

## SP-05 Overview

### Strategic Plan Overview

The Strategic Plan summarizes the City of Canton's community development, housing and economic development priorities, goals and strategies for program years 2014 through 2018 that will be pursued through the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

### Geographic Priorities

#### Geographic Priorities

In 2013, the City of Canton established two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs): the Eastside NRSA, which incorporates portions of the northeast and southeast sides of the City, and the Central NRSA, which includes the downtown and adjacent neighborhoods to the southwest and west. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) encourages the establishment of a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) as a means to create communities of opportunity in distressed neighborhoods. The goal of this program is to reinvest in human and economic capital, and economically empower low-income residents as part of an overall community revitalization strategy. Comprehensive community revitalization strategies seek to create partnerships among federal and local governments, the private sector, community organizations and neighborhood residents. The City plans to target investments of CDBG funds within these two NRSA areas during the 2014-2018 5-Year Consolidated Plan period.

### Priority Needs

#### Priority Needs

This Consolidated Plan has identified the following priority needs that provide the programming focus over the next five years:

1. Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;
2. Expand affordable housing opportunities;
3. Reduce housing cost burden;
4. Address homelessness issues;

5. Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;
6. Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;
7. Remove barriers to accessibility;
8. Expand economic opportunities; and
9. Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.
10. Removal of blight and blighting influences in residential neighborhoods.

### **Influence of Market Conditions**

#### **Influence of Market Conditions**

Decent and Affordable Housing. There is need for housing rehabilitation of Canton's many housing units built before 1980. Housing affordability and housing cost burden are also an issue for the City's extremely low and low-income households. Many LMI households in the City of Canton have moderate to severe housing problems. 11,185 LMI households have one of four identified housing problems (lacks complete kitchen facilities, lacks complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, cost burden greater than 30%). This represents 56% of all LMI households. The most common housing problem affecting LMI households is cost burden. Housing cost burden - needing to pay more than 30% or 50% of monthly income for housing - affects 10,798 households, which represents 96.5% of all LMI households with a housing problem.

Community Development and Blighting Influences. The population losses that Canton has sustained since the 1950s have resulted in a high rate of vacant buildings. Much of the housing stock in the City, especially within the NRSA areas, both owner occupied and rental properties, suffers from disinvestment and lack of maintenance. The foreclosure crisis and economic recession has exacerbated this problem of blighted neighborhoods. Vacant, abandoned, and dilapidated structures and properties are blighting influences that can destabilize neighborhoods, destroy property values, and become a breeding ground for criminal activities such as drug trafficking, vandalism, prostitution, and arson. The recession also resulted in reduced government revenues for public improvements and infrastructure. Many sidewalks in the City do not have curb ramps or the ramps are unsafe and the sidewalks are chipped, cracked, and/or broken due to age of the concrete and/or tree root intrusion, posing public safety hazards. Some areas do not have sidewalks.

Economic Opportunities. According to the 2006-10 American Community Survey (ACS), the median income for Canton residents is \$30,043, while the median income for Stark County is \$44,941. ACS data reported an unemployment rate for Canton residents of 13.67%. Currently, as of September 2013, the City of Canton unemployment rate is 8.9%, compared with 7.5% for Stark County, 7.4% for Ohio, and



7.2% for the United States. There is a need for economic development in the City of Canton that will create more jobs and more higher-paying jobs for area residents, in particular for LMI households.

Public Services. Within the Canton area, public services are typically provided by non-profit organizations and assisted by foundations as well as through local, state, or federal funding. Local fundraising for needed public services can be challenging, while government funding resources is also decreasing at all levels. However, demand for public services and assistance continues to grow. There is a continuing need for public services for the LMI population including, but not necessarily limited to, activities serving youth, the elderly, homeless and special needs populations, healthcare, literacy, crime awareness and prevention, housing and landlord-tenant counseling, substance abuse, mental health, and homebuyer down payment assistance.

### **Anticipated Resources**

#### **Anticipated Resources**

The City of Canton anticipates that it will receive annual HUD funding of approximately \$2,400,000 in CDBG funding, \$500,000 in HOME funding and \$200,000 in ESG funding during each year of the 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan period.

### **Institutional Delivery Structure**

#### **Institutional Delivery Structure**

The City of Canton will work with various City departments and local agencies to implement the programs and projects that will carry out the goals and priorities identified in this Consolidated Plan. Resources will be invested to address housing cost burden and homelessness, removing blighted influences in neighborhoods, and supporting programs and services that help Canton's low-income and special needs populations.

Funding for housing rehabilitation and neighborhood improvements will be concentrated in the City's two established Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas.

### **Goals**

#### **Goals**

This Strategic Plan has identified the following Consolidated Plan goals to be addressed during the five-year Consolidated Plan Period FY 2014 – FY 2018.

Goal 1: Expand, Maintain and Improve Canton's Affordable Housing Opportunities

Goal 2: Reduce the Number of Residents Experiencing Homelessness

Goal 3: Improve the Safety and Livability of Low and Moderate Income Neighborhoods

Goal 4: Expand Economic Opportunities for Low and Moderate Income Persons

Goal 5: Support Canton's Low Income and Special Needs Residents through Public Services

### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

#### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

Barriers to affordable housing in Canton will be reviewed and addressed over the plan period through the efforts of the City's Community Development Department, local officials and the public.

### **Homelessness Strategy**

#### **Homelessness Strategy**

The City of Canton is an ESG grantee and provides funding for homeless facilities and assistance through a Request for Proposals (RFP) Process. Canton has contracted with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission for administration of the City's ESG grant. In addition, the City is an active participant in the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC). Also known as the Stark Continuum of Care (CoC), the HCCSC, the primary charge of the agency is to develop supportive housing options and to secure federal, state and local resources and other measures designed to:

- Promote community-wide commitment to employ best practices to end homelessness in Stark County, Ohio;
- Secure funding for efforts by providers and government entities to prevent homelessness and quickly re-house homeless individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families in Stark County, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation that homelessness causes to individuals, families, and communities;
- Promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families that experience homelessness.

### **Lead-Based Paint Hazards**

#### **Lead-Based Paint Hazards**

The City of Canton has established guidelines for dealing with lead-based paint hazards in homes being rehabilitated under its HUD-funded programs. A Lead Risk Assessment is undertaken early in the process, once rehab specifications have been drafted by City inspectors. All rehab contractors must be certified as Lead Safe Renovators in order to participate in the City's housing rehabilitation and repair/maintenance programs.

In addition, the Canton City Health Department offers testing for lead based paint and lead based paint hazards through its Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to City homeowners. It also educates the public about the hazards of lead based paint, symptoms of lead based paint poisoning, and how to avoid exposure to lead based paint.

### **Anti-Poverty Strategy**

#### **Anti-Poverty Strategy**

Three key elements of the City's anti-poverty strategy during the Consolidated Plan period will include using local and federal resources to support the efforts of social service agencies that serve low income and special needs residents; retaining and increasing affordable housing opportunities for low income families; and carrying out economic development initiatives to strengthen and expand family-wage employment opportunities.

### **Monitoring**

#### **Monitoring**

The City of Canton Development Department will monitor all HUD-funded activities, including those of subrecipients. The City will also carefully screen proposed subrecipients prior to awarding funding to ensure agencies have the experience and capacity to meet applicable HUD regulations. This monitoring is intended to ensure that the intended community benefits of the City's investments are being achieved, and that the federal regulations that apply to those investments are being followed. As needed the City will provide technical assistance and training to make sure recipient agencies have the capacity and understanding needed to achieve compliance.

## SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

### Geographic Area

1	<b>Area Name:</b>	Central Neighborhood
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Strategy area
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	4/1/2013
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	
	<b>Revital Type:</b>	
	<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
	<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	The Central strategy area covers the downtown and surrounding neighborhoods to the west, and is generally bounded by 12th Street on the north, Cherry Street on the East, Navarre Road on the south, and Harrison Avenue and Monument Road on the west. The area coincides with the following U.S. Census tracts: 7001, 7015, and 7017.

<p><b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b></p>	<p>According to the 2010 Census, the population of the Central NRSA is 7,488. The population breakdown is 63.5% White, 27% Black or African American, with 5.9 % of the population being of two or more races. The percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents is over 1½ times larger than for the City as a whole. The population in the Central NRSA fell 20% in the ten years since 2000, over twice the City’s rate of loss. Within the Central NRSA, the White population decreased by 30.7%. However, the Black population rose by 4.7%, and the Hispanic population increased by 115.3%. These population changes reflect the ongoing trend of White residents abandoning the inner-city neighborhoods in the central part of Canton.</p> <p>According to 2006-2010 ACS data, 70.1% of the residents in the Central NRSA are low/moderate income, 43.8% of the households are female-headed, the median household income is \$21,207, the poverty rate is 39.4%, the unemployment rate is 17.0%, 28.7% of the households are without access to a vehicle, and 31.8% of the households receive some form of public assistance.</p> <p>ACS data also reports that the Central NRSA has 4,257 housing units, 52.4% of which are 1-unit, detached structures. The owner occupancy rate is 38.9%. The housing vacancy rate is 25.1%, and 72.6% of housing units were constructed in 1939 or earlier.</p> <p>Commercial areas within the Central NRSA include the City’s Central Business District as well as the commercial corridors of 12th Street and West Tuscarawas Street.</p>
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	<p><b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b></p>	<p>The boundaries of the Central NRSA area were established by the City of Canton as part of a comprehensive reorganization of its housing and community development program. The Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Program will enable the City to refocus its efforts and concentrate its funding on those neighborhoods which are most in need of assistance. The NRSA program provides the framework in which the City can undertake a comprehensive approach to neighborhood improvement and revitalization, while also provide the needed flexibility to offer innovative solutions to complex problems.</p> <p>The Central NRSA was established as part of Canton's FY 2013 Action Plan. This Action Plan represents the 5th and final year of the current Five Year Consolidated Plan, under which the City has been operating since 2009. This Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area will be a major part of the City's new Strategic Plan for the upcoming 5-Year Period FY 2014 - FY 2018. As the City of Canton begins to the implement its NRSA strategies, the City will continue to consult with community groups, housing agencies, and other relevant stakeholders.</p>
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	<p><b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b></p>	<p>Combining such factors as the low incomes among residents, the high number of rental properties and the large number of vacant/abandoned units all add up to severe housing issues for this part of the City. The housing problems identified in these two NRSA areas can be linked to additional problems, such as increased crime, neighborhood tensions, and lack of business investment.</p> <p>The needs for this target area mirror the needs for the City as a whole and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;</li> <li>• Expand affordable housing opportunities;</li> <li>• Reduce housing cost burden;</li> <li>• Address homelessness issues;</li> <li>• Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;</li> <li>• Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;</li> <li>• Remove barriers to accessibility;</li> <li>• Expand economic opportunities; and</li> <li>• Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.</li> </ul>
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	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	The City has been somewhat successful in initiating some housing programs in the downtown, promoting the area to artists and young professionals. However, more needs to be done to improve existing housing conditions for the current residents, homeowners as well as renters, the majority of who are low income, with limited resources and options. The Central NRSA area needs to be revitalized to attract private housing investment, to rehabilitate existing structures and to construct new market rate developments to improve the economic diversity within this neighborhood. More low income family housing is not the answer for these neighborhoods. Rather the solution will involve the demolition and removal of vacant/dilapidated structures, the rehabilitation of existing housing already occupied by low and moderate income families, and the rehab/restoration of existing housing and the development of new housing for middle and higher income families. These goals are interconnected and will not be accomplished easily or quickly but will require a long term, comprehensive approach by the City, in cooperation with local housing providers, neighborhood organizations, and private developers, to achieve the ideal result - suitable, livable, sustainable neighborhoods.
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	The main barrier to improvement and revitalization of the Central NRSA is to change the image of this area from one of blight and deterioration to one of positive tangible improvement. Revitalization of this area will not occur overnight and will require a continued commitment from the City, along with the neighborhood organizations and agencies that serve the area. Stable and ongoing funding from Federal and State agencies will be needed in order to continue the progress being made and to enable planning for future projects and improvements.
<b>2</b>	<b>Area Name:</b>	Eastside Neighborhood
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Strategy area
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	4/1/2013
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	



<b>Revital Type:</b>	
<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	<p>The Eastside strategy area covers much of the northeast and southeast sections of the city, including neighborhoods east of Cherry Street, and south of 12th and Mahoning Road on the northeast section, and the neighborhoods along East Tuscarawas Street and along Sherrick road in the southeast side. The area coincides with the following U.S. Census tracts: 7018, 7021, and 7023.</p>
<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	<p>According to the 2010 Census, the population of the Eastside NRSA is 8,768. The Eastside NRSA is a predominantly minority area, with 60.1% of the population being Black or African American, 6.6% two or more races, and 31.6% White. The percentage of Hispanic residents, however, is smaller than the City as a whole. The population in the Central NRSA fell 16.8% in the ten years since 2000, higher the City's rate of loss, which was 9.7%. Population losses within the Eastside NRSA were spread out almost equally among all races. However, the Hispanic population, though still small, did increase by 19%.</p> <p>According to 2006-2010 ACS data, 74.8% of the residents in the Eastside NRSA are low/moderate income, 58.3% of the households are female-headed, the median household income is \$18,738, the poverty rate is 45.2%, the unemployment rate is 24.9%, 25.0% of the households are without access to a vehicle, and 43.2% of the households receive some form of public assistance.</p> <p>ACS data also reports that the Eastside NRSA has 5,045 housing units, 62.1% of which are one-unit, detached structures. The owner occupancy rate is 45.9%. The housing vacancy rate is 18.3%, and 48.1% of housing units were constructed in 1939 or earlier.</p> <p>Commercial areas within the Eastside NRSA include the commercial corridors of 12th Street/Mahoning Road NE and East Tuscarawas Street.</p>

	<p><b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b></p>	<p>The boundaries of the Eastside NRSA area were established by the City of Canton as part of a comprehensive reorganization of its housing and community development program. The Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Program will enable the City to refocus its efforts and concentrate its funding on those neighborhoods which are most in need of assistance. The NRSA program provides the framework in which the City can undertake a comprehensive approach to neighborhood improvement and revitalization, while also provide the needed flexibility to offer innovative solutions to complex problems.</p> <p>The Eastside NRSA was established as part of Canton's FY 2013 Action Plan. This Action Plan represents the 5th and final year of the current Five Year Consolidated Plan, under which the City has been operating since 2009. This Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area will be a major part of the City's new Strategic Plan for the upcoming 5-Year Period FY 2014 - FY 2018.</p> <p>As the City of Canton begins to the implement its NRSA strategies, the City will continue to consult with community groups, housing agencies, and other relevant stakeholders.</p>
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	<p><b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b></p>	<p>Combining such factors as the low incomes among residents, the high number of rental properties and the large number of vacant/abandoned units all add up to severe housing issues for this part of the City. The housing problems identified in these two NRSA areas can be linked to additional problems, such as increased crime, neighborhood tensions, and lack of business investment.</p> <p>The needs for this target area mirror the needs for the City as a whole and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;</li> <li>• Expand affordable housing opportunities;</li> <li>• Reduce housing cost burden;</li> <li>• Address homelessness issues;</li> <li>• Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;</li> <li>• Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;</li> <li>• Remove barriers to accessibility;</li> <li>• Expand economic opportunities; and</li> <li>• Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.</li> </ul>
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	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	While the City has been somewhat successful in initiating some housing programs in the downtown, promoting the area to artists and young professionals, more needs to be done to improve existing housing conditions for residents in the surrounding northeast and southeast neighborhoods. This includes homeowners as well as renters, the majority of who are low income, with limited resources and options. The Eastside NRSA area needs to be revitalized to attract private housing investment, to rehabilitate existing structures and to construct new market rate developments to improve the economic diversity within this neighborhood. More low income family housing is not the answer for these neighborhoods. Rather the solution will involve the demolition and removal of vacant/dilapidated structures, the rehabilitation of existing housing already occupied by low and moderate income families, and the rehab/restoration of existing housing and the development of new housing for middle and higher income families. These goals are interconnected and will not be accomplished easily or quickly but will require a long term, comprehensive approach by the City, in cooperation with local housing providers, neighborhood organizations, and private developers, to achieve the ideal result - suitable, livable, sustainable neighborhoods.
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	The main barrier to improvement and revitalization of the Eastside NRSA is to change the image of this area from one of blight and deterioration to one of positive tangible improvement. Revitalization of this area will not occur overnight and will require a continued commitment from the City, along with the neighborhood organizations and agencies that serve the area. Stable and ongoing funding from Federal and State agencies will be needed in order to continue the progress being made and to enable planning for future projects and improvements.
<b>3</b>	<b>Area Name:</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Local Target area
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	

<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	
<b>Revital Type:</b>	Comprehensive
<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	This target area includes the entire of City of Canton.
<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	<p>According to the 2010 Census, the population of Canton is 78,085. The population breakdown is 69.1% White, 24.2% Black or African American, with 4.8 % of the population being of two or more races. The percentage of Hispanic/Latino residents is 2.6%. Canton's population fell 9.7% in the ten years since 2000, and has decreased 38% since 1950. Since 2000, Canton's White population decreased by 16%. However, the Black population rose by 4%, and the Hispanic population, though small, increased by 89%. These population changes reflect the ongoing trend of White residents abandoning the older municipal areas of the State.</p> <p>56.3% of Canton residents are low/moderate income. According to 2006-2010 ACS data, 48% of Canton households are female-headed, the median household income is \$30,043, the poverty rate is 39%, the unemployment rate is 13.7%, 15.7% of the households are without access to a vehicle, and 24.7% of the households receive some form of public assistance.</p> <p>ACS data also reports that the Central NRSA has 35,952 housing units, 67% of which are 1-unit, detached structures. The owner occupancy rate is 56.4%. The housing vacancy rate is 14.5%, and 45.7% of housing units were constructed in 1939 or earlier.</p> <p>Commercial areas within Canton include the Central Business District as well as the commercial corridors of 12th Street/Mahoning Road and Tuscarawas Streets East and West.</p>

	<p><b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b></p>	<p>Because a majority of Canton residents are considered by HUD to be low/moderate income, the City for years has operated its HUD-funded programs on a City-wide basis. This is true for housing rehabilitation and new construction programs, as well as public service activities. Many of the Canton's programs have been undertaken to benefit the entire City.</p>
	<p><b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b></p>	<p>Combining such factors as the low incomes among residents, the high number of rental properties and the large number of vacant/abandoned units all add up to severe housing issues for the City. These housing problems identified can be linked to additional problems, such as increased crime, neighborhood tensions, and lack of business investment.</p> <p>The identified housing and community developments needs for the City include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;</li> <li>• Expand affordable housing opportunities;</li> <li>• Reduce housing cost burden;</li> <li>• Address homelessness issues;</li> <li>• Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;</li> <li>• Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;</li> <li>• Remove barriers to accessibility;</li> <li>• Expand economic opportunities; and</li> <li>• Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.</li> <li>• Removal of blight and blighting influences in residential neighborhoods.</li> </ul>

	<b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b>	The City has been somewhat successful in initiating some housing programs in the downtown, promoting the area to artists and young professionals. However, more needs to be done to improve existing housing conditions for the current residents of surrounding neighborhoods, homeowners as well as renters, the majority of who are low income, with limited resources and options. Canton neighborhoods need to be revitalized to attract private housing investment, to rehabilitate existing structures and to construct new market rate developments to improve the economic diversity within the City. More low income family housing is not always the answer for these neighborhoods. Rather the solution will involve the demolition and removal of vacant/dilapidated structures, the rehabilitation of existing housing already occupied by low and moderate income families, and the rehab/restoration of existing housing and the development of new housing for middle and higher income families. These goals are interconnected and will not be accomplished easily or quickly but will require a long term, comprehensive approach by the City, in cooperation with local housing providers, neighborhood organizations, and private developers, to achieve the ideal result - suitable, livable, sustainable neighborhoods.
	<b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b>	The main barrier to improvement and revitalization of Canton is to change the image of the City from one of blight and deterioration to one of positive tangible improvement. Revitalization will not occur overnight and will require a continued commitment from the City, along with the neighborhood organizations and agencies that serve area residents. Stable and ongoing funding from Federal and State agencies will be needed in order to continue the progress being made and to enable planning for future projects and improvements
4	<b>Area Name:</b>	Target Area Census Tracts
	<b>Area Type:</b>	Local Target area
	<b>Other Target Area Description:</b>	
	<b>HUD Approval Date:</b>	
	<b>% of Low/ Mod:</b>	

<b>Revital Type:</b>	Comprehensive
<b>Other Revital Description:</b>	
<b>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</b>	The boundaries of the Target Area Census Tracts include the Census Tracts and those portions of Census Tracts identified in the chart and map accompanying this section of the Consolidated Plan. The area includes all or portions of the following Census Tracts: 7001, 7002, 7003, 7004, 7005, 7006, 7008, 7010, 7011, 7012, 7013, 7015, 7017, 7018, 7021, 7023, 7025, 7116, 7117, 7124, and 7131. This area includes the southern two-thirds of the City.
<b>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</b>	These targeted census tracts include the low/moderate income neighborhoods of Canton. HUD data indicates that 65.6% of the residents within this area are low/moderate income. These are the neighborhoods most impacted by older deteriorating housing, vacant and abandoned units, high crime, and older infrastructure. The area includes the downtown and the major commercial corridors of Canton, including 12th Street/Mahoning Road NE and Tuscarawas Street.
<b>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</b>	The City of Canton has designated this area as a target area in previous Consolidated Plans. The City continues to concentrate HUD-funding allocations to programs and services designed to assist the low income residents of these neighborhoods and to improve and revitalize these areas.



	<p><b>Identify the needs in this target area.</b></p>	<p>Combining such factors as the low incomes among residents, the high number of rental properties and the large number of vacant/abandoned units all add up to severe housing issues for this part of the City. The housing problems identified in these targeted census tract areas can be linked to additional problems, such as increased crime, neighborhood tensions, and lack of business investment.</p> <p>The needs for this target area mirror the needs for the City as a whole and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve the quality of existing affordable housing;</li> <li>• Expand affordable housing opportunities;</li> <li>• Reduce housing cost burden;</li> <li>• Address homelessness issues;</li> <li>• Improve public facilities serving low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods;</li> <li>• Improve streets and sidewalks in LMI areas;</li> <li>• Remove barriers to accessibility;</li> <li>• Expand economic opportunities; and</li> <li>• Provide Canton's special needs and low-income residents with services to improve their self-sufficiency.</li> <li>• Removal of blight and blighting influences within residential neighborhoods.</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</b></p>	<p>The City has been somewhat successful in initiating some housing programs in the downtown, promoting the area to artists and young professionals. However, more needs to be done to improve existing housing conditions for the current residents of surrounding neighborhoods, homeowners as well as renters, the majority of who are low income, with limited resources and options. These target census tract areas need to be revitalized to attract private housing investment, to rehabilitate existing structures and to construct new market rate developments to improve the economic diversity within these neighborhoods. More low income family housing is not the answer for these neighborhoods. Rather the solution will involve the demolition and removal of vacant/dilapidated structures, the rehabilitation of existing housing already occupied by low and moderate income families, and the rehab/restoration of existing housing and the development of new housing for middle and higher income families. These goals are interconnected and will not be accomplished easily or quickly but will require a long term, comprehensive approach by the City, in cooperation with local housing providers, neighborhood organizations, and private developers, to achieve the ideal result - suitable, livable, sustainable neighborhoods.</p>
	<p><b>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</b></p>	<p>The main barrier to improvement and revitalization of these targeted census tracts is to change the image of this area from one of blight and deterioration to one of positive tangible improvement. Revitalization of this area will not occur overnight and will require a continued commitment from the City, along with the neighborhood organizations and agencies that serve the area. Stable and ongoing funding from Federal and State agencies will be needed in order to continue the progress being made and to enable planning for future projects and improvements.</p>

**Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas**

### **General Allocation Priorities**

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA

for HOPWA)

#### City-wide

According to HUD census data, 56.3% of residents within the City of Canton are low and moderate income. Because the City of Canton is a predominately low-mod income community, the geographic area for allocation of investment can include the entire city.

#### Targeted Census Tracts

The City of Canton generally allocates its HUD dollars to projects located in the southern two-thirds of Canton, where the census tracts all have a majority of low-mod income residents, as well as a minority population concentration. See the attached charts for a breakdown of this data. These targeted census tracts and block groups all exceed the 51% level for low-mod income with LMI percentages in some tracts exceeding 75%. The total LMI percentage within this targeted area of Canton is 65.6%, which includes 35,537 low-mod persons out of a total population of 54,159.

#### Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas

In addition, during the FY 2013 Program Year, the City of Canton established two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas: the Eastside Area and the Central Area. The Eastside strategy area covers much of the northeast and southeast sections of the city. The Central strategy area covers the downtown and nearby surrounding neighborhoods to the west. HUD encourages the establishment of Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA) as a means to create communities of opportunity in distressed neighborhoods. The goal of this program is to reinvest in human and economic capital, and economically empower low-income residents as part of an overall community revitalization strategy. The City of Canton's NRSA's encompass two of the city's most distressed areas. As part of the 5-Year Strategic Plan for 2014 - 2018, the City will allocate concentrated HUD-funding for a comprehensive revitalization program of projects and activities within each NRSA.

## SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

### Priority Needs

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	Maintain and improve the quality of affordable housing supply, especially those housing units occupied by low and moderate income households.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	The Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment and Market Analysis document the need to maintain and improve the quality of affordable housing for Canton LMI households.
2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide

	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Provide Needed Public Services Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	Increase the supply of affordable housing for LMI households in Canton. Increase opportunities for LMI homeowners to secure affordable housing in the City.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	The Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment and Market Analysis document that housing cost burden is a major problem affecting LMI households in Canton. The age of housing stock, the number of foreclosed and abandoned units, and the economic downturn all impact LMI households and LMI neighborhoods. The need to expand affordable housing opportunities results from this analysis of housing needs and conditions.
<b>3</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Address Homelessness Issues
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Reduce Homelessness Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	The need to address homelessness includes assistance to homeless persons to obtain affordable housing and the skills to help them gain independence and self-sufficiency, as well as the provision of emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive housing and associated case management services.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	As described in great detail in the homeless needs assessment sections of the Consolidated Plan, the City of Canton participates in the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC). Also known as the Stark CoC, the HCCSC has developed and is implementing a 10-Year Plan to address homeless needs and end homelessness in Stark County, including the City of Canton.
<b>4</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements

	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods Expand Economic Opportunities Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	Public Facilities includes those community and neighborhood facilities that provide programs and services for residents of the City, including community centers, social service centers, parks and recreational facilities. Public improvements includes infrastructure such as streets, sidewalks, water and sewer. The removal of barriers to accessibility is also part of this need.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, especially in low/moderate income areas, including the City's two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, is a need that has been well documented in the Consolidated Plan Needs and Market Analysis.
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods Expand Economic Opportunities Provide Needed Public Services Planning and Program Administration

	<b>Description</b>	The expansion of economic opportunities includes support and assistance to projects and activities designed to create and retain jobs within the City of Canton. This need can include activities such infrastructure improvements needed to promote economic development, renovation of commercial/industrial facilities, job training, as well as direct assistance to companies seeking to establish or expand operations in the City.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	The Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the Consolidated Plan have analyzed in great detail the economic challenges facing the City of Canton. The economic downtown has resulted in prolonged high unemployment, changing market conditions and a depressed housing market. The need to expand economic opportunities in the City, especiall for low/moderate income persons, has been well documented.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence

	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods Expand Economic Opportunities Provide Needed Public Services Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	Public service needs includes, but is not limited to: child care, health care, job training, recreation programs, education programs, crime prevention, housing counseling, elderly services, homeless assistance, drug abuse counseling and treatment, and homebuyer downpayment assistance.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	The Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the Consolidated Plan describe in great detail the needs of low and moderate income residents. The need for services to improve the social, health, safety and economic well-being of Canton residents, especially for low/moderate income persons and within low/moderate income neighborhoods has been well documented.
7	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods Expand Economic Opportunities Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	The need to remove blight and blighting influences with Canton neighborhoods includes the need to deal with such problems as vacant and abandoned housing, vacant and abandoned lots, deteriorated and poorly maintained structures, incompatible land uses, overcrowded conditions, crumbling infrastructure, and other physical problems impacting neighborhoods.



	<p><b>Basis for Relative Priority</b></p>	<p>The Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the City's Consolidated Plan, as well as the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan, have described in great detail the issues affecting Canton's neighborhoods. The City's long-term population decline as well as the recent economic downtown and foreclosure crisis, has resulted in a surplus of vacant, abandoned, deteriorating and poorly maintained housing. This housing acts as a blight on Canton neighborhoods, particularly in low/moderate income neighborhoods, as well as the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas. The need to remove blight and blighting influences within Canton neighborhoods has been well documented.</p>
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**Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary**

### **Narrative (Optional)**

The priority goals and strategies identified in the City's 2014-2018 Strategic Plan are based on the needs identified in the Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the Consolidated Plan. Those sections include analysis of Census data that was refined with local statistics and community input through agency consultations and citizen participation.

The strategies are intended to address the needs of the community by supporting efforts to create and retain affordable housing opportunities, the removal of blight within low income neighborhoods, address the needs of homeless residents, provide needed services and assistance to low income persons and expand economic opportunities. The City intends to target CDBG funding to activities that will address these priority needs and that will primarily benefit those with the lowest incomes or the lowest income neighborhoods, including the City's two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas.

Many program activities identified in the five-year Consolidated Plan period will address more than one of these needs.

## SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

### Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	Housing is the single largest budgetary expense for most households. Section NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment of the Consolidated Plan for 2014 – 2018 analyzed the housing needs of Canton residents, including low/moderate income households. The most common housing problem affecting LMI households is cost burden. Severe housing cost burden - needing to pay more than 50% of monthly income for housing - affects 3,194 renter households, of which 2,820 are very low income (at or below 30% area median income). Of these very low income renter households, 1,255 are small-families, 205 are large-families, 215 are elderly, and 1,045 are other households.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Similar forces, variables and market characteristics that influence the use of TBRA above, are applicable to the use of TBRA to serve persons with special needs who are not homeless; one could easily argue that their need is greater than the general low income population which is eligible for TBRA. However, an added market characteristic that may influence the use of TBRA for special needs tenants is the proximity and willingness of service providers to assist the TBRA clients to remain stable in their housing.
New Unit Production	The ACS data provided in the Needs Assessment section of the Consolidated Plan shows that Canton has over 10,000 renter and owner low/moderate income households that are housing cost burdened. These statistics demonstrate the need for more affordable housing for low/moderate income households.
Rehabilitation	According to 2005-2009 ACS data, 91% of all occupied housing units in the Canton were built prior to 1980. Since this housing is more than 30 years old, it is highly likely that many of these units need repair or rehabilitation to maintain their livability. Major operating systems (plumbing, electrical, heating, etc.) may need to be replaced. For low income homeowners, financing significant and comprehensive housing rehabilitation is often not feasible. The same analysis can apply to those renter housing units committed to providing affordable housing, which often means operating with minimal reserves to carry out repairs or cover costs of debt financing for rehabilitation.

<b>Affordable Housing Type</b>	<b>Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type</b>
Acquisition, including preservation	Due to the recent foreclosure crisis and economic downtown, many housing units in the City of Canton have been vacant and or abandoned. ACS data indicates that 14.5% of housing units in the City are vacant. The federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) provided the City of Canton with HUD funding to acquire/rehabilitate vacant, foreclosed housing. As the NSP Program is ending, the City of Canton recognizes the need to continue to acquire and preserve existing foreclosed and vacant housing to protect existing residential neighborhoods while provide another source of affordable housing for low income households.

**Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions**

## SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

### Introduction

The 5-year Consolidated Plan for 2014 - 2018 must identify the federal, state, local, and private resources expected to be available to the City of Canton to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Strategic Plan. The City of Canton is a direct entitlement community for the following HUD-funded programs: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Canton receives an annual allocation of Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD for CDBG, HOME, and ESG. Below is a breakdown of these anticipated funding resources.

### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	2,410,452	200,000	979,978	3,590,430	9,544,570	CDBG Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	489,048	25,952	0	515,000	1,900,000	HOME Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	202,563	0	0	202,563	797,437	ESG Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

CDBG Program – CDBG funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state, or federal funding for housing and community development activities. CDBG funding allocated for economic development can leverage private investment.

HOME Program – HOME funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state or federal funding for affordable housing development. In particular, HOME funding can leverage affordable housing tax credits for Canton housing projects. Although the HOME program has a matching requirement, the City of Canton is not required to provide local match because the City is considered by HUD to be severely distressed. As a community with a low per capita income and high percentage of families living in poverty, Canton is exempt from HOME Matching Requirements.

ESG Program - ESG funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state, or federal funding for homeless assistance and homelessness prevention programs and services.

**If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City of Canton owns and operates the Edward “Peel” Coleman Southeast Community Center, located at 1400 Sherrick Avenue SE. This facility is located within the boundaries of the City’s Eastside Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area.

The Canton Community Improvement Corporation (CCIC) owns several tracts of vacant industrial land that is being assembled and marketed for economic development.

**Discussion**

As described above, the City of Canton will utilize a portion of its HUD-funded funding to partner with subrecipients for housing and community development projects and activities. These activities can result in the leveraging of additional private, local, state, or federal funding

sources. This leveraging can increase the impact these activities will have on the community, enabling more persons to be served in addition to furthering community and neighborhood revitalization.

## SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Stark County Community Action Agency	CBDO	Economic Development neighborhood improvements public services	
MULTI-DEVELOPMENT SERVICES OF STARK COUNTY	Non-profit organizations	neighborhood improvements	
HAMMER AND NAILS, INC.	Non-profit organizations	Ownership	
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Stark and Carroll Counties	Community/Faith-based organization	Ownership neighborhood improvements	
REBUILDING TOGETHER	Non-profit organizations	Ownership	
YMCA	Non-profit organizations	public facilities public services	
Stark Mental Health Services & Recovery Services Board of Canton	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	
Community Services of Stark County, Inc.	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	
Domestic Violence Project	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	
Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County	Continuum of care	Homelessness	
Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	

**Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure**  
**Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System**

The City of Canton has a long history of administering CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. In the implementation of these HUD-funded programs, the City works with a variety of housing providers, social service organizations, neighborhoods groups, homeless assistance providers, and economic



development organizations. The City consults with local organizations and citizens in the development of its consolidated plan and annual action plan and involves community organizations in the direct implementation of program activities through its Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The development of the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan has provided additional opportunities for Canton to work with community area agencies. Effective communication and regular consultation among the local government, public institutions, and area community agencies is a key to overcoming any real or perceived gaps in the institutional delivery system.

**Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services**

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance	X	X	X
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
<b>Street Outreach Services</b>			
Law Enforcement	X		X
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	X
<b>Supportive Services</b>			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	X
Education	X		X
Employment and Employment Training	X		X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
<b>Other</b>			

**Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary**

**Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)**

Housers provide an array of housing from shelter to permanent supportive housing (PSH) that specifically serve homeless persons, including chronically homeless, families with children, persons fleeing domestic violence and veterans. Category 1 (literally homeless), category 2 (at imminent risk of homelessness) and category 4 (victims feeling domestic or dating violence) are served by shelters, rapid re-housing and transitional housing programs. Categories 1 and 4 are also served by PSH programs. All of these categories include persons from the sub-populations mentioned above. Wrap around services address specific issues for the same homeless sub-populations with services targeted to both issues identified as contributing to homelessness, and to enabling skill development and education in order to improve self-sufficiency. For example, the mental health providers offer counseling, group work, and crisis intervention. The education system provides services to school age children, and to adults working toward skill development and employability. Childcare providers enable parents to work and/or go to school. SARTA provides bus and door-to-door service (physically disabled). The wrap-around model with individualized service plan targets specific needs and issues on a person by person basis.

**Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above**

Stark County has a coordinated Intake process in place through the Homeless Hotline with a partnership between the Hotline and United Way's 2-1-1 call center. The Hotline is managed by the same staff that runs the County's HMIS, streamlining data collection. All HCCSC, ESG and HCRP funded programs complete the Hotline's HMIS Intake form when clients enter their program which is then referenced to the HMIS Intake form completed by the Hotline, to identify areas of inconsistency in the reporting of circumstances, issues and needs. HMIS is provided through the TERA (Time Defined Episodes with Related Activities) system which is a locally developed software system. TERA includes additional data on causation and childhood history that provides greater insight to the interpersonal causal elements that contribute to homelessness and intensity of problems. The HCCSC is currently undergoing analysis of assessment tools to make a final determination of an assessment tool which will be used for the centralized intake and assessment process. The second level assessment will assist the Hotline with making the most appropriate referrals.

United Way's 2-1-1, Stark County Department of Job and Family Service, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board refer all homeless, or at risk of homeless persons to the Homeless Hotline for an initial assessment of needs. All HCCSC and ESG funded programs offer assistance with, or direct linkage to, other agencies that offer support services such as rental, utility and legal assistance as well as to counseling, mental health and drug/alcohol abuse case management, life skills and employment training. Financial management programs are offered by several programs and include linkages to programs offered in the general community and through United Way.

Representatives from almost all of the services listed in the table are part of the HCCSC, and most participate in the Homeless Services Collaborative (HSC). Through the meetings of both groups, providers and stake-holders are able to raise common concerns, consider how to assist each other with

their clients' needs, and brainstorm possible solutions. The HSC provides ongoing training as well as program information sharing through guest speakers whose agencies include mainstream and non-homeless specific services which are of benefit to homeless persons.

Identified gaps include the need for more affordable rental housing, more subsidized housing, and more special needs housing. Gaps in services include: legal aid for evictions and for alternative sentencing; mental health services for persons who are not at the more severe levels of dysfunction or who have stabilized and then are graduated out of case management thereby becoming vulnerable to relapse. The HCCSC is working on a closer relationship with law enforcement, education and employment/employment training programs in order to target services specifically towards homeless persons. While there are limited services in the following areas, services need to be increased for: healthcare including non-traditional delivery sites, child care that is not restricted to TANF regulations, and greater county-wide transportation. These issues will be raised at the HCCSC meetings to heighten awareness and to collaborate further to address needs when there is little or no new dollars available.

The HCCSC has determined that there is a need for stronger collaboration with all agencies providing homeless prevention services and their funders in order to assist those most at risk more appropriately. Early identification of root causes of homelessness will help prevent clients calling the Hotline for prevention or homeless services assistance shortly after receiving emergency assistance through the Emergency Assistance Collaborative.

### **Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs**

**Institutional Structure of Service and Housing Delivery System.** The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) is the lead agency for the County's Continuum of Care, and provides staffing, guidance and leadership for the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC). SCRPC is involved with all of the activities of the HCCSC. The HCCSC serves as the entity that promotes community-wide commitment to employ best practices to end homelessness in Stark County, Ohio. SCRPC assists in securing funding to prevent homelessness, and to rapidly re-house homeless. SCRPC, as a regional entity that works closely with Canton, Alliance and Massillon, is in the best position to promote access and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families. A Continuum of Care Planner has been hired through the SCRPC on behalf of the HCCSC. The HCCSC Planner attends meetings of the various committees of the HCCSC, serves as the primary liaison among providers, HCCSC members, and mainstream providers, facilitates communications, and disseminates information to HCCSC committees, the HCCSC Executive Board, and to service providers. The Planner also serves on the Veterans Housing task Force which meets to discuss the needs of the low income and homeless veterans within Stark County.

The HCCSC has various committees and sub-committees that assume responsibilities for the various tasks assigned under the HEARTH Act. For example: the System Performance and Planning Committee oversee an annual gaps analysis; the Central Assessment Committee works on expanding our centralized

intake and assessment system for the county; the Mental Illness and Addiction Sub-Committee is focused on raising awareness and increasing availability of housing options for those with mental health and/or alcohol and drug issues.

**Strategy for Overcoming Gaps:** The System Performance Committee has developed focus group sub-committees of providers targeting the various types of housing options (ES, TH, PSH) to assist with the gaps/needs analysis. The work of the sub-committees provides valuable insight on needs and challenges faced by providers. The HCCSC has an active collaboration with the HSC membership on identified gaps and ideas for solutions.

SCRPC, HCCSC, and HSC members work proactively to identify new sources of funding to expand services and/or to address a specific gap, and collaborate on securing identified new or additional funds. The HCCSC offers support to agencies that are either expanding their services or successfully partnering with other agencies to include the types of services identified above through their programs. Support may be given by awarding those programs higher points during the CoC Competition and by offering support letters to agencies that are applying to other funders for financial assistance.

The HCCSC is analyzing and comparing various assessment tools as it looks to incorporate an additional assessment tool into the Hotline intake to improve referrals to the most appropriate programs.

HMIS Training is currently taking place to set up program staff members at each agency as TERA users (the HMIS software system) so that when a program participant enters the program all of the HMIS Intake questions can simply be reviewed rather than another form being completed and re-entered into HMIS. TERA was designed with this strategy and with improvements with Internet capabilities, the strategy is now being implemented. This change will significantly decrease the length of time it takes to correctly input a client into HMIS as well as significantly increase the data quality and accuracy of client information. By reducing paperwork and data entry by service providers, staff time will be freed up for direct service to homeless persons.

**SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)**

### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
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Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing	2014	2018	Affordable Housing	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities	CDBG: \$4,500,000 HOME: \$2,175,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted  Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Households Assisted  Rental units constructed: 50 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing Added: 30 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 200 Household Housing Unit  Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted  Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 25 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods	2014	2018	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood	Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences	CDBG: \$4,000,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 15 Persons Assisted  Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5 Households Assisted  Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted  Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Households Assisted  Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 25 Business  Homeowner Housing Added: 20 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing <del>Rehabilitated</del> : 100 Household Housing Unit  Businesses assisted: 10 Businesses Assisted
Consolidated Plan					CANTON			



Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Reduce Homelessness	2014	2018	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-Wide	Address Homelessness Issues	ESG: \$1,000,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 500 Persons Assisted  Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 25 Beds  Homelessness Prevention: 1000 Persons Assisted  Housing for Homeless added: 20 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Expand Economic Opportunities	2014	2018	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences	CDBG: \$1,000,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5 Persons Assisted  Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted  Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 25 Business  Brownfield acres remediated: 15 Acre  Jobs created/retained: 750 Jobs  Businesses assisted: 20 Businesses Assisted  Buildings Demolished: 5 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Provide Needed Public Services	2014	2018	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services	CDBG: \$1,635,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted  Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted  Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Planning and Program Administration	2014	2018	Planning, Administration, Fair Housing	City-Wide	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Address Homelessness Issues Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences	CDBG: \$2,000,000 HOME: \$240,000	Other: 1 Other

Table 53 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Canton's goal for affordable housing includes retaining, preserving & improving the affordable housing stock for the City's low/moderate income population and increasing the availability of affordable permanent housing in standard condition to low and moderate income households in all areas of the community.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Canton's goal for improving the safety and liveability of its neighborhoods, includes neighborhood revitalization strategy area programs, the elimination of blighting influences and the deterioration of property and facilities, improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, increasing access and improving accessibility to public facilities and services, and restoring and preserving properties of special historic, architectural or aesthetic value.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Reduce Homelessness
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton's goals for reducing homelessness include assistance to persons and households at risk of becoming homeless, assistance to homeless persons and households with emergency shelter needs, and assistance, including supportive services, to homeless persons and households to help them transition from homelessness to self sufficiency. The City of Canton will utilize ESG funding and work with the Stark CoC on Continuum of Care funding to address homeless needs.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton's goal of expanding opportunities includes job creation and retention activities; the establishment, stabilization and expansion of businesses, including small businesses; the provision of public services concerned with employment; public infrastructure improvements needed to assist economic development; assistance to for-profit commercial and industrial companies for rehabilitation and new construction activities designed to create/retain jobs, eliminate substandard building conditions, or preserve historic properties; and downtown improvement/revitalization projects and activities.

5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton's goal for public services is to assist the City's low/moderate income and non-homeless special needs populations with public services, including programs serving youth, the elderly, child care, health care, education and recreation programs, fair housing and housing counseling, public safety and crime prevention, drug abuse treatment and counseling, job training, and homebuyer down payment assistance
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will undertake general planning and overall management of HUD-funded activities to be undertaken during the 5 Year Comprehensive Plan Period, including affirmatively furthering fair housing in the community.

**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)**

The City of Canton estimates that, during the 5-Year Consolidated Plan Period 2014 - 2018, the City's programs and activities will provide affordable housing to approximately 100 extremely low-income, 100 low-income, and 50 moderate-income families.

## **SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)**

### **Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)**

As reported in Section NA-35 of the City's Consolidated Plan, the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) has approved and is implementing a 504/ADA Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA) to address accessibility and ADA provisions as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As part of its 5-Year Plan for PHA Fiscal Years 2010-2014, SMHA sets forth a strategic goal to undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required. SMHA has identified 42 units and is under contract to rehabilitate these units in compliance with Section 504/ADA and Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) guidelines. In addition, as part of its Admissions Preferences, SMHA includes inaccessibility as part of its preferences for admission to public housing. SMHA also has on staff an in-house 504 Compliance Officer.

In regards to the Section 504 Needs of families on the SMHA public housing waiting list for the City of Canton, SMHA has reported a total of 34 families with disabilities. This represents 7.1% of the total of 479 families. For Section 8 tenant-based assistance, the waiting list contains 157 families with disabilities, which represents 24.6% of the total of 639 families. HUD/Census disability data indicates that 19% of Canton residents (and 15% of total Stark County residents) have a disability.

### **Activities to Increase Resident Involvements**

SMHA undertakes a variety of initiatives to increase resident involvement, including a comprehensive, updated website that provides information on all facets of the housing authority operations, policies and procedures. SMHA has established a Residents Association that represents all Stark County Residents living in the SMHA Developments. Monthly meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month (except July and August). SMHA provides transportation to Resident Association meetings. SMHA also publishes a resident newsletter highly upcoming events, programs, services, and announcements.

The SMHA Community Services Department coordinates programs, activities, and services offered to SMHA residents, including

- Resident Initiative Program- designed to assist residents with achieving self-sufficiency. This effort is accomplished through goal setting, intervention, advocacy and community collaboration. Residents can get assistance with seeking employment, job training, and educational opportunities.
- Programs for Children- A variety of programs and services are made available to residents at various SMHA sites that include but are not limited to: after school tutoring, health, safety, gang prevention programs, nature projects, etc.

- Summer Lunch- Children ages 5-18 are invited to eat lunch at various SMHA sites throughout the summer months.

By working in partnership with the public and private sectors, SMHA provides many services for senior residents, including

- Flu Immunization- Influenza vaccines are made available to qualifying residents of SMHA at little or no cost, as set by the area health departments.
- Senior Council- Senior Council is a forum that is used for SMHA staff and Senior Resident Officers to meet monthly and exchange information.
- Meals on Wheels- At several locations, you can purchase a hot, nutritious meal provided by the Meals on Wheels foundation for a small donation.

The Security Division of SMHA has launched the Resident Safety and Security Initiative to create a greater partnership and communication with residents, security, law enforcement and management in the prevention of drug and criminal activity in SMHA housing. As part of the initiative a 24/7 recorded information hot line was installed to allow residents to report confidentially any drug or criminal activity on SMHA property, as well as other lease violations that may be detrimental to other residents.

SMHA has also provided a client suggestion box in the central office main lobby.

**Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?**

No

**Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation**

Not Applicable



## **SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)**

### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

#### Land Development Policies

The City of Canton has a wide variety of residential districts. Four R-1 districts (R-1a, R-1b, R-1c and R-1d) are single-family zones at various densities. The two-family R-2 district allows duplexes. The R-3 garden and townhouse apartment district allows R-2 uses as well as multi-family dwellings less than 28 feet in height. R-4 allows all R-3 uses and multi-family dwellings up to 45 feet high. Single-family dwellings are also permitted in the municipal agriculture district, and most residential uses are permitted in the City's business districts.

The vast majority of residential space in the City is zoned R-1, leaving only extremely limited developable land available for the construction of multifamily housing. Multi-family housing represents an important affordable housing option for lower-income households. A lack of affordable housing may impede housing choice for LMI households.

Excessively large lot sizes may deter development of affordable housing. In Canton, the minimum lot size in R-1 districts ranges from 6,000 square feet per family (R-1a) to 43,560 square feet per family. While larger lot sizes are considered excessive relative to the development of affordable units, the zoning map demonstrates that many smaller-minimum areas exist throughout the City. Considered as a whole, the variety of R-1 districts provides for a wide variety of neighborhoods accommodating a range of housing types and levels of affordability. The minimum lot sizes for multi-family districts are also not considered prohibitive.

Allowing alternative designs provides opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing by reducing the cost of infrastructure spread out over a larger parcel of land. Alternative designs can promote other community development objectives, including agricultural preservation or protection of environmentally sensitive lands, while supporting the development of varied residential types. Consideration should be given to alternative design developments that seek to produce and preserve affordable housing options for working and lower income households.

#### Public Policies Regarding Investment of Federal Housing and Community Development Funds

Housing choice can also be affected by the allocation of staff and financial resources to housing related programs and initiatives. The City of Canton receives Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD under the Community Development Block (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to carry out projects designed to address priority needs such as decent affordable housing, safe neighborhoods, and access to needed services.

In addition, Canton has developed an Affirmative Marketing Policy. Under this policy, the City has obligations which include community outreach and education, while also requiring developers to advertise availability of HUD-assisted units with local minority newspapers and with applicable social service and housing agencies. The City annually assesses the effectiveness of the Affirmative Marketing Policy and the efforts taken by the City and HOME/CHDO participants.

Site selection for HOME-assisted construction of new rental units should promote greater choice of housing opportunities and avoid undue concentration of assisted persons in areas containing a high concentration of LMI households. The City identifies its southern two-thirds in the Consolidated Plan as an area of investment of entitlement funds by virtue of predominantly low- and moderate-income households and minority concentration. The City should expand housing choice by creating new housing opportunities in non-concentrated areas.

### **Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing**

In regards to zoning issues, the City Planning Department is responsible for subdivision review and approval as well as zoning recommendations. Consideration of any changes to zoning will bear in mind the consequences it may have on affordable housing. In addition, as described in the preceding section, allowing alternative residential developments can provide opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing by reducing the cost of infrastructure spread out over a larger parcel of land. Alternative design models can be considered as a way to produce and preserve affordable housing options for working and lower income households.

In addition, as described above, the City of Canton will continue to administer and enforce its Affirmative Marketing Policy as a positive to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing. The City also recognizes the need to expand housing choice by providing opportunities for the development of affordable housing in neighborhoods that do not have concentrations of low income or minority households.

To implement this strategy, the City of Canton understands the need to educate the community, as well as policy makers, about the City's affordable housing needs Fair Housing Laws, and Disability Act (ADA) requirements including education and training to residents, developers, property owners, landlords, and homeowner associations.

## **SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)**

### **Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

The Homeless Hotline is a central intake system for referral and/or placement with homeless housing and services providers in the county. The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC) also has a Centralized Assessment Committee which is refining the current central intake system to a two stage assessment process. The initial assessment will be conducted via an expansion of the Hotline phone intake, with a more in-depth assessment by homeless provider agencies. This will include all clients seeking shelter, with the end goal of identifying callers who could be best served through diversion, and most appropriate referrals for those who cannot be served through diversion. The Committee is working to identify the assessment tool, assist in securing funding for implementation, and setting the implementation time line.

A strong housing continuum strategy recognizes the need to have a variety of programs that address the root causes of homelessness. The problems that lead to homelessness fall into three broad causal categories: situational, transitional and chronic. Situational homelessness is categorized by problems arising from a situation in a point in time (job, loss, divorce, domestic violence, economic downturn, disaster) and is well served by a rapid re-housing type of program.

Transitional homelessness is characterized by both an immediate housing need as well as the need for a longer term program that provides training, education, housing skills, life skills, and/or counseling to address the causal factors that lead to homelessness. Intensive, individualized support services are critical for this population in order to successfully assist them with transitioning into permanent housing and to avoid a return to homelessness.

Chronic homelessness is categorized by disabilities and interpersonal problems that will be a life-long barrier to becoming financially independent. The homeless in this group have a wide range of severity levels. Assistance with applications and continual and immediate access to support services are crucial for these individuals to successfully transition into permanent housing (typically PSH). Some of the PSH units are located within larger apartment complexes while others are in scattered sites.

After assessment, the CoC community assists clients with completing housing applications to the most appropriate housing programs. A universal housing application is to be developed by the Central Intake & Assessment Committee, with input from housing providers, to further streamline the system, eliminate duplication and assist clients more efficiently. The CoC providers have and continue to work on building strong relationships with local landlords in order to locate appropriate and affordable housing for clients.

Current CoC homeless programs include four shelters in Stark County, three transitional housing programs, several permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs, homeless prevention services and the STARR (Rapid Re-Housing) program. Case workers at each facility provide further assessment of needs

and link clients to mainstream services including: health, mental health, substance treatment, education, employment, and Stark Job and Family Services. In addition to homeless outreach and assessment through dedicated homeless programs, outreach is also done through the Canton Community Clinic, mental health providers, substance recovery programs, hospitals, law enforcement, public schools (homeless liaison), United Way's 211 help line, the Employment Source, and the faith-based community. Persons who are identified by case managers as needing in-depth mental health, medical, or substance abuse assessment are referred to the appropriate program.

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

During the assessment phase at the "Homeless Hotline" a client's need for emergency shelter and/or transitional housing is determined. The role of the "Homeless Hotline" is being expanded to add diversion services and to improve assistance with placement into shelters, rapid re-housing, transitional and permanent supportive housing. The diversion strategy includes training of Hotline staff to better identify persons with a higher likelihood of returning to permanent housing with some short term assistance, and to identify those who would be best served through diversion services such as mediation, short-term financial assistance, or legal assistance. A second component of this diversion strategy is to establish strong relationships with landlords in each of the main cities within the county (Alliance, Canton, Massillon) to place those clients who are suitable for private market housing. The diversion goal is to place 30 percent of households applying for shelter directly into housing, bypassing the need for shelter placement.

Homeless persons who do not qualify for diversion, homeless prevention or rapid re-housing will be referred to shelters, or motel vouchers when shelters are full, to address their emergency need of having a safe place to stay. An in-depth client assessment will examine the factors that led to homelessness and determine if the client is suitable for transitional or permanent supportive housing. Shelters now provide case management with individualized plans detailing how a client's causes for becoming homeless are addressed, and the steps that will be taken to exit the client into permanent housing. As the number of homeless persons continues to rise, the CoC is challenged by a shortage of emergency shelter beds. In addition, due to a lack of subsidized and affordable housing units, many homeless remain in shelters (particularly the men's shelter) beyond 90 days, adding to the need for additional shelter beds. Stark County is completing a new gaps/needs analysis under the direction of the Corporation for Supportive Housing to analyze the factors that are contributing to the backlog in the shelter system. The analysis will recommend the type and number of units Stark County needs to develop in order to successfully transition clients out of shelters quickly, freeing up beds for others in need of emergency shelter.

Transitional housing is best suited to those in transitional life stages such such as transition age youth, families with young children, persons fleeing domestic violence, ex-offenders, the under educated, and those lacking certain skills. However, as HUD moves away from funding new transitional housing programs, the CoC is researching best practices for rapid re-housing models that could also serve persons typically assisted through transitional housing, with the potential to achieve self-sufficiency in

open market housing within 24 months when given the necessary support. And yet, transitional housing is still needed to assist those (such as persons on SSI or SSDI) who are unable to achieve financial independence or maintain an apartment/house in the open market, or those who do not require permanent supportive housing but rather need a transitional place to live while waiting for subsidized housing to open up, or who need help overcoming some of the barriers that caused their homelessness.

Transitional homeless do not have the chronic needs typical for those who are appropriately served by Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). The CoC goal is to place persons suitable for PSH housing directly into a PSH program, rather than using shelters or transitional housing as a waiting period. In order to achieve this goal, more PSH needs to be created.

**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.**

Improving the initial intake assessment process is key to reducing the period of time in which persons and families experience homelessness. As the HCCSC assessment process becomes more sophisticated and the housing placement process improves, homelessness should decrease even among the more challenging sub-populations.

Fast housing placement for the most vulnerable is another key component in shortening the period of homelessness. The Stark Area Rapid Re-Housing program (STARR), facilitated through the YWCA, provides a fast transition for individuals and families directly into permanent housing. STARR targets those who have already been evicted, who are living in shelter or who are at imminent risk of losing their temporary living situations with family and/or friends (within 14 days). Rapid Re-Housing also targets clients who have some form of income and who need minimal assistance and case management, typically up to 3 months. Current transitional housing programs target individuals with ongoing needs that may take up to 24 months to address before the client can successfully exit to permanent housing.

Transitional Housing programs are being encouraged to retool into a more "rapid re-housing" model, focusing on individual needs for services but limiting the time period for assistance and exit to permanent housing to 12 months rather than 24. The HCCSC recognizes that this shortened time frame will be dependent on the needs of the participant (e.g. length of time for obtaining education and/or job training), as well as the availability of affordable housing and employment opportunities that provide enough income to enable the participant to pay rent.

The HCCSC is currently analyzing local transitional housing programs, including assessing the feasibility of expanding rapid re-housing through the creation of a parallel re-housing program targeting persons who need a longer period of assistance. The HCCSC will be looking at successful rapid re-housing

programs in other communities to determine how an expanded rapid re-housing program may be able to assist clients who are underserved by the current programs. One challenge with expanding rapid re-housing and serving clients with more barriers to employment and self-sufficiency is identifying landlords who are willing to rent to clients who may need up to 24 months to gain financial independence, and who are willing to rent their units at affordable rates to households who will be required to exit the program when they reach 30% AMI (Area Medium Income). This means locating housing with utilities at approximately \$300 per month. Because Stark County does not have a large stock of safe, decent sanitary units that meet this rent and utility cap, the HCCSC will seek to build partnerships with landlords and developers to address this issue.

Clients who may not qualify for rapid re-housing due to substantial barriers to achieving financial sustainability in the open market within 24 months, but who are not in need of permanent supportive housing either, are referred to transitional housing until there is a vacancy in a subsidized unit. The HCCSC seeks to further strengthen the partnership it has with the local housing authority to better streamline the process for these individuals.

Clients who have severe and possibly life-long barriers to attaining self-sufficiency are referred to permanent supportive housing. The HCCSC has contracted with the Corporation for Supportive Housing to determine the number of PSH units needed and how to fund them. The long term goal of the HCCSC is to ensure that there are a sufficient number of PSH units to immediately refer and place persons into a unit as needed to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living more rapid, thus shortening the period of time that they experience homelessness.

**Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs**

The HCCSC is in a collaboration with the entities who are the primary funders for Emergency Assistance (United Way) and Homeless Prevention (ESG and HCRP). These two programs are in key positions to identify individuals and families who are “at-risk” of becoming homeless. The ESG jurisdiction (City of Canton) and homeless prevention provider agencies target clients who are at risk of homelessness and who are only in a temporary crisis. These homeless prevention programs serve persons who are behind in rent and/or utilities, but who, with limited assistance (1 -2 months), will be able to sustain themselves. This prevention strategy focuses on those facing evictions as well as those who are at risk of homelessness such as those being discharged from publically funded institutions, but who are still in a position to maintain themselves in housing with minimal assistance. If program applicants have already been evicted and are living with friends or family they will be encouraged to participate in diversion services and if their loss of housing is imminent (within 14 days) they will be referred to rapid re-housing.

The HCCSC is looking into how to coordinate the two systems' databases (UW 211 and TERA HMIS) to identify multiple system users as multiple system use is a warning sign of potential upcoming homelessness. Another strategy under discussion is to look at the feasibility of screening Emergency Assistance with a process similar to those calling the Hotline, to identify high-risk callers and start an intervention/diversion process before the caller becomes homeless. This would give the HCCSC better insight into risk factors for homelessness in Stark County, and develop programs geared at providing timely intervention and prevention services. Over the long-term this should reduce homelessness and reduce recidivism, provided that the primary cause is not external and beyond the control of the HSSCS (economic downturn, loss of jobs, insufficient affordable housing units).

The Stark County protocol for homeless prevention includes collaboration with the HCCSC, housers, homeless providers and institutions discharging clients. The Stark County Department of Jobs and Family Services begins transition planning/programming for all youth in foster care at age 16. It employs two independent living specialists who work with each youth and his/her case worker to develop a written plan tailored to the individual's needs and goals and to link the youth to programs that will enable him/her to achieve those goals, including classes offered by SCDFS to build independent living skills in 11 state-mandated domains. Updated every 90 days, plans include strategies for securing housing upon emancipation. SCDFS supports youth in achieving their goals as best it can, by (1) helping them identify available housing and secure Family Unification Program vouchers and tenant-based rental vouchers funded by HOME for use in the REACH and HOPE programs, which also receive support from the mental health board and (2) by providing financial help for security deposits, rent, utilities, furnishings and even groceries for variable periods of time (up to age 21) after emancipation.

### **Continuation of homeless prevention narrative**

Stark County's local hospitals employ social workers who work with patients on discharge planning, making sure that they have a place to go upon discharge and that they are connected to services they will need in the community to complete their rehabilitation/recuperation or manage their chronic health problems. Unfortunately, patients who are homeless when they arrive at a local hospital have limited options when they are discharged. Many do end up in shelters or receive vouchers to stay in motels for a time while the HCCSC identifies long-term housing options for them. This is a problem that the HCCSC has yet to address, but case managers from area local hospitals have agreed to collaborate during the coming year in an effort to define the scope of the problem and identify solutions.

The Stark County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board funds a hospital/community liaison who meets daily with treatment teams at Heartland Behavioral Health Care Hospital, the local state provider of inpatient care for acutely mentally ill adults, to discuss admissions of Stark County residents and plans for their discharge. The liaison facilitates a weekly meeting with other local providers to brainstorm community-based solutions for current patients and coordinate care/discharge planning. As appropriate, adult care facilities, safe havens, and PSH are used to house discharged patients. Project REACH and SHELTER (TBRA projects funded by the Mental Health and Recovery Service Board) serve

some clients, but there is a shortage of housing vouchers needed for immediate transition into housing. As a result, many clients must spend some time in a shelter or a motel upon discharge.



## **SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)**

### **Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards**

The City of Canton has established guidelines for dealing with lead-based paint hazards in homes being rehabilitated under its HUD-funded programs. A Lead Risk Assessment is undertaken early in the process, once rehab specifications have been drafted by City inspectors. All rehab contractors must be certified as Lead Safe Renovators in order to participate in the City's housing rehabilitation and repair/maintenance programs.

In addition, the Canton City Health Department offers testing for lead based paint and lead based paint hazards through its Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to City homeowners. It also educates the public about the hazards of lead based paint, symptoms of lead based paint poisoning, and how to avoid exposure to lead based paint.

### **How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?**

Lead poisoning among children under six years of age is the number one environmental health risk they face. Hand to mouth activity of young children is the most common way lead enters the child's body. Due to research being done and the ability to study the effects of smaller amounts of lead in the body, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has lowered the threshold amount of lead that can cause harm in children ages one year to six years old. Currently, this threshold is 10 ug/dL (micrograms lead per deciliter of whole blood). Note that a microgram is about the size of a grain of sugar. Current research is showing that lead at lower amounts than this can cause loss of IQ points and other neurological damage. The threshold will likely be lowered pending future research findings.

Once lead is in a child's body, it can do much damage; damage which can last a lifetime. Lead can affect all body systems. Lead can interfere with the child's brain development which can cause learning problems, behavior problems, and delays in development which can make it difficult for a child to learn. Lead can damage the kidneys, and other major organs of the body. Lead has been shown to lower IQ, which can result in children not reaching their potential. In short lead poisoning can rob a child of a better life.

### **How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?**

In 2011, Canton City Council approved an ordinance which required all home improvement contractors conducting renovations in pre-1978 housing to be certified with accredited training and to follow work practice requirements of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Regulations (40 CFR 745, Subpart E- Residential Property Renovations). Each contractor performing work on Department of Development projects is screened to ensure compliance.

The Department of Development also facilitates training seminars to assist contractors to become Lead Safe Renovators. The Department will only work with contractors who have the State required certification for Lead Safe Renovation.

## **SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)**

### **Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families**

Through preparation of the Consolidated Plan, the City of Canton has developed anti-poverty goals, strategies, and programs to help reduce the number of families and individuals living in poverty. The following table provides demographics of Canton's population living in poverty. As reported in ACS data for 2006-2010, Canton had an individual poverty rate of 27.1%, a household poverty rate of 25.6%, and a family poverty rate of 21.9%. The poverty rate for families who rent is 46.8%, compared to 8% for owner-occupant families.

Canton's Black/African American population has a much higher incidence of poverty (45%) than the City's White population (19.7%)., with a 46% for persons of Hispanic or Latino origin. Educational attainment is also a factor in poverty rates – 34.9% of persons without a high school degree or equivalent were in poverty, while only 8.8% of those with a bachelor's degree or higher were in poverty.

The City of Canton's anti-poverty goals include:

- Reducing the number of Canton residents living in poverty over the Consolidated Plan period
- Ensuring all residents, including those in poverty, have a safe place to live, access to job training and life skills, adequate food and clothing, parenting skills and support, and educational opportunities to improve their livelihood and sustainability.

The following objectives and strategies will be developed over the five-year Plan period to reduce poverty and improve the self-sufficiency of Canton's lowest income residents.

#### Expand Economic Opportunities for Canton's Low Income Persons

The availability of living wage jobs is a large factor in reducing the poverty level. Canton's unemployment rate in October 2013 was 8.6%. and is substantially higher than the current unemployment rate for Stark County (7.2%), the State of Ohio (7%), and the United States (7%). The following strategies will help to expand economic opportunities and reduce poverty in the community.

1. Support Job Creation. The City will work with area businesses and economic development related agencies to develop or expand programs that create jobs, offer microenterprise assistance, business assistance or training.
2. Support workforce development. Education, job skills development and training are important to getting a living wage job. There is a need to train workers for jobs in growing or emerging industries and to support activities that improve or provide access to economic opportunities for extremely low- and very low-income residents.

#### Provide Services that Support Self-Sufficiency

Individuals and households in poverty struggle to provide basic needs such as a safe home, heat, food, transportation, health care, and education.

1. Work with area service providers to identify gaps in services and to coordinate programming to leverage existing funding and resources within the community.
2. Support programs that help persons improve self-sufficiency by providing access to education, employment, health care, food, and financial stability.
3. Support programs that address risk factors for homelessness such as alcohol and drug addiction.

#### Expand and Improve Canton's Affordable Housing Supply and Improve Living Conditions

Persons below the poverty level may live in substandard housing, or in housing that has safety issues, or is energy inefficient. The following strategies will be employed.

1. Support housing rehabilitation and weatherization programs that reduce monthly housing costs and improve housing conditions.
2. Support programs that prevent foreclosure.
3. Help Low-Income residents become homeowners.

#### **How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan**

The City of Canton's poverty goals and programs are incorporated into the following Consolidated Plan strategies summarized below.

Expand, Maintain and Improve Existing Affordable Housing Supply. The Strategic Plan and Action Plan propose to allocate funding for housing rehabilitation, repair/maintenance, and weatherization programs assisting low/moderate income households. These housing programs will enable low income families to remain in their homes, keep their homes decent, safe and sanitary, while also allowing them to use their limited resources for other necessary items (i.e. clothing, food, etc.). The City will also support creating affordable housing units through new development or acquisition and rehabilitation, providing additional affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income families.

Reduce Homelessness. ESG funding will be provided to agencies that provide housing, shelter, and supportive services to assist the homeless as well as those households at risk of becoming homeless to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

Expand Economic Opportunities for Low and Moderate Income Persons. The Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan propose funding for economic development programs and activities designed to help existing and new businesses create jobs for low or moderate income persons, or to help businesses in low or moderate-income areas with building improvements or public improvements, to provide job training opportunities, as well as support small business development.

Public Services. The City's Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan proposes funding for public services that directly assist low/moderate income persons, such as youth and elderly services, child care, education and training, health care, fair housing and other housing counseling programs.

<b>City of Canton Poverty Statistics 2006-2010</b>			
<b>Poverty Statistics 2006-2010 ACS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Number in Poverty</b>	<b>Percent In Poverty</b>
Total Population	71,705	19,448	27.1%
<b>AGE</b>			
Under 18 Years	18,764	7,874	42.0%
18 to 64 Years	44,166	10,286	23.3%
65 Years and Over	8,775	1,288	14.7%
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN</b>			
White	51,131	10,068	19.7%
Black or African American	16,271	7,316	45.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	372	90	24.2%
Asian	193	48	24.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0	-
Some other race	409	114	27.9%
Two or more races	3,329	1,812	54.4%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	1,747	364	20.8%
<b>HOUSEHOLDS &amp; FAMILIES</b>			
Households	30,741	7,884	25.6%
Families	17,663	3,863	21.9%
Owner-Occupied	11,362	913	8.0%
Renter-Occupied	6,301	2,950	46.8%
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (Pop. 25 Yrs+)</b>			
Less than high school graduate	8,658	3,022	34.9%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	18,717	3,550	19.0%
Some college, associate's degree	12,830	2,266	17.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher	5,905	520	8.8%

**Chart - City of Canton Poverty Statistics**

## **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230**

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

As a HUD designated Entitlement Community & HOME Participating Jurisdiction, the City of Canton is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of its CDBG, ESG & HOME Programs and ensuring that all funds are used in keeping with program requirements. Regulations require that the performance of each participant receiving HUD funds must be reviewed at least annually to ensure compliance with applicable program requirements, ensure production and accountability, evaluate organizational and project performance, as well as project viability (financial health, management capacity, etc.) The City of Canton DOD will use its Standard Operating Procedures, Rehab policies, and Request for Proposals to achieve its production and service goals. While this will include managing in-house programs, some programs and services may be contracted out to sub-grantees. Funds will be allocated to eligible projects based on funding availability. Monitoring for housing may include HOME, CDBG and NSP projects. To assist in the successful management of the City's HUD programs, the Department of Development (DOD) has adopted a monitoring plan and the following procedures.

### **PROGRAM MONITORING**

The City monitors housing rehabilitation, new construction activity and all other community development activity carried out by Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) and sub-grantees on an annual monitoring schedule created to ensure strict compliance with applicable HUD laws, regulations and program guidelines. Once or twice a year, the Department of Development reviews applications for specific projects through an RFP, reviewing all application against the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. This is in addition to reviewing project feasibility, providing technical assistance, and monitoring the progress of projects under construction on an on-going basis.

Property inspections are built into our service delivery system, and are conducted in accordance to our Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for Inspectors. Properties are closely monitored beginning at the time that funds are committed to the completion of construction or rehabilitation with monitoring that follows subsequent years. Annually, the City conducts regular on-going site visits, as well as, program and tenant file monitoring of the units funded through the HOME Program, CDBG, NSP and other federally funded programs to ensure compliance with program goals and federal regulations. Non housing Projects are closely monitored beginning at the time that funds are committed to the completion of the projects. Annually, the City conducts regular on-going site visits, as well as, program file monitoring to ensure compliance with program goals and federal regulations.

### **ADDITIONAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR ESG**

Monitoring occurs when monthly bills are submitted. Invoices are checked to ensure that spending is only occurring on eligible activities and importantly, funding limits on essential services, operation costs, homeless prevention activities, and administrative costs are all in compliance with HUD mandated rules. A representative of the Department of Development attends Homeless Collaborative, to participate, provide input and receive information regarding homelessness. At this meeting, monthly reports of the Homeless Collaborative, which is made up of the various agencies providing services to the homeless are received, reviewed and discussed.

#### OUTREACH TO MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

Canton's Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Program provides purchasing opportunities to certified Minority and Women-Owned businesses. The City of Canton offers certification for MBE/WBE's that are geographically located or wish to do business within the borders of the City of Canton.

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The 5-year Consolidated Plan for 2014 - 2018 must identify the federal, state, local, and private resources expected to be available to the City of Canton to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Strategic Plan. The City of Canton is a direct entitlement community for the following HUD-funded programs: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Canton receives an annual allocation of Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD for CDBG, HOME, and ESG. Below is a breakdown of these anticipated funding resources.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	2,410,452	200,000	979,978	3,590,430	9,544,570	CDBG Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.



Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	489,048	25,952	0	515,000	1,900,000	HOME Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	202,563	0	0	202,563	797,437	ESG Funds will leverage private funding, as well as other public funding from local, state, federal funding sources.

Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

CDBG Program – CDBG funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state, or federal funding for housing and community development activities. CDBG funding allocated for economic development can leverage private investment.

HOME Program – HOME funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state or federal funding for affordable housing development. In particular, HOME funding can leverage affordable housing tax credits for Canton housing projects. Although the HOME program has a matching requirement, the City of Canton is not required to provide local match because the City is considered by HUD to be severely distressed. As a community with a low per capita income and high percentage of families living in poverty, Canton is exempt from HOME Matching Requirements.

ESG Program - ESG funding allocated to subrecipients can leverage additional private, local, state, or federal funding for homeless assistance and homelessness prevention programs and services.

**If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City of Canton owns and operates the Edward “Peel” Coleman Southeast Community Center, located at 1400 Sherrick Avenue SE. This facility is located within the boundaries of the City’s Eastside Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area.

The Canton Community Improvement Corporation (CCIC) owns several tracts of vacant industrial land that is being assembled and marketed for economic development.

**Discussion**

As described above, the City of Canton will utilize a portion of its HUD-funded funding to partner with subrecipients for housing and community development projects and activities. These activities can result in the leveraging of additional private, local, state, or federal funding sources. This leveraging can increase the impact these activities will have on the community, enabling more persons to be served in addition to furthering community and neighborhood revitalization.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing	2014	2018	Affordable Housing	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply	CDBG: \$1,427,500 HOME: \$463,500	Homeowner Housing Added: 15 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 65 Household Housing Unit Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 10 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods	2014	2018	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences	CDBG: \$1,238,600	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2900 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 60 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 10 Buildings Other: 10000 Other
3	Reduce Homelessness	2014	2018	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Address Homelessness Issues	ESG: \$202,563	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 500 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 1000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Expand Economic Opportunities	2014	2018	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services	CDBG: \$125,000	Jobs created/retained: 15 Jobs Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted
5	Provide Needed Public Services	2014	2018	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide	Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services	CDBG: \$306,330	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Planning and Program Administration	2014	2018	Planning, Administration, Fair Housing	City-Wide	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Address Homelessness Issues Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences	CDBG: \$493,000 HOME: \$51,500	Other: 1 Other

Table 55 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	The City of Canton will utilize CDBG and HOME funds to carry out activities designed to expand, maintain, and improve affordable housing. The City will undertake these housing activities, utilizing programs carried out by the Department of Development. In addition, the City will provide funding to subrecipient organizations for affordable housing activities.

2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will utilize CDBG funding to carry out activities designed to improve the safety and liveability of neighborhoods. Activities will be concentrated within the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas and Target Area Neighborhoods.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Reduce Homelessness
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will provide ESG funding to various local organizations to carry out activities designed to reduce homelessness in the community. These ESG-funded projects will help to complement the Continuum of Care activities being funded through the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will develop and begin to implement an economic development assistance program designed to expand economic opportunities, including economic development programs to be undertaken within the City's designated Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas. The program to be developed will provide financial assistance to for-profit businesses to assist projects designed to strengthen the economic base of the community, and create/retain jobs for low and moderate income persons.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will provide CDBG funding to various local non-profit organizations to provide needed public services in the community. Public services include programs for youth, elderly assistance, nutrition, job training, neighborhood safety, and fair housing/housing counseling services.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Canton will utilize CDBG and HOME funds for the planning and overall management of its Annual Action Plan, including activities to affirmatively further fair housing.





## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

This section lists and describes the projects that the City of Canton will carry out during the FY 2014 Annual Action Plan. These projects reflect a thorough process that determined Canton's priority needs to be addressed during the first year of the 2014-2018 Five-Year Strategic Plan. The City of Canton will utilize CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding to undertake the projects that comprise the City's FY 2014 Annual Action Plan, described below as follows.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	CDBG Rehabilitation - Single Family Residential
2	CDBG Rehabilitation Administration
3	Public Facilities and Improvements
4	Clearance and Demolition
5	Public Service Activities
6	Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas
7	Economic Development
8	Relocation
9	Planning
10	CDBG General Management
11	HOME General Management
12	HOME New Housing Construction
13	HOME Single Family Residential Rehabilitation
14	HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance
15	ESG 14 Canton

**Table 56 – Project Information**

**Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs**

The City of Canton recognizes the need for improvement in the implementation of its housing and community development activities, particularly to more effectively address underserved needs in the community. To address this issue, the City has undertaken a two-step approach: 1) the City has undergone a year-long reorganization of its Development Department, including a thorough reworking of the Standard Operating Procedures governing the management and administration of its HUD-funded programs; and 2) the City has established two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas in order to concentrate its efforts to the revitalization of its most underserved and neediest neighborhoods.

In addition, programs that are income qualified will be open to all areas of the City, and programs that are area qualified will be directed to only those projects that take place in the low-mod areas of the City. The City estimates that 75% of its Consolidated Funds will be expended within the target areas.

HOME and ESG funds are allocated primarily on a competitive basis through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. Limited direct allocations are also made with these funds. CDBG funds will be distributed through a combination of RFPs and direct allocations.

RFP's are mailed to all developers, subrecipients, and CHDOs for HOME and ESG project submissions, and are also made available on the City website. Returned applications are submitted to the Department of Development Scoring Committee and recommendations are submitted to Canton City Council for review, comment and approval.

The City will continue to work with the community to plan for future funding applications. When additional funding becomes available, activities that address underserved needs will be examined and reviewed for possible funding.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG Rehabilitation - Single Family Residential
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$877,500
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton's housing rehabilitation program is designed to assist low and moderate income homeowners to correct housing conditions, which if neglected, will adversely affect the health, safety and welfare of the homeowner. Repair and maintenance work may include roof, furnace, electric, plumbing, flooring, code violations, sewage backup, water line breaks, exterior improvement, and other qualifying repairs.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that this project will assist 70 low and moderate income homeowner families and households, including families with children, elderly households, and others.
	<b>Location Description</b>	This prorject will be available City-wide.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>This following activities are planned to be carried out as part of this project:</p> <p><u>City of Canton CDBG Housing Repair and Maintenance Program - \$375,000</u>, assisting LMI homeowners with rehab assistance to correct housing conditions, which is neglected, will adversely affect the health, safety, and welfare of the homeowner. 25 LMI housing units to be rehabbed.</p> <p><u>City of Canton NSP3 Housing - \$97,500</u>, providing CDBG funding to complete the rehabilitation of 3 existing homes that were initially begun under the City's NSP3 grant. 3 LMI housing units to be rehabbed.</p> <p><u>Freed Housing - \$300,000</u>, providing CDBG funding to rehabilitate vacant units transferred back to the City of Canton by Freed Housing, the non-profit housing provider affiliated with the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority. 6 LMI housing units to be rehabbed.</p> <p><u>SCCAA Furnace Repair Program - \$105,000</u>, providing CDBG funding to the Stark County Community Action Agency (SCCAA) to operate a furnace replacement program to help maintain 30 LMI housing units.</p>
2	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG Rehabilitation Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$350,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton will allocate CDBG funding for staff costs directly involved in carrying out the City's housing rehabilitation programs.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project provides the staff costs for the administration of the City's housing rehabilitation program, identified in the Annual Action Plan as Project 2014.01 "CDBG Rehabilitation - Single Family Residential". The estimated number and types of families to be assisted was provided under Project 2014.01.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The activities to be undertaken as part of this Project include the following:  <u>City Rehab Salaries - \$250,000</u> , providing CDBG funding for the City's Development Department staff directly involved in the delivery of housing rehabilitation program services.  <u>City Rehab Support - \$100,000</u> , providing CDBG funding for other direct program delivery costs associated with the City's housing rehabilitation program.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$90,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding for public facilities and improvements serving low and moderate income residential neighborhoods, as well as City-wide improvements designed to improve accessibility for persons with limited mobility.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	HUD Census data on disabled populations reports that there are 15,269 disabled persons residing within the City of Canton.
	<b>Location Description</b>	ADA Curb Replacement will be undertaken on a City-wide basis. Goodwill Industries is located at 408 9th Street SW.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The following activities are proposed to be undertaken under this Project: <u>ADA Curb Replacement - \$75,000</u> , providing CDBG funding to the construction of ADA curb ramps at various locations throughout the City. This project is designed to improve accessibility and mobility for disabled persons. <u>Goodwill Industries - \$15,000</u> , providing CDBG funding for renovation work at the Goodwill Industries Community Campus near downtown Canton.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Clearance and Demolition
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$251,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding for the demolition and clearance of vacant, dilapidated, abandoned buildings that are a hazard to the public health, safety, and welfare, and that are blighting influences with neighborhoods.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The removal of vacant and dilapidated buildings and structures will remove blighting influences with neighborhoods. The City estimates that 8400 families will benefit from demolition and clearance activities within the City's target area and neighborhood revitalization strategy areas.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Demolitions will be undertaken on a scattered site basis, with specific addresses to be determined.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>The following activities are proposed to be undertaken as part of this Project:</p> <p><u>Demolition - \$200,000</u>, providing CDBG funding for the demolition and clearance of vacant and dilapidated buildings.</p> <p><u>Board Ups - \$30,000</u>, providing CDBG funding to board up and secure vacant and dilapidated buildings in anticipation of demolition.</p> <p><u>Demolition Salaries - \$21,000</u>, providing CDBG funding to pay City Department of Development staff costs directly involved in carrying out demolition program activities.</p>
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Activities
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$90,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton will provide CDBG funding to local non-profit organizations for needed public services assisting low and moderate income persons and households.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015



	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that 3,000 families will benefit from public service activities funded under this project
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide activity
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>The City is proposing to provide CDBG funding for the following public service activities:</p> <p><u>Food Vouchers - \$50,000</u>, providing CDBG funding for \$50 food vouchers distributed to LMI households and the elderly. This program provides nutrition assistance for LMI households, particularly for elderly households and families with children.</p> <p><u>Canton ExNewsboys - \$20,000</u>, providing CDBG funding for a long-standing program that provides clothing and other necessities for low income children.</p> <p><u>Bus Passes - \$15,000</u>, providing CDBG funding for bus passes to assist low income and homeless persons in traveling to needed services, including social service agencies, food kitchens, etc.</p> <p><u>Mayor's Literacy Commission - \$5,000</u>, providing CDBG funding for adult literacy programs and services</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas
	<b>Target Area</b>	<p>Eastside Neighborhood</p> <p>Central Neighborhood</p>
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	<p>Expand, Maintain &amp; Improve Affordable Housing</p> <p>Improve the Safety &amp; Liveability of Neighborhoods</p> <p>Expand Economic Opportunities</p> <p>Provide Needed Public Services</p>

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$1,113,930
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding for project activities to be carried out in the City's Eastside and Central Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA). The City has previously prepared a detailed comprehensive plan for the revitalization of these two designated areas in Canton and is carrying out a wide ranging list of projects and activities designed to achieve the goals set forth in the NRSA Plan.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	According to the 2006-2010 ACS, there are 4,288 households in the Eastside NRSA and 3588 households in the Central NRSA for a total of 7,876 households that will benefit from activities being carried out as part of the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The Eastside NRSA includes Census Tracts 7018, 7021, and 7023.  The Central NRSA includes Census Tracts 7001, 7015, and 7017.  Please refer to Chapter SP-10 of the Strategic Plan for additional information regarding the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas.

	<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p> <p><u>Habitat for Humanity - \$115,500</u>, exterior housing rehabilitation and other neighborhood improvements in the 7th St NE/Sandal NE NRSA neighborhood.</p> <p><u>Hammer &amp; Nails - \$200,000</u>, housing rehabilitation program serving NRSA homeowners.</p> <p><u>Rebuilding together - \$75,000</u>, housing rehabilitation serving NRSA homeowners and targeting veterans.</p> <p><u>MDS Neighborhood Youth Clean-Up Program - \$238,500</u>, operated by Multi-Development Services of Stark County to utilize NRSA youth to cleanup vacant lots in NRSA neighborhoods.</p> <p><u>SCCAA Summer Youth Employment Program - \$143,600</u>, summer internship/worksite experience for NRSA youth operated by Stark County Community Action Agency.</p> <p><u>Southeast Waterpark - \$105,000</u>, CDBG funding to assist in development of a waterpark near the Southeast Community Center and serving NRSA families.</p> <p><u>SECC Security Improvements - \$20,000</u>, improvements to the Southeast Community Center, including lighting and entrances.</p> <p><u>SECC Operations - \$20,000</u>, CDBG funding for operations at the Southeast Community Center.</p> <p><u>YD Salaries - \$35,000</u>, CDBG funding for Youth Development program staffing costs.</p> <p><u>Family Life Center - \$40,686</u>, summer youth feeding program serving NRSA area centers.</p> <p><u>Enrichment - \$33,000</u>, summer youth fine arts camp serving NRSA area youth.</p> <p><u>ABLE Rites of Passage - \$30,000</u>, life skills mentoring program during school year for NRSA area at-risk adolescent youth.</p> <p><u>PUSH Safety Net Program - 34,729</u>, life skills summer program for NRSA area at-risk youth.</p> <p><u>The First Tee of Canton Community Outreach &amp; Diversity Program - \$12,915</u>, teaching life skills through recreation for NRSA area at-risk youth.</p> <p><u>Coleman Professional Services - \$10,000</u>, mediation and conflict resolution program serving NRSA area residents.</p>	<p>CANTON</p> <p>235</p>
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<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$125,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding to operate an economic development program providing financial assistance to for-profit businesses to enable such businesses to carry out an economic development project designed to improve the economic base of the community, provide needed goods and services in LMI neighborhoods, and expanding economic opportunity for LMI persons through job creation/retention.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that anywhere from 5-50 persons/households will benefit from proposed economic development activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will develop and implement an economic development program providing financial assistance to for-profit businesses to assist such businesses in carrying out a needed economic development project that will serve low/moderate income areas or expand economic opportunity through job creation/retention, especially for LMI persons and households. The City's economic development program will be designed and carried out in compliance with the CDBG regulations for economic development, including eligible activities, compliance with national objectives, financial analysis and public benefit requirements.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Relocation

	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$200,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funds to be for relocation/temporary housing costs for homeowners who need to move temporarily while their properties are undergoing HUD-funded housing rehabilitation. In particular, lead-based paint abatement activities often require that housing occupants not be present during the construction/abatement period. The City of Canton is allocating CDBG dollars to pay for these necessary relocation expenses.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that as many as 20 households will require some type of relocation/temporary housing assistance during the rehab construction period.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Under this Project, the City of Canton will pay the temporary living expenses of families forced to relocate to temporary housing as a result of housing rehabilitation/lead-based paint abatement. Costs include moving expenses, housing/lodging, utilities, etc.
9	<b>Project Name</b>	Planning
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and Program Administration

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Address Homelessness Issues Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services Removal of Blight and Blighting Influences
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$38,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding for City of Canton Department of Development staff costs associated with planning activities which consist of all costs of data gathering, studies, analysis, and preparation of plans and the identification of actions that will implement such plans.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Planning activity - not applicable.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CDBG funding under this project will be used to pay Canton Department of Development staff costs associated with planning activities.
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG General Management
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and Program Administration

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Address Homelessness Issues Public Facilities and Improvements Expand Economic Opportunities Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$455,000
	<b>Description</b>	CDBG funding for the payment of Canton Department of Development staff and operating costs associated with CDBG administrative activities, including the overall management, coordination, reporting and record-keeping requirements of the CDBG Program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Administration Activity - Not Applicable
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CDBG funding under this Project will be used to pay Canton Department of Development staff expenses, operating costs and other expenses associated with the general management and administration of the City's CDBG Program.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME General Management
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and Program Administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$51,500

	<b>Description</b>	HOME funds are being allocated to pay for Canton Department of Development expenses associated with planning and administration of the City's HOME Program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Not application - planning/administration activity
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	HOME funds under this Project will be used to pay for Canton Department of Development staff salaries, operating costs and other expenses associated with the planning and administration of the City's HOME Program.
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME New Housing Construction
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$238,500
	<b>Description</b>	HOME funds allocated by the City of Canton to local housing developers, either for-profit companies or non-profit agencies, to assist in the construction of new affordable homeowner housing for low and moderate households.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2016
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City of Canton estimates that 6 low/moderate income homeowner households will benefit from the proposed activities carried out under this Project.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide



	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City of Canton proposes to contract with Habitat for Humanity of Stark and Carroll Counties to assist in the construction of six (6) new affordable single family housing units to be occupied by eligible low and moderate income households.
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Single Family Residential Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Area Census Tracts Eastside Neighborhood Central Neighborhood City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Improve the Safety & Liveability of Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Maintain Affordable Housing Supply
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$200,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton proposes to utilize HOME funding to carry out a housing rehabilitation designed to assist low/moderate income homeowners upgrade their housing conditions, correct code violations, improve exterior appearance, increase energy efficiency, and contribute to revitalization of neighborhoods. Homes will be rehabilitated to applicable Housing Quality Standards.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City of Canton estimates that 6 low/moderate income homeowner households will benefit from the activities proposed under this Project.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Under this Project, the City of Canton Department of Development will carry out single family housing rehabilitation activities designed to assist eligible low/moderate income homeowners in upgrading and improving their homes to applicable Housing Quality Standards.
<b>14</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance

	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand, Maintain & Improve Affordable Housing Reduce Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Expand Affordable Housing Opportunities Address Homelessness Issues
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$25,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton proposes to provide HOME funding to Freed Housing Corporation for the provision of tenant based rental assistance to persons with special needs to enable them to become self sufficient.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City of Canton estimates that ten (10) persons with special needs will benefit from the activities proposed under this Project
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City of Canton will provide HOME funds to Freed Housing Corporation to provide tenant based rental assistance to persons with special needs. This assistance will enable such special needs persons to find and secure suitable affordable rental housing, while also assisting such persons to become self-sufficient.
15	<b>Project Name</b>	ESG 14 Canton
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Reduce Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Address Homelessness Issues
	<b>Funding</b>	ESG: \$202,563

	<b>Description</b>	The City of Canton will allocate ESG funding to local non-profit agencies to carry out homeless assistance/prevention activities, including homeless prevention, shelter operations, essential services, and HMIS.
	<b>Target Date</b>	3/31/2015
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City of Canton estimates that 200 families and households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness will benefit from the proposed ESG Project activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Community Services of Stark County - \$81,328 - Homeless Prevention Domestic Violence Project - \$49,648 - Shelter Operations Domestic Violence Project - \$28,044 - Essential Services Mental Health Recovery Services Board - \$28,351 - HMIS ESG Administration - \$15,192

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**

### **Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed**

Because the City of Canton is predominately low-mod income, the geographic area includes the entire city. The southern two-thirds of the city consists of census tracts that all have a majority of low-mod income residents, as well as a minority population concentration. The 20 targeted census tracts and block groups all exceed the 50% level for low-mod income with figures ranging from 52.5% to 87% of the population being low-mod.

In addition, as part of its FY 2013 Action Plan, the City of Canton established two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, the Eastside Area and the Central Area. The Eastside strategy area covers much of the northeast and southeast sections of the city. The Central strategy area covers the downtown and nearby surrounding neighborhoods to the west. HUD encourages the establishment of Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA) as a means to create communities of opportunity in distressed neighborhoods. The goal of this program is to reinvest in human and economic capital, and economically empower low-income residents as part of an overall community revitalization strategy. The City of Canton's proposed NRSA's encompass two of the city's most distressed areas. The City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan was approved by HUD in 2013 and the implementation of NRSA began that same years. Now, under the FY 2014 Action Plan, the City is proposing to allocate over \$1.1 million for activities within these NRSA area neighborhoods.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Target Area Census Tracts	25
Eastside Neighborhood	15
Central Neighborhood	15
City-Wide	45

**Table 57 - Geographic Distribution**

## **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

As described above, HUD census data on low and moderate income populations have reported that a majority of the residents of the City of Canton (56.3%) are considered to be low and moderate income. While this means that most HUD-funded activities that are City-wide in scope can be considered to meet the CDBG Program national objective of benefitting low and moderate income persons, it is also true that within the City there are specific areas of low -income and minority concentrations. Document SP-10 "Geographic Priorities" of the City of Canton Five-Year Strategic Plan for 2014-2018 contains a detailed discussion of the process by which the City set the priorities for the allocation of its HUD resources on a geographic basis.

### **Discussion**

As discussed in the Strategic Plan, the basis for the City's allocation of HUD funds on a geographic basis is as follows:

#### City-wide

According to HUD census data, 56.3% of residents within the City of Canton are low and moderate income. Because the City of Canton is a predominately low-mod income community, the geographic area for allocation of investment can include the entire city.

#### Targeted Census Tracts

The City of Canton generally allocates its HUD dollars to projects located in the southern two-thirds of Canton, where the census tracts all have a majority of low-mod income residents, as well as a minority population concentration. See the attached charts for a breakdown of this data. These targeted census tracts and block groups all exceed the 51% level for low-mod income with LMI percentages in some tracts exceeding 75%. The total LMI percentage within this targeted area of Canton is 65.6%, which includes 35,537 low-mod persons out of a total population of 54,159.

#### Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas

In addition, during the FY 2013 Program Year, the City of Canton established two Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas: the Eastside Area and the Central Area. The Eastside strategy area covers much of the northeast and southeast sections of the city. The Central strategy area covers the downtown and nearby surrounding neighborhoods to the west. HUD encourages the establishment of Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSA) as a means to create communities of opportunity in distressed neighborhoods. The goal of this program is to reinvest in human and economic capital, and economically empower low-income residents as part of an overall community revitalization strategy. The City of Canton's NRSA's encompass two of the city's most distressed areas. As part of the 5-Year Strategic Plan for 2014 - 2018, the City will allocate concentrated HUD-funding for a comprehensive revitalization program of projects and activities within each NRSA.



## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

The City of Canton's FY 2014 Annual Action Plan programs will expand affordable housing opportunities and preserve existing affordable housing for the City's low and moderate income households. Projects that will be funded include single family housing rehabilitation and housing maintenance & repair programs operated by the City's Department of Development. In addition, the City will contract with a number of subrecipient agencies, including Habitat for Humanity, Hammer & Nails, SCCAA, and Rebuilding Together to provide additional housing rehabilitation programs and services for lower income homeowners. These programs are described in detail under Section AP-35 "Projects".

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	105
Special-Needs	10
Total	115

**Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	10
The Production of New Units	10
Rehab of Existing Units	90
Acquisition of Existing Units	5
Total	115

**Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

#### Discussion

The housing rehabilitation programs to be carried out by the City of Canton Department of Development represent a continuation of many years of rehab assistance provided by the City. The housing rehabilitation programs to be carried out by various subrecipients was determined through a Request for Proposals (RFP) that has been described in detail elsewhere in this Action Plan. All of these programs are being funded to address the need to expand and preserve affordable housing for low and moderate income households that was identified as a priority need in the City's Consolidated Plan.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

This section describes activities for public housing during the Annual Action Plan.

### **Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing**

In addition to minor and major renovations and general maintenance, SMHA is also committed to provide Reasonable Accommodations for approved requests and provide a percentage of units which fully comply with Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS). By including vision, hearing and mobility accessible features in new development projects, SMHA will be in the position to satisfy the one hundred twenty-eight (128) units that are required by HUD to be mobility accessible.

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

SMHA has established a Resident Initiative Program designed to assist residents with achieving self sufficiency. This effort is accomplished through goal setting, intervention, advocacy and community collaboration. Residents can get assistance with seeking employment, job training, and educational opportunities. Possible financial assistance will be given to residents that meet eligibility requirements. A scholarship is also available for all SMHA public housing residents and Section 8 residents. Two awards are given each year in the amount of \$500 and applications are available in early March. SMHA also has a variety of programs and services at various SMHA sites for SMHA residents with children. These include, but are not limited to: after school tutoring, day care, kindergarten readiness, health, safety, gang prevention programs, nature projects, etc. Other programs that SMHA offers include education classes, housing counseling and rent-to-own programs.

### **If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance**

At the present time SMHA is not designated as troubled.

### **Discussion**

SMHA is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for approved requests and to satisfy the 128 units required to be mobility accessible by HUD. SMHA also provides some financial assistance to residents that meet eligibility requirements, as well as a variety of programs and services for SMHA residents with children.



## **AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)**

### **Introduction**

The City of Canton is an entitlement community for ESG funding and has been allocated \$202,563 in ESG funding for 2014. The City has contracted with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) for administration of its ESG grant. SRPC also works with the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC) for homeless and homeless prevention services under the Continuum of Care (CoC). One of the benefits of the City's contract agreement with SRPC is to improve coordination and administration of homeless programs and services on an area-wide basis.

Canton and SRPC worked together to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting ESG funding requests from local homeless services and agencies. As a result of this process, the following activities are being proposed under Canton's FY 2014 ESG Grant:

Homeless Prevention - Community Services of Stark County - \$81,328

Shelter Operations - Domestic Violence Project - \$49,648

Essential Services - Domestic Violence Project - \$28,044

HMIS - Mental Health Recovery Services Board - \$28,351

ESG Administration - \$15,192

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including**

#### **Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC) has established a Centralized Assessment Committee which is working to create and implement a Centralized Assessment System for the Stark County area. The current plan is to expand the role of the county's central intake phone system, the "Homeless Hotline" to include assessment for all clients seeking shelter, to offer diversion services and the most appropriate referrals. The Committee is working to identify and secure funding for the Central Assessment System, to develop timelines and then inform the community of the accessibility, location and purpose of the system, including the diversion portion of the system.

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

During the assessment phase at the "Homeless Hotline", the clients' need for emergency shelter and / or transitional housing is determined. Emergency Shelters, under ESG, are being required to provide more

case management and individualized case plans that detail how clients are being assisted in their exit plan to permanent housing. Transitional Housing programs are being encouraged to retool into a more "rapid re-housing" style of programming, focusing on individual service needs and providing services accordingly, limiting the time frame of assistance and pushing for exits to permanent housing within 12 months rather than 24 months.

**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**

Stark County's Rapid Re-Housing program is being facilitated through the YWCA and provides for individuals and families to transition directly into permanent housing, shortening the length of time that such households experience homelessness. This is currently a high performing program seeing many families and individuals housed monthly. This year there will be discussions regarding how the program could be expanded to increase assistance to even more families and possibly to those who need a little more than one month's assistance. There are currently strict income requirements to ensure that clients are able to maintain their housing after the rapid re-housing assistance is over; however, this can disqualify many of the neediest homeless from the program, such as those with no income. There are discussions around targeting that excluded population for transitional housing, unless they are more suitable for permanent supportive housing.

**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: 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); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

The HCCSC will meet with the primary funders of emergency assistance and homeless prevention this year to discuss the feasibility of using the initial screening that the Centralized Intake and Assessment System will be using, in order to further coordinate the Intake and Assessment System. This early detection of multiple system users will allow providers to identify warning signs of potential upcoming homelessness and provide access to earlier intervention.

Agencies providing Homeless Prevention, who are also part of the emergency assistance collaborative, will continue to review all new clients' history with receiving emergency assistance in order to determine how often this is occurring. The HCCSC will obtain periodic reports of these numbers through the CoC Planner's communication with Homeless Prevention agencies and will report to the Board and

stakeholders of the Emergency Assistance Collaborative.

Representatives of our local hospitals' case management teams will be collaborating with the CoC to find alternatives to discharging their patients into homelessness. Other stakeholders who will be at the table will include representatives of the Homeless Hotline and representatives of all the CoC's emergency shelters. This group will work under the auspices of the System Performance & Planning Committee, and the CoC Planner will facilitate its meetings, ensuring, on behalf of the CoC, speedy outcomes from its discussions.

The CoC's Mental Illness and Addiction Subcommittee, which works under the auspices of the System Performance and Planning Committee, bears the primary responsibility for addressing the housing and supportive service needs of individual discharged from mental health institutions. The subcommittee includes representatives from Stark County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board; local mental health providers; and housing providers who serve the mentally ill. In addition, as reflected above, the local state hospital for the mentally ill is a stakeholder and close collaborator.

The CoC has established a Youth Housing Task Force to (1) examine the challenges that young adults in the community face in securing stable housing and (2) identify ways of providing youth with more and better housing options. Although it will consider the housing problems of youth in general, this task force will also examine the special problems faced by youth being discharged from foster care.

Representatives of the following agencies have agreed to serve on the task force: PAL Mission; Latter Rain Associates; SCDJFS, Turnaround Community Outreach; Mental Health and Recovery Services Board; American Rescue Workers; Alliance for Children and Families; and Stark County Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Addiction Outreach Project.

Stakeholders and collaborating agencies around the discharge planning for those exiting corrections programs and institutions include (1) the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Stark County Sheriff's Office, and the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the case managers at those agencies who are involved with discharge planning; (2) the Homeless Hotline; (3) the Mental Health & Recover Service Board; and (4) Coleman Behavioral Health, which works with the Sheriff's office. The CoC staff member and committee that share responsibility for working with these collaborating agencies and stakeholders and developing strategies to avoid the discharge of individuals from corrections facilities into homelessness are the CoC Planner and the System Performance & Planning Committee.

## **Discussion**

Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC and has a part time staff member who is the CoC Planner. The CoC Planner works under the supervision of the Chief of Community Development of SCRPC to provide most of the administrative and collaborative tasks assigned to the CoC and delegated by the CoC Chair to the CoC Planner. The CoC Planner attends all committee meetings as well as the Homeless Services Collaborative and communicates the needs of homeless persons identified during the various meetings to the Board. The

HCCSC expanded its membership to all interested individuals and organizations that serve or are concerned with the needs of Stark's homeless (housing, law enforcement, education, health care, faith community etc.). The HCCSC currently has over 90 members from a wide cross section of the community who are able to offer insight into the various needs of those at risk of homelessness, in the first stages of becoming homeless, fleeing domestic violence, or already literally homeless. Committees and focus groups have been established to get input from front line providers, those with "boots on the ground."

The ESG jurisdiction, which is the City of Canton, has contracted with the CoC's Collaborative Applicant, Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) to administer the ESG program. This enables the HCCSC, through SCRPC to consult with Canton on HSSCS goals and gaps and suggest best uses for City funds. The City and SCRPC worked together to develop policies and procedures relating to the solicitation, application, reviewing and scoring processes and allocation of ESG funding. These policies were also adopted by the HCCSC Board. The Board includes the City's Director of Development. The CoC's Recipient Evaluation and Review Committee assist SCRPC in reviewing and scoring ESG applications. Both the City and SCRPC consult with the CoC's System Performance & Planning Committee on how programs fare in meeting HCCSC performance standards and target outcomes.

## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)**

### **Introduction:**

The City of Canton has a wide variety of residential districts. Four R-1 districts (R-1a, R-1b, R-1c and R-1d) are single-family zones at various densities. The two-family R-2 district allows duplexes. The R-3 garden and townhouse apartment district allows R-2 uses as well as multi-family dwellings less than 28 feet in height. R-4 allows all R-3 uses and multi-family dwellings up to 45 feet high. Single-family dwellings are also permitted in the municipal agriculture district, and most residential uses are permitted in the City's business districts.

The vast majority of residential space in the City is zoned R-1, leaving only extremely limited developable land available for the construction of multifamily housing. Multi-family housing represents an important affordable housing option for lower-income households. A lack of affordable housing may impede housing choice for LMI households.

Excessively large lot sizes may deter development of affordable housing. In Canton, the minimum lot size in R-1 districts ranges from 6,000 square feet per family (R-1a) to 43,560 square feet per family. While larger lot sizes are considered excessive relative to the development of affordable units, the zoning map demonstrates that many smaller-minimum areas exist throughout the City. Considered as a whole, the variety of R-1 districts provides for a wide variety of neighborhoods accommodating a range of housing types and levels of affordability. The minimum lot sizes for multi-family districts are also not considered prohibitive.

Allowing alternative designs provides opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing by reducing the cost of infrastructure spread out over a larger parcel of land. Alternative designs can promote other community development objectives, including agricultural preservation or protection of environmentally sensitive lands, while supporting the development of varied residential types. Consideration should be given to alternative design developments that seek to produce and preserve affordable housing options for working and lower income households.

**Actions it planned 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**

Housing choice can also be affected by the allocation of staff and financial resources to housing related programs and initiatives. The City of Canton receives Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD under the Community Development Block (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to carry out projects designed to address priority needs such as decent affordable housing, safe neighborhoods, and access to needed services.

In addition, Canton has developed an Affirmative Marketing Policy. Under this policy, the City has obligations which include community outreach and education, while also requiring developers to advertise availability of HUD-assisted units with local minority newspapers and with applicable social service and housing agencies. The City annually assesses the effectiveness of the Affirmative Marketing Policy and the efforts taken by the City and HOME/CHDO participants.

Site selection for HOME-assisted construction of new rental units should promote greater choice of housing opportunities and avoid undue concentration of assisted persons in areas containing a high concentration of LMI households. The City identifies its southern two-thirds in the Consolidated Plan as an area of investment of entitlement funds by virtue of predominantly low- and moderate-income households and minority concentration. The City should expand housing choice by creating new housing opportunities in non-concentrated areas.

### **Discussion:**

In regards to zoning issues, the City Planning Department is responsible for subdivision review and approval as well as zoning recommendations. Consideration of any changes to zoning will bear in mind the consequences it may have on affordable housing. In addition, as described in the preceding section, allowing alternative residential developments can provide opportunities to expand the supply of affordable housing by reducing the cost of infrastructure spread out over a larger parcel of land. Alternative design models can be considered as a way to produce and preserve affordable housing options for working and lower income households.

In addition, as described above, the City of Canton will continue to administer and enforce its Affirmative Marketing Policy as a positive to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing. The City also recognizes the need to expand housing choice by providing opportunities for the development of affordable housing in neighborhoods that do not have concentrations of low income or minority households.

To implement this strategy, the City of Canton understands the need to educate the community, as well as policy makers, about the City's affordable housing needs Fair Housing Laws, and Disability Act (ADA) requirements including education and training to residents, developers, property owners, landlords, and homeowner associations.

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

Through this section, the City of Canton addresses a number of items to strengthen the community and the implementation of projects and activities of this Annual Action Plan as described below.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The biggest obstacle facing the City in trying to meet underserved needs is financial, resulting from the continuing decrease in HUD funding for CDBG and HOME programs over the years. In the last ten years, Canton's CDBG entitlement grant has decreased from \$3,512,000 in FY 2004 to 2,410,452 in FY 2014, a decrease of 31%. Likewise, the City's HOME grant has decreased from \$775,150 in FY 2004 to \$489,048 in FY 2014, a decrease of 37%. To overcome this obstacle, Canton, when soliciting program proposals through its RFP Process, requires a local match whenever possible, provided through other grant programs, foundations or local funds. In this way, the City is able to leverage its HUD dollars to attract additional funding for needed housing and community development activities.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

As described in great detail in the sections of this Annual Action Plan, the City of Canton has allocated a large portion of its CDBG and HOME dollars to projects designed to expand and preserve affordable housing for low and moderate income households. Under its combined CDBG and HOME FY 2014 allocations, the City has budgeted over \$2.3 million for affordable housing projects. These projects include housing rehabilitation programs carried out by the Department of Development, as well as housing rehabilitation/new housing construction programs carried by subrecipients such as Habitat for Humanity, Hammer & Nails, Stark County Community Action Agency, and Rebuilding Together. These affordable housing projects represent approximately 53% of the total amount of HUD funding allocated by the City for 2014.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The City of Canton has established guidelines for dealing with lead-based paint hazards in homes being rehabilitated under its HUD-funded programs. A Lead Risk Assessment is undertaken early in the process, once rehab specifications have been drafted by City inspectors. All rehab contractors must be certified as Lead Safe Renovators in order to participate in the City's housing rehabilitation and repair/maintenance programs.

The City of Canton requires that all housing projects be carried out in a lead-safe manner. Every housing rehabilitation project that is undertaken is evaluated for lead and all work is required to be carried out in a lead safe manner by licensed contractors. All rehabbed homes are tested for lead and if they don't pass inspection, they must be re-cleaned and re-tested until they pass the lead test. The Department of Development also facilitates training seminars to assist contractors to

become Lead Safe Renovators. The Department will only work with contractors who have the State required certification for Lead Safe Renovation.

In addition, the Canton City Health Department offers testing for lead based paint and lead based paint hazards through its Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to City homeowners. It also educates the public about the hazards of lead based paint, symptoms of lead based paint poisoning, and how to avoid exposure to lead based paint.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

Collaborative efforts among agencies in Stark County work to encourage the development of unified service systems, which work with families, and individuals to empower them to meet their physical, emotional, intellectual and social needs.

The programs that currently fall under the jurisdiction of the City of Canton include CDBG, HOME and ESG. The HOME program will continue to address activities which will assist persons to remain in their homes, keep their homes decent, safe and sanitary and providing affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons. The same goals will be addressed through some CDBG programs. The City will provide grants for housing rehabilitation, allowing low- and moderate-income persons to use their limited resources for other necessary items (i.e. clothing, food, etc.). ESG funding will be provided to agencies that provide housing, shelter, and supportive services to assist the homeless as well as those households at risk of becoming homeless

The City will continue to endorse SMHA's programs for family self-sufficiency and economic development opportunities for public housing residents.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City is continuing the process of restructuring the Department of Development based on retirements and other staff changes. In 2012, the City worked with technical assistance advisors provided by HUD to improve the department's structure, policies, and programs. In 2014, the City will continue an increased focus on staff training and education.

In addition, the establishment of its Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) Program has resulted in the City increasing its coordination and collaboration with local non-profit service agencies, housing providers, neighborhood organizations, businesses, and local developers. The increase in program activities resulting from NRSA projects and RFP's for the implementation of neighborhood revitalization programs has resulted in improved consultation and cooperation between the City and local organizations.

In regard to homeless programs and the Continuum of Care, The System Performance Committee of the HCCSC has developed subcommittees of providers targeting the various types of housing options



to assist with the gaps/needs analysis for the homeless population of Stark County. The work of the subcommittees provides valuable insight on needs and challenges faced by providers. The HCCSC has an active collaboration with the HSC membership on identified gaps and ideas for solutions. The Homeless Hotline is currently being expanded to include an assessment tool in which special service needs will be identified and more appropriate referrals given to strengthen institutional structure. While they are limited, services need to be increased for: healthcare including nontraditional delivery sites, child care that is not restricted to TANF regulations, and greater countywide transportation. These issues will be raised at the HCCSC meetings to collaborate to address needs when there are few, if any new dollars available.

### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies**

As described above, the RFP process used by the City of Canton in soliciting funding proposals under the City's CDBG, HOME, ESG, and Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area programs provides a framework through coordination is enhanced between public and provide housing and social service agencies. In addition, the consultation process that was part of the development of this Consolidated Plan provided an additional method for increasing discussion and communication between the City and local agencies. These are dynamic and ongoing processes, and as implementation of the Strategic Plan continues in this and future years, the City should see continuing cooperation and coordination on housing and community development programs.

In addition, the City of Canton, through its contract with the Stark Regional Planning Commission for ESG administration, is improving the coordination of area homeless and homeless prevention programs and services. The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC) is comprised of both public and private housing and social service agencies. Canton will continue to be an active participant in the HCCSC, working to coordinate with other agencies and to promote the implementation of the Consolidated Plan.

The City is participating with the County, and the cities of Alliance and Massillon, on a number of regional issues. The City also has regular ongoing discussions with the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority.

### **Discussion:**

All of the foregoing issues serve to strengthen the City's efforts to carry out the goals and policies established in the Consolidated Plan, Five-Year Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan.

## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction:

This section provides information regarding various program specific requirements for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs under which the City of Canton has been allocated funding by the U.S. Department of HUD for various community development, housing, and homeless assistance projects and activities to be undertaken in this Annual Action Plan.

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	91.90%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)**  
**Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)**

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City of Canton will not utilize any other forms of investment beyond those identified in Sec. 92.205. All City of Canton housing programs that involve acquisition are modest single-family houses that do not exceed 95% of the area median purchase price. In the case of acquiring and rehabbing, the house has an estimated after rehab value that does not exceed 95% of the area median purchase price. Section 92.203(b) limits are used for homebuyer assistance or rehab of owner occupied single-family housing. All homebuyers are low-income households who reside in the home.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The amount of subsidy to recapture is limited to the direct homebuyer assistance that was provided. If a homebuyer sells the home before the HOME affordability period has expired, the owner must repay HOME funds in accordance with the City's program guidelines as follows:

Federal regulations for the HOME Program specify certain requirements for recapture provisions when HOME funds are used to assist with homeownership purchase. The housing unit must be the principal residence of the household throughout the affordability period. To ensure affordability, the City has imposed the recapture mechanism to collect all of the direct HOME funds when the recipient decides to sell the house within the affordability period or no longer resides in the home as their principal residence. The following is exercised: (1) the homebuyer may sell the property to any willing buyer; (2) the sale of the property during the affordability period triggers repayment of the direct HOME funds that the buyer received when he/she originally purchased the home.

A lien will be placed on the property and recorded with the Stark County Recorder to assure the First Time Homebuyer Program deferred loan is repaid in the event of a default under the loan terms and conditions during the loan's affordability period. Full repayment of the HOME funds is required when a resale occurs during the affordability period or the homeowner no longer occupies the home as their principal residence. However, if there are no net proceeds or insufficient proceeds to recapture the full amount of HOME funds invested, the amount subject to recapture will be limited to what is available from net proceeds (net proceeds are the sales price minus superior loan repayments and any closing costs).

Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions. Recaptured funds must be used to carry out HOME eligible activities in accordance with the HOME guidelines and are not considered proceeds.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

HOME project owners/buyers are required to maintain HOME funded properties as affordable for a minimum affordability period based on the amount of HOME funds spent on the project. The guidelines are as follows:

- Under \$15,000 per unit - 5 years
- \$15,000 - \$40,000 per unit - 10 years
- Over \$40,000 - 15 years
- New construction or acquisition within one year of construction (for rental projects) - 20 years

A HOME Written Agreement will be prepared and must be signed by the owner/buyer. This

agreement establishes the occupancy and affordability requirements for the property as well as the owner's obligations to the City of Canton Department of Development. In signing the agreement, the owner agrees to the restrictions on the use of the property set forth in the document. The city of Canton will provide an interest-free, deferred loan. Loans are forgivable upon demonstrated occupancy over the affordability period. The deferred loan shall be secured through a Mortgage and Promissory Note executed by the property owner at closing. The closing agent shall file said documents with the Stark County Clerk's office upon the completion of the first mortgage transaction. Recipients of HOME funds are required to maintain the unit as their principal residence for the duration of the deferred loan period.

As a condition of the provisions of the Deferred Loan, the Buyer agrees to repay the City the outstanding balance of the Loan upon the earliest to occur, within the applicable Recapture Period:

- a) a sale, refinance, conveyance, or other transfer of the Residence for consideration, excluding any sale, conveyance, or transfer (i) to a spouse upon a dissolution of a marriage; (ii) to the surviving spouse upon the death of a joint tenant Homeowner; (iii) by will, by foreclosure, or deed in lieu of foreclosure, or otherwise by operation of law; or (iv) as may be accepted by the City in writing; or
- b) the Residence is no longer the Buyer's principal place of residence or is converted in whole or in part to a rental unit; or
- c) there exists a default by the Buyer, beyond any applicable cure period, under the Promissory Note and Open-End Mortgage by and between the Buyers and the City or any other document evidencing the Loan.

For the purpose of this section, "Recapture Period" shall mean the applicable period based on the affordability standards. In the case of a sale, refinance, conveyance, or other transfer, the amount of repayment shall be initial principal balance of the Loan or net proceeds of sale if full amount of outstanding assistance is not available. If none of these events described in clauses (a), (b), or (c) above occurs prior to the expiration of the "Recapture Period", the Loan shall be forgiven in its entirety at the end of the affordability period.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

The City of Canton does not plan to use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds.

### **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(I)(4)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

The City of Canton has developed and disseminated a document "Guidelines and Application for Emergency Solutions Grant Funds for 2014. A copy of this document is attached.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The Stark County CoC has a coordinated intake process in place through the Homeless Hotline with a strong partnership between the Hotline and United Way's 211 call center. Clients are referred between two call centers based upon need and eligibility for Homeless Services. The hotline is managed by the same staff that run the County's HMIS. This direct connection makes collecting data from callers increasingly beneficial for running reports and tracking trends based upon data. All CoC, ESG and HCRP funded programs complete the Hotline's "HMIS Intake form" when clients enter their program which serves as a direct cross reference to the HMIS Intake form completed by the Hotline. The HMIS is provided through the TERA system which is a locally developed software system designed with the needs of Stark County in mind. The Hotline is currently being expanded to include an assessment tool (SPDAT) in which special service needs will be identified and more appropriate referrals given.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The City of Canton has contracted with the Stark County Regional Planning (SRPC) for ESG administration for the 2014 Program Year. A formal application process was developed under which homeless organizations applied for ESG Funding. SRPC prepared A Notice of Funding Available for 2014 ESG Funding. This Notice included the program guidelines described above. The Notice was made available through the newspaper and documents were available for download from the City's website. Organizations were invited to make formal application for 2014 ESG Funds. SRPC reviewed the submitted applications for program eligibility. All projects were then evaluated and scored by the HCCSC Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee. Based upon the scores, a ranking of programs and projects was submitted to the City for final approval.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The City's ESG Guidelines state that all ESG subrecipients must involve homeless individuals and families in the maintenance and operation of facilities, and in the provision of services to residents of these facilities to the maximum extent possible. Methods of achieving client involvement may include having a suggestion box; using chore lists and exit interviews; conducting regularly scheduled house meetings; encouraging clients to assist with children's programs, parenting classes or vocational training; or service as members of the Board.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The City's ESG Guidelines states that all ESG subrecipients are required to submit Quarterly Status Reports to the Stark County Regional Planning Commission with the Quarterly Request for Disbursement Form. Reports shall include, but are not limited to, the following information:

- Receipt and expenditure of program funds, including back-up documentation;
- Receipt and expenditure of matching funds, including back-up documentation;
- Breakdown of services provided and demographic information on the homeless population served;
- Coordination activities with other local human service providers.

A Grant Closeout Report is required with the Quarterly Financial Reports when the final reimbursement is requested. All ESG subrecipients are required to submit Quarterly Financial Reports until the full amount of the funding award is expended. Subrecipients that provide transitional housing must submit an Annual Statistical Report to City of Canton. City of Canton staff will monitor the use of grant funds through a combination of a review of all quarterly reports, audit review, and site visits.

**Discussion:**





## Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	<b>Data Source Name</b> 2005-2009 CHAS
	<b>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</b> ACS
	<b>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</b> data correction from 2005-2009 CHAS
	<b>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</b> American Community Survey
	<b>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</b> American Community Survey 2005-2009
	<b>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</b> See American Community Survey at <a href="https://www.census.gov/acs/www/">https://www.census.gov/acs/www/</a>
	<b>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</b> The American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing statistical survey that samples a small percentage of the population every year, giving communities the information they need to plan investments and services
	<b>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</b> See American Community Survey at <a href="https://www.census.gov/acs/www/">https://www.census.gov/acs/www/</a>
2	<b>Data Source Name</b> City of Canton Data Sort
	<b>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</b> Development Department originated the data set.
	<b>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</b> The data set was developed from the HUD Provided Local Level Data combined with the Canton Building Dept. Severly Blighted Properties spreadsheet.
	<b>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</b> The data set was developed for the Vacant Units section of the ConPlan Table MA-20.
	<b>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</b> The HUD Provided Local Level Data for the NSP Program was downloaded by the Development Dept. from the HUDuser.org website. The Building Dept. Severly Blighted Property spreadsheet is maintained by that department.

	<p><b>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</b></p> <p>The HUD Provided Local Level Data for the NSP Program was downloaded by the Development Dept. from the HUDuser.org website. The Building Dept. Severly Blighted Property spreadsheet is maintained by that department.</p>
	<p><b>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</b></p> <p>The HUD Provided Local Level Data for the NSP Program was downloaded by the Development Dept. from the HUDuser.org website. The Building Dept. Severly Blighted Property spreadsheet is maintained by that department.</p>
	<p><b>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</b></p> <p>The HUD Provided Local Level Data for the NSP Program was downloaded by the Development Dept. from the HUDuser.org website. The Building Dept. Severly Blighted Property spreadsheet is maintained by that department.</p>