

Cumberland County, Maine
Consolidated Annual Performance &
Evaluation Report

For

HUD Programs
FY2011

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

Community Development Office
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Fifth Program Year CAPER

The CPMP Fifth Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report includes Narrative Responses to CAPER questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

The grantee must submit an updated Financial Summary Report (PR26).

GENERAL

Executive Summary

This module is optional but encouraged. If you choose to complete it, provide a brief overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the year.

Program Year 5 CAPER Executive Summary response:

The FY2011 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) describes Cumberland County's Housing & Community Development program accomplishments for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The Program is funded solely by an annual entitlement allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

In 2007 Cumberland County completed its first ever Consolidated Housing & Community Development Plan. The Plan guides the Community Development Program for a five-year period ending June 30, 2012. The Plan was developed through a series of public meetings, public hearings and the work of the program's Municipal Oversight Committee.

The Cumberland County program is three programs in one. The City of South Portland operates its own independent program identifying and selecting projects to meet its community priorities and needs. The Town of Bridgton has a special set-aside of funds that, for program year's 2007-2009, addressed a singular community priority – wastewater disposal in the downtown neighborhood. In program year 2010, Bridgton completed the wastewater project and began a series of community development initiatives. The 2011 Cumberland County program funded activities in the remaining 23 participating member communities with region-wide and community based projects and programs. Beginning in 2009, the Town of Chebeague Island joined the program and in 2010 the City of Westbrook became the 25th member community.

In the 5th year of the Cumberland County program, projects included housing rehabilitation, public facilities, public infrastructure, public services and planning.

Highlights of South Portland's activities included a range of Public Service activities undertaken by non-profit organizations and South Portland municipal departments. Activities undertaken by non-profit organizations included the Boys and Girls Club of South Portland's Early Care Program; Southern Maine Agency on Aging's (SMAA's)

Meals-on-Wheels program; Opportunity Alliance's (formerly PROP) Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent program; Family Crisis Services' Domestic Violence Program, and Community Counseling Center's Trauma Intervention Program. Activities undertaken by various municipal departments included the South Portland School Department's after school program for at-risk children (the 21 Club); the Transportation Department's Free Bus Pass program; Recreational Scholarships through the Department of Parks and Recreation; Emergency Heating Assistance through General Assistance; funding for the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub's personnel; and funding for Residential Energy Efficiency training. South Portland also provides CDBG funding for a comprehensive home energy efficiency and rehabilitation program for income qualified residents; the program is spear-headed by the local non-profit group, Warm Home Cool City-South Portland.

Notable Public Improvements in South Portland included improvements to Mill Creek Park, sidewalk reconstruction in the Knightville neighborhood, as well as improvements to High/Sawyer Street Park and Legere Park.

Total program allocation County-wide for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 = \$1,543,926

Total program funds expended during 2011 = \$1,813,792.87

2007 program funds expended = \$ -0-
2008 program funds expended = \$ 14,181.88
2009 program funds expended = \$166,846.27
2010 program funds expended = \$757,792.54
2011 program funds expended = \$874,972.18

General Questions

1. Assessment of the one-year goals and objectives:
 - a. Describe the accomplishments in attaining the goals and objectives for the reporting period.
 - b. Provide a breakdown of the CPD formula grant funds spent on grant activities for each goal and objective.
 - c. If applicable, explain why progress was not made towards meeting the goals and objectives.
2. Describe the manner in which the recipient would change its program as a result of its experiences.
3. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing:
 - a. Provide a summary of impediments to fair housing choice.
 - b. Identify actions taken to overcome effects of impediments identified.
4. Describe Other Actions in Strategic Plan or Action Plan taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
5. Leveraging Resources
 - a. Identify progress in obtaining "other" public and private resources to address needs.
 - b. How Federal resources from HUD leveraged other public and private resources.
 - c. How matching requirements were satisfied.

Program Year 5 CAPER General Questions response:

1. Assess one-year goals and objectives

- 1.0) Goal: Provide Decent Affordable Housing**
Action: Funding of Four Housing Rehabilitation/ Weatherization Activities

Goal 1.0 Accomplishments, Funding Breakdown, and Progress Notes:

- 1.1) Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program
Program Goal: 15 single-family units and 1 multi-family unit.

Funded Amount: \$150,000 (2011); \$100,000 (2010); \$87,888 (2009-R)
Funds Expended: \$149,474 (2011); \$10,534 (2010); \$11,888 (2009-R)

Opportunity Alliance (formerly PROP) completed 12 single-family rehabilitation projects in program year 2011 and one 12-unit multi-family rehabilitation project. Many of these projects met specific rehabilitation needs including: well and/or septic system replacements; weatherization; rehabilitation to support weatherization; or general rehabilitation.

- 1.2) Alpha One, Critical Access Ramp Program
Program Goal: 7 ramps

Funded Amount: \$50,000
Funds Expended: \$32,277 (2010 CAPER)
Funds Expended: \$ 6,081 (2011 CAPER)

Two critical access ramp projects were completed during the 2011 program year. The program has exceeded its projected goal of 7 completed units and has funds available to complete 2 additional projects in the summer/fall of 2012.

- 1.3) South Portland Home Energy Efficiency Program
Program Goal: 25 units

Funded Amount: \$35,823
Funds Expended: \$30,029 (2011); \$17,203 (2010); \$1,546 (2009)

During its third year, Warm Home Cool City's Residential Energy Efficiency program completed five comprehensive repairs (5 units) and 4 audit/weatherization activities (4 units). Six additional audit/weatherization projects (6 units) are currently in progress. The comprehensive repairs included (1) replacement of three deficient oil-fired furnaces with natural gas furnaces/boilers for three low income households; (2) building envelope tightening including insulation for one low income household; and (3) replacement of moldy carpeting for one low income household.

- 1.4) Town of Sebago – Weatherization of Homes of Elderly
Program Goal: 6

Funded Amount: \$25,000 (2011)
Funds Expended: \$8,221 (2011) & \$2,326 to be drawn on completed projects

Four projects were completed during the 2011 program year. The Town anticipates completing two additional projects in the fall/winter of 2012.

NOTE: Additional housing rehabilitation and homeownership activities are conducted within the boundaries of the Cumberland County Entitlement Jurisdiction with funds provided by the Cumberland/Portland HOME Consortium. These activities are reported in the CAPER completed by the City of Portland.

2.0) Goal: Provide & Expand Community Facilities
Actions: New and/or improved Community Center facilities; and Handicapped Access at Town Office.

Goal 2.0 Accomplishments, Funding Breakdown, and Progress Notes:

2.1) Action – Funding for Two Community Center Kitchens

2.1.1) Town of Bridgton – Community Center Kitchen Renovation

Funded Amount: \$55,221.00

Expended Amount: \$55,221.00

The kitchen at the Bridgton Community Center was essentially a closet - undersized and primitive - failing to meet the basic needs of the senior and community meals programs. The new modern kitchen is an exceptional facility serving the community's needs.

2.1.2) Town of Casco – Community Center Kitchen Renovation

Funded Amount: \$44,739.77

Expended Amount: \$44,739.77

Originally funded in 2009 the project was plagued by an unscrupulous contractor. The project was finally completed by trustworthy and competent contractors and is now an excellent community facility.

2.2) Action – Handicap Accessibility at the Town of Sebago's Town Office

Town of Sebago – Town Office Handicap Accessibility

Funded Amount: \$7,689.00

Funds Expended: \$7,689.00

This project, completed in the fall 2011, had three components: Roof covering the handicap access entrance ramp to shield the ramp from snow & ice; automatic entrance door opener; modification of Town Clerk service counter for customers using wheelchairs.

2.3) Action – Major Renovation to Community Center Facility

Town of Freeport – Freeport Community Services Facility – 57 Depot Street

Funded Amount: 2010 - \$125,000; 2011 - \$143,851

Funds Expended: 2010 - \$125,000; 2011 - \$143,851

Total Expended: \$268,851

Renovation of the third "Mallet" House at 57 Depot Street has been a long planned initiative of Freeport Community Services (FCS). FCS provides social activities and

services for seniors, durable medical equipment for seniors and persons with disabilities; the community food pantry and; LIHEAP heating assistance intake. The renovation of 57 Depot Street was an innovative combination of historic preservation and energy efficiency. CDBG funds were extensively matched by local grants and loans.

2.4) Minor Renovation to Community Center for Energy Efficiency

City of Westbrook – Highland Lake Grange Hall Renovations

Funded Amount: \$20,344

Expended Amount: \$20,344

This project was largely completed and reported in the 2010 CAPER. Final payments for insulation and replacement windows were made in September & October 2011. The Boy and Girl Scouts of Westbrook meet at this facility.

Status updates for prior program years' community facilities projects:

Town of Long Island – Community Center Renovations

Funded Amount: \$19,200

Funds Expended: \$ -0-

The project was cancelled. Funding has been rescinded and reallocated.

Town of Bridgton – Community Dental Clinic

Funded Amount: \$45,000

Funds Expended: \$ -0-

This project is currently stalled. If progress is not made during the Fall/Winter of 2012/2013 the project will be cancelled and funds reallocated.

3.0) Goal: Provide & Upgrade Public Infrastructure
Action: Funding for 12 infrastructure projects

Goal 3.0 Accomplishments, Funding Breakdown, and Progress Notes:

3.1) Town of Gorham – Village Sidewalk Reconstruction

Funded Amount: \$150,000

Funds Expended: \$150,000

The reconstruction of sidewalks, curbing and storm drainage in Gorham Village was completed June – July 2011. Funds were be paid out in one lump sum in August 2011.

3.2) Town of Bridgton – Downtown Park Improvements

Funded Amount: \$5,000

Funds Expended: \$5,000

The reconstruction and redesign of this downtown pocket park was largely funded by community resources. CDBG funds paid for the fabrication and installation of heavy duty stair and ramp railings.

3.3) City of Westbrook – Downtown Pedestrian Improvements

Funded Amount: \$ 70,000

Funds Expended: \$ -0-

This project is currently delayed pending determination of larger road and bridge construction work planned in the vicinity.

3.4) Town of Windham – South Windham/Little Falls, Gorham Pedestrian Improvements

Funded Amount: \$ 80,000

Funds Expended: \$ -0-

The project is in the design phase, will be out to bid August, 2012 and under construction in September/October 2012.

3.5) Town of Gray – Village Pedestrian Improvements

Funded Amount: \$154,000

Funds Expended: \$ 89,953 (as of June 30, 2012)

This project includes the installation of 750 linear feet of brick sidewalk, street curbing, catch basins, three sets of crosswalks and pedestrian activated crossing signals and handicap “tip-downs” at driveways and curbs. The project will be completed early August 2012.

3.6) South Portland Infrastructure and Public Facilities Projects

3.6.1) Mill Creek Park Improvements (2011 & 2010)

Funded Amount: \$220,123 (2011); \$100,000 (2010)

Funds Expended: \$0.00 (2011); \$58,358 (2010; \$46,142 in 2011)

This activity is part of a multi-phase project to improve the Mill Creek Neighborhood Park. The park is located in a low/moderate income target area. The project, once completed in full, will improve the ecological integrity of the park resulting in greater compatibility with its surroundings and create more complete handicapped accessibility to the park. The project also entails many aesthetic improvements including plantings, pedestrian paths, new entrance, and new signage. During the past program year, landscaping activities continued, work on shoring up the banks of Mill Creek Pond, and removal of an old, unsafe pedestrian bridge occurred. This phase will be complete Fall 2012.

3.6.2) Knightville Sidewalk Reconstruction (2010)

Funded Amount: \$306,987

Funds Expended: \$201,884

This project was the first phase of a 2-phase sidewalk and combined sewer separation project in downtown South Portland along multiple busy city streets; the project was broken up into 6 areas in the low/moderate income neighborhood of Knightville/Mill Creek. The project requires coordination between multiple departments as well as the Portland Water District and Unutil (natural gas utility). Phase 1 was completed fall of 2011 with the installation of new sidewalks in 2 project areas. Phase 2 began spring 2012 in the remaining project areas and is slated to be

completed late fall of 2012. In addition, new sidewalk lighting fixtures will continue an overall area-wide sidewalk fixture replacement program. The overall program will allow the City to avoid this kind of work for fifty years.

3.6.3) Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub: Building Acquisition

Funded Amount: \$14,819
Funds Expended: \$14,819

The low/moderate income Redbank neighborhood has benefitted greatly from the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub. The building, previously rented, was purchased during the 2011 program year. The acquisition allowed the City to extend municipal water and water service to the building.

3.6.3) Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub: Building Improvements

Funded Amount: \$2,565
Funds Expended: \$2,565

The building, previously rented, was purchased in 2011 using CDBG funds, but the building's lack of running water and public sewer limited its functionality. The building was connected to public water/sewer in December 2011.

3.6.4) Legere Park Improvements

Funded Amount: \$17,059
Funds Expended: \$ 5,745

Legere Park is a heavily used facility, located in the low/moderate income neighborhood of Knightville/Millcreek and includes a playground, basketball court, and a wide expanse of open space. The improvements entail resurfacing of the basketball court, replacement of the basketball post and backboard and installation of new benches, all of which had fallen into a state of disrepair. Work began spring 2012 and will be completed in August 2012.

3.6.5) South Portland Housing Authority Trail Access (2010)

Funded Amount: \$30,000
Expended Amount: \$30,000

The project connected low income senior housing to the South Portland Greenbelt Trail in the low/moderate income neighborhood of Knightville/Millcreek. The project was completed in July 2012.

3.6.6) Hutchins School Renovations (2009)

Funded Amount: \$138,090
Expended Amount: \$103,331 (\$76,143 in 2011)

The Hutchins School is a municipally owned building eligible for listing on the National Register and located in the Ferry Village low/moderate income target neighborhood. The project consists of architectural restoration of the building's exterior. Renovations complete; damaged/rotting fascia, architectural details, and

sills were repaired or replaced. Remaining work includes exterior repainting, railing reconstruction, and the installation of a handicap accessible lift or ramp.

3.6.7) High & Sawyer Street Park Improvements (2009)

Funded Amount: \$55,000
Funds Expended: \$ 6,604 (all in 2011)

The High/Sawyer Street Park is a pocket-park consisting almost entirely of a basketball court. The park is in a low/moderate income neighborhood of which 45.8% of residents are low/moderate income. Improvements included resurfacing of the basketball court, new fence, and landscaping around the edges of the court. Landscaping included the removal of select trees, and plantings. The project was completed in June 2012 and funding will be drawn down in July 2012.

4.0) Goal: Provide Access to Public Services
Actions: Funding for recreation programming, child care, free bus passes, senior programs, education, abused spouses, and trauma intervention.

4.1) Action – Funding for Recreation Programming, Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Center for Therapeutic Recreation (County-Wide)

Funded Amount: \$6,950
Funds Expended: \$6,950

The program provided aquatic recreation sessions to 15 clients from the communities of: Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth (2), South Portland (7), Scarborough (2), Windham (1) and Yarmouth (1).

4.2) Action – Funding for Elder Medicare Education Program

Town of Windham, City of Westbrook
Contract with Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging

Funded Amount: \$33,590
Funds Expended: \$33,590

Confusion about Medicare benefits among new Medicare enrollees is almost a given. This program provides three services: Group sessions for new enrollees; individual counseling for new or recently enrolled Medicare recipients and; training of seniors (or “pre-seniors”) to assist future or recent Medicare recipients. The program provided services to 411 seniors during the 2011 program year saving the average household hundreds of dollars a year and in at least a few instances- thousands of dollars a year.

4.3) Action – Funding for Domestic Violence, Case Management Services

Towns of Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Naples, Scarborough, Standish
Contract with Family Crisis Services

Funded Amount: \$51,112.00
Funds Expended: \$41,898.88

Higher levels of coordination between police and family crisis services workers was identified as a path to better outcomes for victims of domestic violence in five communities. Persons receiving services in 2011 = 277

4.4) Action – Funding for Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation

Community Counseling Center (County-Wide)

Funded Amount: \$15,000

Funds Expended: \$10,199

The Community Counseling Center is a nonprofit mental health and family service agency. It offers comprehensive outpatient co-occurring mental health and substance abuse services to residents in Cumberland County. The program served 279 people during the 2011 program year.

4.5) Action – Funding for Food Deliveries to Food Pantries

Towns of Casco & Naples

Contract with Wayside Food Services

Funded Amount: \$8,000

Funds Expended: \$2,800

For years individual volunteers would drive their own vehicles to Portland to pick up commodity and other foods for local food pantry distribution. This program provided funds for a Wayside Food Services truck to make weekly deliveries to 3 pantries in the Towns of Casco and Naples. The truck was driven by either a volunteer or a professional driver. Deliveries were offloaded by volunteers at the pantries. The program served 727 persons through 9 months of program year 2011.

4.6) *Action – Education for non-native English language speakers*

City of South Portland

English as a Second Language ("21 Club")

Funded Amount: \$16,000

Funds Expended: \$ 0.00

The 21st Century Community Learning Program, or the "21 Club," is an after-school program for at-risk youth serving three South Portland elementary schools. The program is run by the South Portland School Department and is designed to meet five broad program goals: (1) improving students' academic achievement in literacy and math; (2) improving students' health, wellness and social skills; (3) improving students' participation in the arts and their understanding of America's multi-cultural society; (4) improving parents' participation in their children's education; and (5) sustaining the program through partnerships and funding from other organizations. The focus over this past program year was science instruction. During the school year the 21 Club was open for 111 days and served 76 children, 69 (91%) of whom were from low/moderate income households. 61 children (80%) attended the Club for at least 30 days (between 30 and 111 days); the Maine Department of Education has determined that attendance for a minimum of 30 days is needed to impart benefit. The funds will be drawn down in July 2012.

4.7) *Action – Recreational Scholarship Program*

City of South Portland
Recreation Scholarship Program
Funded Amount: \$10,000
Funds Expended: \$0.00

Eighty-five children received scholarships enabling them to participate in South Portland's summer recreation programs. All individuals (100%) were from a household at or below the 80% of median income threshold. Funds for the 2011 program year were drawn down July 2012.

4.8) *Action – Expansion of summer child care hours at the Boys & Girls Club of South Portland*

Boys & Girls Club
Funded Amount: CANCELLED
Funds Expended: \$0.00

This activity was cancelled.

4.9) *Action – Provision of free bus passes*

City of South Portland, Dept. of Transportation
Bus Pass Program
Funded Amount: \$4,500
Funds Expended: \$4,500

The South Portland Bus Service provided 3,660 free bus passes (366 books of 10) to help 107 low/moderate income residents obtain transportation to work, medical appointments, school and shopping. South Portland Bus Service has worked closely with Ingraham Volunteers, STRIVE, Day One Services, Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired, South Portland General Assistance, and South Portland School Department, as well as other organizations whose clients use public transportation.

4.10) *Action – Senior Services in the City of South Portland*

4.10.1) PROP Senior Companion & Foster Grandparents
Funded Amount: \$9,462
Funds Expended: \$9,462

The Foster Grandparents Program assigned senior volunteers to three elementary schools in South Portland to provide valuable academic support that strengthened learning through participation in classroom activities; each volunteer provides 20 hours of time a week working within the schools. The Senior Companion Program enabled senior volunteers to visit and provide companionship for other, homebound, seniors. During the program year, 35 seniors provided 7,702 hours of benefit within both programs. Additionally, 27 seniors were aided by Senior Companions: 76 visits were made to provide respite to caregivers, 19 rides were provided to medical appointments, and 97 rides were provided for essential errands.

- 4.10.2) Southern Maine Agency on Aging – Meals-on-Wheels
Funded Amount: \$12,500
Expended Amount: \$12,500

Southern Maine Agency on Aging’s (SMAA) nutrition assistance program provided 19,691 meals/vouchers to 231 seniors over the past program year. The core of the nutrition assistance program is the meals-on-wheels program which delivered 13,325 meals to homebound seniors. SMAA also provided 6,018 units of bulk food from the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and 348 vouchers for a dining-out, “As You Like It,” program at 8 participating local eateries.

4.11) Action – Personnel for low/moderate income neighborhood resource center.

City of South Portland
Redbank Community Center – Personnel
Funded Amount: \$21,880
Funds Expended: \$9,240

This public service project covers the cost of the personnel for the Redbank Neighborhood Center aka the “Redbank Resource Hub.” The center serves as a “community” builder in the low/moderate income Redbank neighborhood. As the name implies, the Hub also serves as a repository of information on available resources; the staff assists residents in navigating and identifying those resources which are, or may be, beneficial to the residents. The Resource Hub is staffed 35 hours a week. Due to personnel turnover during the past program year, not all funds will be used- \$7,015 will be drawn in July 2012 and the remainder will be reallocated.

4.12) Action – Assistance for persons undergoing traumatic events in the City of South Portland

City of South Portland
Community Counseling Services – TIP Program
Funded Amount: \$10,000
Funds Expended: \$ 5,720

The Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) was designed to provide support to South Portland residents in the immediate aftermath of a traumatic event such as unexpected or unattended death, burglary, assault, or motor vehicle accident. The presence of trained volunteers who provide immediate emotional support to residents as well as guidance in navigating the logistical requirements in the aftermath of a traumatic event allows Police & Fire personnel to focus on and complete their primary duties. 82 residents of the city’s low/moderate income target neighborhoods were served. The balance of the program funds will be drawn in July 2012.

4.13) Action –Funding for Domestic Violence, Case Management Services

City of South Portland
Family Crisis Services: Enhanced Police Intervention Collaborative (EPIC)
Funded Amount: \$9,594
Expended Amount: \$9,402

Higher levels of coordination between police and family crisis services workers was identified as a path to better outcomes for victims of domestic violence. In South Portland, 126 people received services. The remaining \$192 in the grant will be drawn in July 2012.

4.14) *Action – Emergency Heating Assistance, City of South Portland*

City of South Portland

General Assistance: Emergency Heating Assistance

Funded Amount: \$20,000

Expended Amount: \$18,201

The City of South Portland General Assistance Office operates the Heating Assistance Program as the second tier in a four-tier heating support system for low/moderate income households in the City. Funding for the State of Maine's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was drastically cut last year putting increased pressure on local assistance programs. During the past program year, 44 low/moderate income households, received a total of 47 fuel deliveries most of which was #2 fuel oil (5,595 gallons).

4.15) *Action - Nutritional assistance for children during the school day*

City of South Portland

Skillin Elementary School PTA – Snack Pantry

Funded Amount: \$500

Expended Amount: \$500

This small grant helped stock a food pantry with nutritious snacks at the Skillin Elementary School in South Portland. Healthy snacks during the school day can help improve students' behavior, attention and focus, academic achievement, and attendance. 51 children, 40 of whom (78%) were from low/moderate income households, participated in the program.

4.16) *Action – Operations & Maintenance for a Neighborhood Resource Center*

City of South Portland

Redbank Resource Hub, Building Services

Funded Amount: \$29,171

Funds Expended: \$29,171

This activity paid for operation costs including building rental and septic services for the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub building in the low/moderate income neighborhood of Redbank. The activity was in anticipation of the City of South Portland's purchase of the building (2011) and connection to city water/sewer (2011).

2. Change As A Result of Experience

Learning from experience is a critical component of Cumberland County's Community Development program for two important reasons. First, the County's program is the first ever Urban County CDBG Entitlement Program located in New England. Second, the County's program, with 2011 as its fifth year, is relatively new.

Several programmatic changes were instituted after the 2007 program year and then implemented in 2008. These changes included:

- Require 20% cash or in-kind matching funds for community based projects
- Review Planning Grant applications separately from Project Applications
- Establish a two-tier application process with pre-applications due 6 weeks prior to final application submission
- Limit applications as follows:
 - Per community: 2 project grants and 1 planning grant
 - County-Wide: 4 project grants* and 2 planning grants

*The number of project grants was later changed from 4 to 5
- Require a clear demonstration of financial need with applications
- Require endorsement of applications by elected officials, not simply the Town or City Manager
- Application Review Committee constituted to limit conflicts of interest.
- Document level of leverage created as the result of HUD activity funding.
- Require all invoicing to reflect level of service/unit of service provided as result of HUD funding.

Few substantive programmatic policy changes were implemented from 2008 to 2009, but, beginning with applicants for 2010 program funding, a community "distress score" factor was added to the review of project applications. The distress score provided some advantage during the application review to communities with relatively larger low/moderate income populations. Another program change implemented in 2010 was the adjustment of allowed County project grants from four to five.

An extensive and broad based outreach effort to regional non-profit social service providers was undertaken in late 2010 and early 2011 to increase awareness of the County's program and funding opportunities contained therein. The outreach effort resulted in a greater number of social service applications and ultimately a greater number of social service projects awarded funding for the 2011 program year.

New for the 2011 program year was the opportunity for program applicants to meet face-to-face with the Application Review Team to present their projects and answer questions. Applicants had 4-5 minutes each to answer a "master" question formulated by the Application Review Team, to which they were given advanced notice, as well as to answer questions from the ART specific to their projects. All 2011 program year applicants took advantage of the opportunity to present their projects and provided positive feedback about the experience. This presentation opportunity was continued for the 2012 application process and expanded to 6+ minutes for each applicant.

3. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Cumberland County completed and submitted to HUD its "Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing Choice" on September 1, 2010.

Actions taken during the 2011 program year to address the Fair Housing Choice impediments include:

- 1) Two "Advanced" Fair Housing trainings were conducted by the Maine State Housing Authority on April 10th and June 13th in Portland. The Cumberland County

Community Development Director attended the session on April 10th. Both training sessions were broadly advertised by the Community Development office to all the communities within the Entitlement Jurisdiction.

- 2) Brochures outlining the rights of home buyers and renters under non-discrimination and fair housing laws were distributed to each community in the Entitlement Jurisdiction.
- 3) Written information was provided to landlords and tenants on the provision of reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities.
- 4) The Community Development program continues to fund affordable housing activities including housing rehabilitation, home weatherization, and access ramps for persons with mobility disabilities.
- 5) HOME CHDO funds assisted in financing a 25-unit elderly housing development in Freeport.
- 6) The program will provide 2012 CDBG infrastructure funds for Habitat-for-Humanity sponsored subdivisions in the Towns of Freeport and Scarborough.

The County is an active member of the emerging regional partnership, Sustain Southern Maine funded through a \$1.5 million HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant. The County's Community Development Director serves as the initiative's overall Project Director and as a member of the Grants Management Team. **A major component of the program is the creation of a Regional Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Work on this project is now underway and will be completed during the upcoming program year.**

4. Actions to Address Obstacles to Meet Underserved Needs

In every possible program activity, available funding is the primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs. To address this issue Cumberland County joined with the City of Portland and the Town of Brunswick to form the City of Portland/Cumberland County HOME Consortium. The HOME Consortium is bringing approximately \$500,000 in new funds to the region each year to address affordable housing issues. This will also permit a portion of our CDBG resources currently funding housing rehabilitation activities to be realigned to finance public services, public infrastructure, public facilities, downtown revitalization or economic development.

But ultimately the CDBG resources represent a small amount of funds for the size of our population, territory and number of communities.

5. Leveraging Resources

The Cumberland County Community Development program leveraged the following resources in 2011:

Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program - \$13,742
Town of Freeport – Community Center Renovation - \$605,500
Town of Gray – Village Sidewalk Reconstruction - \$52,635
Town of Gorham – Village Sidewalk Reconstruction - \$96,014

City of Westbrook – Highland Lake Grange Hall - \$6,098

City of South Portland – Knightville/Mill Creek Sidewalks - \$2,800,000

City of South Portland – Public Service Activities:

- South Portland – Free Bus pass Program - \$441
- South Portland – Meals-on-Wheels - \$45,287
- South Portland – Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion - \$42,140

Total Funds Leveraged - \$3,661,857

Although the decision was made locally by the County’s Municipal Oversight Committee to require a 20% matching for community-based projects, there are no HUD “matching requirements” that the County must satisfy for the CDBG program. Match is required for the HOME program.

Managing the Process

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to ensure compliance with program and comprehensive planning requirements.

Program Year 5 CAPER Managing the Process response:

As outlined in the 5-year Consolidated Plan and 2011 Annual Action Plan, the Cumberland County Community Development Office is the lead agent for the implementation of the CDBG program. The Office coordinates the effort with an Oversight Committee composed of one representative of our 25 member communities. The County Commissioners are the County’s legislative body and hold ultimate authority over the program’s operation.

The selection of projects and activities to receive funding followed the plan and process outlined in the 2011 Annual Action Plan. All projects and activities address one of three primary objectives: (1) suitable living environments; (2) decent housing; and (3) economic opportunity. All projects and activities address one of three outcomes: (1) Improve availability/accessibility; (2) improve affordability; and/or (3) improve sustainability.

Citizen Participation

1. Provide a summary of citizen comments.
2. In addition, the performance report provided to citizens must identify the Federal funds made available for furthering the objectives of the Consolidated Plan. For each formula grant program, the grantee shall identify the total amount of funds available (including estimated program income), the total amount of funds committed during the reporting period, the total amount expended during the reporting period, and the geographic distribution and location of expenditures. Jurisdictions are encouraged to include maps in describing the geographic distribution and location of investment (including areas of minority concentration). The geographic distribution and expenditure requirement may also be satisfied by specifying the census tracts where expenditures were concentrated.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP

Tool.

Program Year 5 CAPER Citizen Participation response:

1. Citizen Comments

A notice of the 15-day CAPER comment period was posted in the September 4, 2012 Portland Press Herald. The CAPER report was presented at the September 10, 2012 County Commissioner's meeting, posted on the County web-site on September 4, 2012. A summary of the CAPER was sent to the program's Municipal Oversight Committee on August 29, 2012.

2. Identified Federal Funds

2008 CDBG Allocation - \$1,458,560
2008 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Committed - \$1,447,775
2008 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Drawn Down - \$1,447,775
Total Funds Expended in 2011 - \$ 14,182

2009 CDBG Allocation - \$1,476,134
2009 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Committed - \$1,280,129
2009 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Drawn Down - \$1,196,974
Total Funds Expended in 2011- \$ 166,846

2010 CDBG Allocation - \$1,849,093
2010 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Committed - \$1,950,184
2010 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Drawn Down - \$1,692,017
Total Funds Expended in 2011- \$ 757,792

2011 CDBG Allocation - \$1,543,926
2011 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Committed - \$1,744,387
2011 CDBG Allocation - Total Funds Drawn Down - \$ 874,972
Total Funds Expended in 2011- \$ 874,972

Location of expenditures for 2011

- 1) Town of Baldwin
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$4,505.37
- 2) Town of Bridgton
 - Program Administration - \$23,333 drawn, \$16,836 to be drawn
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation - 1 project - \$8,823.52
 - Multi-Family Housing Rehabilitation - 1, 12 unit project - \$34,157.32
 - Inflow-Infiltration Project - \$25,954.90
 - Community Center Kitchen Renovation - \$55,221.00
 - Downtown Pocket Park Improvements - \$5,000.00
 - Wm. Perry House Façade Improvements - \$28,000.00
 - Henry Moses Building Façade Improvements - \$5,000.00
- 2) Cape Elizabeth
 - Domestic Violence Response - \$41,898.88
 - * Cape Elizabeth serves as the "lead community". Services were delivered in the communities of Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Naples, Standish & Scarborough

- 3) Town of Casco
 - Public Safety Regional Services Plan - \$15,000
 - * Includes the Towns of Naples & Raymond
 - Kitchen Renovation at Community Center - \$21,756.77
 - * Final payment of \$44,739.77 total CDBG expenditure
- 4) Town of Falmouth
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation , 2 projects - \$23,437.11
- 5) Town of Freeport
 - Freeport Community Services Building Renovation - \$263,502.00
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$5,823.53
- 6) Town of Gorham
 - Village Sidewalk Reconstruction - \$150,000
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$23,851.00
 - Critical Access Ramp, 1 project - \$5,482.87
- 7) Town of Gray
 - Village Sidewalk Reconstruction - \$89,953 (as of June 30, 2012)
 - Village Revitalization - \$9,070.53 (final payment 2008 grant)
- 8) Town of Harrison
 - Critical Access Ramp, 1 project - \$3,577.83
- 9) Town of Naples
 - Food Pantry Delivery Service - \$2,800
 - * Naples is the lead community. 2 food pantries in Casco receive deliveries.
- 10) Town of New Gloucester
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$20,217.64
- 11) Town of Raymond
 - Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$4,880.76
- 12) Town of Scarborough
 - Affordable Housing Planning - \$10,000.00
- 12) Town of Sebago
 - Home Weatherization for Elderly - \$8,221.22
 - Elementary School Re-use Study - \$10,000.00
 - Town Office, Handicap Accessibility - \$7,689.00
- 13) City of South Portland
 - Program Administration - \$63,741
 - Mill Creek Park Improvements - \$46,142
 - Legere Park Improvements - \$5,745
 - High & Sawyer Street Park Improvements - \$6,604
 - Home Energy Efficiency (WHCC) - \$48,778
 - Knightville Sidewalk Reconstruction - \$172,923
 - Fort Preble Restoration Planning - \$3,759
 - Library (primary location) Site Planning - \$1,725
 - Redbank Resource Hub Personnel- \$29,171

Redbank Resource Hub Building Acquisition - \$14,819
Redbank Resource Hub Building Improvements - \$2,565
Redbank Resource Hub Building Operations - \$29,170
Redbank Neighborhood Improvements - \$2,741
Former Hutchins School Renovations - \$76,143
Various Public Service Activities - \$132,980

- 14) Town of Standish
Single Family Housing Rehabilitation, 1 project - \$7,590.00
- 15) City of Westbrook
Highland Lake Grange Renovations - \$6,758.53
- 16) Town of Windham
Single Family Housing Rehabilitation (2) - \$10,856.46
Medicare/Senior Education Program - \$33,590
* Windham serves as the "lead community". Services delivered in the City of Westbrook as well.
- 17) Regional Activities
Cumberland County Program Administration - \$129,202.39
Center for Therapeutic Recreation - \$6,950
Global Engagement Planning - \$26,367.30
Community Counseling - \$10,199.00
Home Share Planning - \$1,234.39

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to overcome gaps in institutional structures and enhance coordination.

Program Year 5 CAPER Institutional Structure response:

The Cumberland County Community Development program, just completing its fifth program year, is still relatively new. While some modest changes have already been made to the program application and review process no significant changes have been made or proposed to the program's institutional structure.

The County's Community Development Office is an integral partner in the City of Portland/Cumberland County HOME Program Consortium. This initiative has led to significantly enhanced cooperation among Consortium members.

With the initiation of the 2009-2011 Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program the Office worked cooperatively with the City of Portland and the State Homelessness Prevention Programs.

Monitoring

1. Describe how and the frequency with which you monitored your activities.
2. Describe the results of your monitoring including any improvements.

3. Self Evaluation
 - a. Describe the effect programs have in solving neighborhood and community problems.
 - b. Describe progress in meeting priority needs and specific objectives and help make community's vision of the future a reality.
 - c. Describe how you provided decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunity principally for low and moderate-income persons.
 - d. Indicate any activities falling behind schedule.
 - e. Describe how activities and strategies made an impact on identified needs.
 - f. Identify indicators that would best describe the results.
 - g. Identify barriers that had a negative impact on fulfilling the strategies and overall vision.
 - h. Identify whether major goals are on target and discuss reasons for those that are not on target.
 - i. Identify any adjustments or improvements to strategies and activities that might meet your needs more effectively.

Program Year 5 CAPER Monitoring response:

1. Describe how and the frequency with which you monitored your activities

Monitoring of projects and activities was conducted on a frequent and regular basis:

- 1.1) The Alpha One Critical Access Ramp program was monitored on June 8, 2011. All client files, financial records and program documents were thoroughly examined. When the final projects are completed during the summer of 2012 all previously unexamined project files will be reviewed.
- 1.2) The Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program was formally monitored on May 22, 2012. Each project file was thoroughly examined. Individual project sites were visited throughout the year for a random assessment of program operations. Six projects sites were visited on June 21, 2012.
- 1.3) The Town Sebago Home Weatherization Program was monitored on June 7th, 2012. Every project file was thoroughly examined and every project site was visited and inspected. Suggested program modifications will be implemented.
- 1.4) Community visits were made to The Town of Bridgton to support their Economic/Community Development Director and review projects in 2011 on June 29th, November 3rd and November 7th and in 2012 on January 20th, April 15th, May 17th and June 21st.
- 1.5) South Portland's activities are overseen by its professional Community Development Director. Public facilities and infrastructure projects are regularly monitored and inspected by the City's Public Works Department and expenditures by its Finance Department. The County Community Development Director visited and monitored the South Portland program on June 13, 2012. A follow-up was conducted on July 17, 2012. The County CD Director meets with the City of South Portland quarterly and communicates regularly by phone and e-mail.

- 1.6) Community site visits were conducted for ongoing projects in Freeport, Gorham, Gray, Naples, Sebago, Westbrook and Windham. The County's Community Development Director was present at pre-construction, construction inspection and fund draw down meetings for community facility/infrastructure projects in the Towns of Freeport, Gorham and Gray.
- 1.7) Visits were made in December 2011 and March 2012 to the activity site for the Center for Therapeutic Recreation – aquatic recreation program.
- 1.8) Due to issues of client confidentiality site visits were not made for the activities of Family Crisis Services or Community Counseling. These organizations brought their files to the Community Development Office for review.

2. Describe the results of your monitoring including any improvements

Monitoring revealed that programs are being well managed. Suggestions made to the City of South Portland to improve operations are being implemented including expanding the work hours of their Community Development Assistant. The Town of Sebago will be utilizing the Opportunity Alliance to complete its final one or two housing rehabilitation projects.

3. Self Evaluation

3a. Describe the effect programs are have in solving neighborhood and community problems.

In its fifth year the County Community Development program has now implemented many projects addressing community problems. Outstanding community based public facility, infrastructure and public service projects completed in 2011 include:

1. Town of Bridgton, Community Center Kitchen: Renovation & expansion of the community center kitchen is a vast improvement to a facility that serves public meals to both seniors and families.
2. Town of Bridgton, Downtown Pocket Park: Improving the appeal of downtown Bridgton is critical to its revitalization effort. The park small park/plaza adjacent to the Town Library is now greatly improved in both design and appearance. The stair & ramp railings funded by CDBG are elegant and durable.
3. Town of Bridgton, Sewer System; Inflow & Infiltration Control: This is an ongoing activity to ensure maximum utilization of the town's septic/leach field system serving the downtown neighborhood.
4. Towns of Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Naples, Scarborough & Standish; Domestic Violence Response: Police Departments and a local crisis services agency recognized a need for more intensive collaboration to address the needs of victims of domestic violence. This program has been a successful response and is slated for renewal and expansion in 2012.
5. Town of Freeport, Freeport Community Services Expansion/Renovation: Expansion and renovation of this all purpose community services building has been a community dream for over 5 years. It's now completed furthering two

goals of the organization: 1) improved space to deliver community services to elders and low-income residents; 2) a designated area for unloading and processing thrift shop donations. The thrift shop provides critical revenue enabling the organization to fulfill its mission.

6. Town of Gray, Village Sidewalk Improvements: Recapturing, even in a modest, incremental fashion Gray Village from the dominance of auto/truck traffic is a worthy goal. The installation of 750 lineal feet of brick sidewalk, granite curbing, crosswalks and pedestrian activated "walk" signals and handicap "tip-downs" is an excellent step toward the re-invention of Gray Village.

7. Town of Sebago, Town Office Handicap Accessibility: Enabling elderly and persons with disabilities to access their town government is essential. The covering to the access ramp, installation of electric door openers and an accessible service counter solve a long-standing community issue.

8. Town of Windham, City of Westbrook: These two adjacent communities realized that many of their senior residents required assistance to understand and access the Federal Medicare program. They also realized that many could not easily travel to Scarborough to receive this service. The project provided this service locally and trained residents as Medicare educators to assist their neighbors in the coming years.

The City of South Portland continues to address its communities' needs through a number of neighborhood projects including:

1. Extensive improvements to Mill Creek Park.
2. Sidewalk reconstruction and streetscape improvements in the Knightville target neighborhood.
3. Funding for the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub in the Redbank target neighborhood.
4. Improvements to High/Sawyer Street Park in the Ferry Village target neighborhood.
5. Improvements to Legere Park in the Knightville target neighborhood.
6. Renovations to the former Hutchins Elementary School.

Types of housing projects completed throughout Cumberland County include housing rehabilitation, handicap access ramps, and home replacement and weatherization. The homeless prevention project, funded by Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) program funds (2009-2011) has been extremely successful at reducing the number of non-Portland Cumberland County residents migrating to Portland's homeless shelter system.

The City of South Portland in partnership with Green South Portland/Warm Home Cool City has been proactive in increasing home energy efficiency of low/moderate income households thereby reducing energy costs and enabling many, often elderly, residents to live somewhat more comfortably through Maine's long winters. Home weatherization projects such as purchase and installation of furnaces/burners and of home "envelope" insulation have been completed in homes for which standard winterization practices would not have been effective as stand-alone activities.

Social service activities were widely supported by the City of South Portland. Low-income elderly residents were aided through PROP's Senior Companion and Foster

Grandparents program and Southern Maine Agency on Aging's Meals-on-Wheels program. South Portland's Transportation Department provided free bus passes enabling residents to travel to work, school, doctor's appointments, and shopping. The School Department ran an after-school program for at risk children, of which speakers English-as-a-Second Language are a subset. Residents undergoing a traumatic event received support from the Community Counseling Center. Residents of the Redbank neighborhood benefited from the support services offered through the Redbank Resource Hub. Victims of domestic violence received support services through Family Crisis Services. South Portland General Assistance provided emergency home heating fuel to low/moderate income residents. Children from low/moderate income households received free nutritious snacks during the school day at Skillin Elementary School.

3b. Describe progress in meeting priority needs and specific objectives and help make community's vision of the future a reality.

Housing rehabilitation was and is a priority need. 12 single-family and one 12-unit multi-family housing rehabilitation projects were completed through the Regional Rehabilitation Program. Two projects were completed through the Alpha One Critical Access Ramp Program during the fifth program year.

Community facilities have been a major component of the County CD program. Projects completed in 2011 included: Bridgton (downtown pocket park); Bridgton (community center kitchen); Casco (community center kitchen); Freeport (Freeport Community Services building expansion & renovations); Gorham (village sidewalks); Gray (village sidewalks – to be completed August 2012) and; Sebago (Town Office, handicap access).

The City of South Portland is working diligently to improve the streetscape, sidewalks and community park spaces. The overall theme is to foster continued community improvement and pedestrian oriented, walkable neighborhoods. A major sidewalk, curb reconstruction, storm drainage, road reconstruction, handicap access and transit facility project is currently under construction. CDBG funds are targeted toward the sidewalk, handicap access and transit facility components.

The now just completed 2009-2011 Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing program made great strides in preventing homelessness and assisting households locate and pay for housing.

3c. Describe how you provided decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunity principally for low and moderate-income persons.

The 2011 program completed 13 housing rehabilitation projects (24 housing units), 2 critical access ramp projects, and 4 rehabilitation/weatherization projects in the Town of Sebago. The City of South Portland completed 4 audit/weatherization projects and 5 housing rehabilitation projects. These activities brought significant and lasting improvements to the living environments of the affected low/moderate income households.

With the upcoming 2012 program 2 infrastructure projects are supporting new affordable homeownership subdivisions being development by Habitat-For-Humanity in the Towns of Freeport and Scarborough. The County also utilizes HOME funds,

reported in the CAPER of the City of Portland, for housing rehabilitation and homeownership assistance.

To date, the County program has not engaged in direct economic development activities. Given our limited CDBG resources and the complication of managing CDBG funded economic development, funds for job creation activities were not allocated in 2011. One Economic Development project estimated to create 7 full-time jobs in the Town of Standish has had a reservation of 2012 CDBG funds.

The program has funded three projects aimed at downtown revitalization: Gray (façade improvements, sidewalks, streetscape improvements); Gorham (Village sidewalk improvements); and Bridgton (sewage treatment/septic field reconstruction, façade improvements and pocket park improvements). These activities will lead to long-term benefits to the economy and environment of these communities.

The City of South Portland has not utilized CDBG funds for direct economic development activities. It has supported housing rehabilitation activities and is currently re-constructing sidewalks in the Knightville neighborhood. The City fosters economic development by providing public service funds to organizations operating after-school programs, allowing parents to continue working.

The County program has engaged in serious discussion concerning the utilization of CDBG funds for direct job creation activities. These discussions will continue as we develop our 2012-2016 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. One job creation activity was selected for funding in 2012.

3d. Indicate any activities falling behind schedule

Cumberland County:

1. City of Westbrook: Pedestrian improvements at Bridge Street & Saccarappa Park. This project is delayed pending decisions on reconstruction of the Presumpscot River Bridge.
2. City of Westbrook: Demolition of former Maine Rubber property. This project has been delayed due to difficulty determining the future use of the site.
3. Town of Standish: Mountain Division Rail Line, Land-use Planning Study. This project will begin in December 2012.
4. Town of Falmouth: Food Pantry, Space Planning. This project will begin in December 2012.
5. Town of Windham: South Windham, Little Fall, Gorham Pedestrian Improvements. This project has been a bit slowed but should be bid in late summer 2012 and constructed in the fall of 2012.

Bridgton:

1. Community Dental Clinic: This project, initiated with high hopes, has failed to gel. If not begun in the fall/winter 2012 funds will be reallocated.

South Portland:

1. Innovation Zone Planning Study (2010): This planning grant is designed to explore after-school science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) related activities for middle and high school students. The creation of the "zone" has required more extensive study than initially anticipated.
2. Energy Efficiency Training (2010): This activity was designed to provide scholarships for weatherization technician certification from Southern Maine Community College. Due to a slowing economy and loss to State tax credits for weatherization, only three people were awarded grants. The balance of the funds has been re-allocated.
3. Delays in project engineering and bidding have caused the continuation of the Mill Creek Park improvements project to spill over to program year 2012. The improvements are expected to be completed by August, 2012.
4. The Hutchins School renovations (initially funded in 2009) will be complete in the fall of 2012. Final exterior painting will be performed in the spring of 2013, based on available funding.

3e. Describe how activities and strategies made an impact on identified needs

Cumberland County

- Homeless case management services:

This program was initially funded with CDBG funds (2007 & 2008), and then funded 2009-2011 with HPRP funds. The program has been extremely effective in placing at risk county residents in permanent housing. HPRP is not reported in this CAPER. In 2012 a limited homeless case management services program will be funded with CDBG funds.

- Housing rehabilitation:

Rehab services have been funded in program years 2007-2011. In 2011 the program focused on emergency repairs, rehab in support of DOE weatherization activities and direct weatherization activities. 12 single-family and one multi-family (12 unit) housing rehabilitation projects were completed in program year 2011.

- Services for handicap persons:

Two critical access ramps were installed during the 2011 program year for residents in the Towns of Gorham and Harrison.

The Center for Therapeutic Recreation's aquatic recreation program served 15 clients in 2011 providing 198.5 hours of services.

- Community focus on improving local community facilities:

Casco - Community Center Kitchen
Freeport - Community Services Facility

Sebago – Town Office, Handicap Accessibility

All the above community facilities represent major upgrades to well-used facilities.

- Downtown/Village Revitalization:

Gorham – Village Sidewalks

Gray – Village Sidewalks

Revitalization of our village centers is an overarching goal of Cumberland County's community development initiative. Enhancing pedestrian access and safety is an important component of this effort

Town of Bridgton

Downtown improvement is the greatest identified need in Bridgton. The first step to address the downtown's decline was investing in the sewer system. Funds from program years 2007-2009 and a portion of 2010 were used to upgrade the sewer system and septic/leach fields serving downtown Bridgton. This has been coupled with investment in pedestrian and streetscape improvements (2009 CDBG-R funds). During the 2011 program year a downtown pocket park and façade improvement investments were completed.

A significant community need identified and addressed with 2011 program funds were major renovations to the kitchen at the Bridgton Community Center. The senior and family meals programs served large numbers, providing both nutrition and social interaction for attendees. The former kitchen was little more than a closet – though devoted volunteers were serving meals for 75 people. The new modern, commercial kitchen is a vast improvement.

City of South Portland

- Downtown infrastructure

The street, sewer, storm drainage and sidewalk reconstruction project in the western end of the Knightville/Mill Creek neighborhood will provide an important boost to the community. The area will become more pedestrian accessible and "friendly," and- along with the construction of the Mill Creek Transit Hub- will further its role as a community center.

- Housing rehabilitation:

Rehab services have been funded in program years 2007-2011. In 2011 the program focused on emergency repairs, rehab in support of DOE weatherization activities and direct weatherization activities. 9 single-family housing rehabilitation projects were completed in program year 2011.

- Social services for low income residents

The City of South Portland continues its focus on assisting low/moderate income residents with a particular focus on seniors, children, victims of domestic violence, and others going through traumatic events.

3f. Identify indicators that would best describe the results of completed projects.

Pedestrians in the Towns of Gorham and Gray can now better enjoy their village center districts and safely cross busy intersections.

Elders and persons with handicaps now conduct business at the Sebago Town Office with enhanced safety and dignity.

Many more residents and visitors in Bridgton are using the downtown pocket park. They are using the park with greater safety because of the CDBG funded stair and ramp railings.

Two persons with mobility handicaps can safely exit and enter their homes.

Residents in the Towns of Bridgton and Casco now enjoy superior community kitchen facilities. Seniors in these communities now experience enhanced meals programs. Community volunteers cooking in the new kitchens work with much less stress and great ease and enjoyment.

Homeowners throughout Cumberland County who received home weatherization and energy efficiency improvements will save thousands of dollars in heating costs:

- Bridgton: 12 single-family,
1 12-unit multi-family
- E. Baldwin: 1
- Falmouth: 2
- Freeport: 1
- Gorham: 1
- New Gloucester: 1
- Raymond: 1
- South Portland: 4
- Standish: 1
- Windham: 2

3g. Identify barriers that had a negative impact on fulfilling the strategies and overall vision.

The greatest single factor in fulfilling the vision of the Cumberland County Community Development program is extremely limited program funds. The needs of the County are expansive particularly in the areas of affordable housing, housing rehabilitation and weatherization, provision of social services, and the creation of community facilities. However, CDBG resources, already exceptionally modest, are diminishing rather than increasing.

3h. Identify whether major goals are on target and discuss reasons for those that are not on target.

Major goals are on target. This CAPER reports on the 5th year of the five-year Consolidated Plan and at this juncture the program is working toward achieving its goals.

3i. Identify any adjustments or improvements to strategies and activities that might meet your needs more effectively.

At this time no significant adjustments or improvements are anticipated. A shared part-time staff person has been hired to assist the Community Development Directors of South Portland & Cumberland County

Lead-based Paint

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards.

Program Year 5 CAPER Lead-based Paint response:

All housing rehabilitation projects comply with the lead based paint requirements. All contractors must have the E.P.A. Firm Certification to Conduct Lead-based Paint Activities and/or Renovations. Each worker must be trained in lead-safe practices. The housing rehabilitation program insists that lead-safe work practices are in place. If paint is disturbed, it is presumed to be lead-paint. Appropriate clean-up and dust free practices must be followed.

The Cumberland County Community Development Office in partnership with the City of Portland received a Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program Grant in 2007. Unfortunately, the renewal application for the program was not successful. Thus no funds specifically designated for lead-based paint hazard control are currently available. The City and County will be applying for a new Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program grant this coming year.

HOUSING

Housing Needs

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe Actions taken during the last year to foster and maintain affordable housing.

Program Year 5 CAPER Housing Needs response:

The Year 5 program focused on Housing Rehabilitation activities including weatherization and rehabilitation in support of weatherization. High heating and energy costs, and thus home weatherization and improved energy efficiency, have become a critical issue for low income residents in our region. Our regional housing rehabilitation program completed the following projects:

Town of Baldwin: 1 project completed
Town of Bridgton: 1 project completed
Town of Falmouth: 2 projects completed
Town of Freeport: 1 project completed
Town of Gorham: 1 project completed
Town of New Gloucester: 1 project completed
Town of Raymond: 1 project completed
Town of Standish: 1 project completed
Town of Windham: 2 projects completed
Town of Sebago: 4 weatherization/rehabilitation projects completed
City of South Portland: 10 projects completed

Critical Access Ramp Program: 2 projects completed: 1 each in Gorham and Harrison.

Specific Housing Objectives

1. Evaluate progress in meeting specific objective of providing affordable housing, including the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income renter and owner households comparing actual accomplishments with proposed goals during the reporting period.
2. Evaluate progress in providing affordable housing that meets the Section 215 definition of affordable housing for rental and owner households comparing actual accomplishments with proposed goals during the reporting period.
3. Describe efforts to address "worst-case" housing needs and housing needs of persons with disabilities.

Program Year 5 CAPER Specific Housing Objectives response:

1. Evaluate progress in meeting specific objective of providing affordable housing

During the July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 program year, 13 housing rehabilitation projects (24 units) were completed and 2 critical access ramp projects were completed. The projected 2011 unit goal was 15. Of these 26 units, 12 were occupied by households <30% AMI (extremely low-income); 8 were households between 30% & 50% LMI (very low income) and 6 were households between 50% & 80% LMI (low income).

During the same period as above, 9 home energy audits and weatherization activities (9 units) was completed in the City of the South Portland. Of these 9 projects, 1 was occupied by households <30% AMI (extremely low-income); 6 were households at 30-50% LMI (very low income) and 2 were households at 50-80% LMI (low income).

CDBG funds assisted with the construction of the road, Benequist Way, at the Town of Harpswell's new affordable housing subdivision. Up to program year 2011 one home was owned and occupied by a household at <50% AMI and three homes by households at <80% AMI. During program year 2011 2 additional homes were constructed, purchased and occupied by households at <50% AMI.

2. Evaluate progress in providing affordable housing that meets the Section 215 definition

During the grant period, the program did not assist in the construction of new rental or ownership properties as defined under Section 215.

3. Describe efforts to address "worst-case" housing needs and housing needs of persons with disabilities

The 2011 Regional Housing Rehabilitation program focused on emergency repairs and rehabilitation to support housing weatherization efforts. Of 13 completed projects (24 units total), 12 clients (50%) had incomes below 30% AMI, 7 clients (29%) had incomes between 30-50% AMI, and the remaining 5 (21%) had incomes at 50-80% AMI. 4 projects addressed emergency repairs critical to maintaining the

households in their homes.

The 2011 South Portland Warm Home Cool Cities Home Energy Efficiency program focused on home energy audits, emergency repairs, and rehabilitation to support housing weatherization/winterization efforts. Of the 9 completed projects in South Portland, 1 was occupied by households <30% AMI (extremely low-income); 6 were households at 30-50% LMI (very low income) and 2 were households between at 50-80% LMI (low income). Five projects addressed emergency repairs critical to maintaining the households in their homes.

Alpha One has completed 2 Critical Access Ramp projects during the past year. All of these serve persons with disabilities.

Public Housing Strategy

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to improve public housing and resident initiatives.

Program Year 5 CAPER Public Housing Strategy response:

No actions were taken by the program concerning Public Housing. Both the South Portland and Westbrook Housing Authorities are high performing housing authority organizations.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to eliminate barriers to affordable housing.

Program Year 5 CAPER Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

The 2011 Cumberland County program devoted a significant percentage of its limited CDBG resources to housing rehabilitation. 13.6% of 2011 CDBG funding was devoted to housing program activities, primarily housing rehabilitation, while 23.5% of CDBG expenditures were devoted housing program activities during the program year. All these funds contribute to making housing available and affordable to persons of low/moderate income.

The 25 member communities of the Cumberland County Community Development Program have formed a HOME Program Consortium Partnership with the City of Portland and the Town of Brunswick. The Cumberland County program's communities now utilize HUD HOME program funds for housing rehabilitation and homeownership activities. These activities are reported in the CAPER of the City of Portland, lead entity of the HOME Consortium. During the 2011 program year a HOME CHDO grant assisted in the financing of the 25-unit Oak Leaf 2 senior apartments on South Street in the Town of Freeport.

HOME/ American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI)

1. Assessment of Relationship of HOME Funds to Goals and Objectives

- a. Evaluate progress made toward meeting goals for providing affordable housing using HOME funds, including the number and types of households served.
2. HOME Match Report
 - a. Use HOME Match Report HUD-40107-A to report on match contributions for the period covered by the Consolidated Plan program year.
3. HOME MBE and WBE Report
 - a. Use Part III of HUD Form 40107 to report contracts and subcontracts with Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs).
4. Assessments
 - a. Detail results of on-site inspections of rental housing.
 - b. Describe the HOME jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions.
 - c. Describe outreach to minority and women owned businesses.

Program Year 5 CAPER HOME/ADDI response:

Not applicable to the Cumberland County Community Development Program for 2011. Match report for the Cumberland/City of Portland HOME Consortium completed by the City of Portland.

HOMELESS

Homeless Needs

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify actions taken to address needs of homeless persons.
2. Identify actions to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.
3. Identify new Federal resources obtained from Homeless SuperNOFA.

Program Year 5 CAPER Homeless Needs response:

1. Identify actions taken to address needs of homeless persons

The Cumberland County Community Development Office has been administering a three-year \$605,763 Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) grant. For the period 7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012, the program expended \$193,729.60. Primary expenditures were for Social Workers and Case Managers (\$133,827.72); administration and data collection (\$19,375.88) and; financial assistance (\$40,526). The financial assistance to homeless persons was primarily payment of apartment security deposits.

With the HPRP grant ending July 16, 2012, the largest resource available to Cumberland County communities (excluding the City of Portland) to address the

needs of homeless persons is gone. A small 2012 CDBG grant of \$45,000 will continue paying the salary of one Case Manager at the Opportunity Alliance.

2. Identify actions to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living

The HPRP program's Homeless Prevention component served 170 persons (65 households) and placed 142 persons (83%) in permanent housing. The program's Homeless Assistance component served 31 persons (11 households) and placed 16 persons (51%) in permanent housing.

South Portland's General Assistance Director initiated a major policy change. Persons applying for GA Housing Assistance will no longer automatically receive a housing voucher, typically to pay for shelter at area motels. Past practice provided little impetus for homeless persons to transition to more permanent and independent living arrangements. Intake now requires first option for a shelter placement, typically in conjunction with City of Portland services. This has drastically reduced both the number and length of stay in shelters. More often than not, this has resulted in assistance from GA as a pathway to permanent housing.

3. Identify new Federal resources obtained from Homeless SuperNOFA

No resources were obtained from the Homeless SuperNOFA.

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

1. Identify actions taken to prevent homelessness.

Program Year 5 CAPER Specific Homeless Prevention Elements response:

In program years 2007 & 2008 Homeless Prevention Case Management was funded by the CDBG program. In 2009, 2010 & 2011 the Case Management was funded by the new Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) program. For program year 2011, \$236,665.86 in HPRP funds were expended for homeless prevention and homeless assistance activities.

The CDBG program has consistently funded housing rehabilitation activities for each of the past 5 years. In 2010 the program also funded the Critical Access Ramp program. Both of these programs play a role in assisting households remain safely housed.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

1. Identify actions to address emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless individuals and families (including significant subpopulations such as those living on the streets).
2. Assessment of Relationship of ESG Funds to Goals and Objectives
 - a. Evaluate progress made in using ESG funds to address homeless and homeless prevention needs, goals, and specific objectives established in the Consolidated Plan.

- b. Detail how ESG projects are related to implementation of comprehensive homeless planning strategy, including the number and types of individuals and persons in households served with ESG funds.
3. Matching Resources
 - a. Provide specific sources and amounts of new funding used to meet match as required by 42 USC 11375(a)(1), including cash resources, grants, and staff salaries, as well as in-kind contributions such as the value of a building or lease, donated materials, or volunteer time.
4. State Method of Distribution
 - a. States must describe their method of distribution and how it rated and selected its local government agencies and private nonprofit organizations acting as sub-recipients.
5. Activity and Beneficiary Data
 - a. Completion of attached Emergency Shelter Grant Program Performance Chart or other reports showing ESGP expenditures by type of activity. Also describe any problems in collecting, reporting, and evaluating the reliability of this information.
 - b. Homeless Discharge Coordination
 - i. As part of the government developing and implementing a homeless discharge coordination policy, ESG homeless prevention funds may be used to assist very-low income individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless after being released from publicly funded institutions such as health care facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or corrections institutions or programs.
 - c. Explain how your government is instituting a homeless discharge coordination policy, and how ESG homeless prevention funds are being used in this effort.

Program Year 5 CAPER ESG response:

Cumberland County does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant funds.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Assessment of Relationship of CDBG Funds to Goals and Objectives
 - a. Assess use of CDBG funds in relation to the priorities, needs, goals, and specific objectives in the Consolidated Plan, particularly the highest priority activities.

The 2011 program focused on addressing the highest priority needs as identified in the Consolidated Plan – housing rehabilitation, homeless assistance (HPRP program), public service needs, public infrastructure and facilities, downtown revitalization, and planning. This is evidenced by the activities undertaken: regional housing rehabilitation & critical access ramp program; renovations to community centers in Bridgton, Casco and Freeport; downtown/village infrastructure in Bridgton, Gorham

and Gray; public services activities in Naples/Casco (food pantry deliveries), Windham/Westbrook (Medicare education), Cape Elizabeth, et. al. (domestic violence case management) and Region-wide (aquatic recreation for developmentally disabled adults).

- b. Evaluate progress made toward meeting goals for providing affordable housing using CDBG funds, including the number and types of households served.

The program goal for the 2011 Cumberland County program funds was the completion of 15 housing rehabilitation projects. Through June 30, 2011, 13 housing rehabilitation projects (24 units) were completed. Income breakdown: 12 were extremely low-income households (<30% AMI); 7 were very-low income (>30<50% AMI) and; 5 were low-income >50<80% AMI).

South Portland's program sought to address emerging energy efficiency issues, particularly in LMI households, where energy costs represent a large percentage of household expenditures. 9 energy audits and energy efficiency weatherization projects (9 units) were completed during the 2011 program year including five extensive home repairs (heating systems and building envelope insulation).

- c. Indicate the extent to which CDBG funds were used for activities that benefited extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons.

Bridgton – Community Center Kitchen

The Town of Bridgton has a total low/moderate income population of 45.56%, well within the limits of the Cumberland County exception rule threshold of 41%. The Community Center kitchen is used for two community activities: weekly senior meals and weekly family meals. As a "center based" activity the senior meals program is presumed to serve a low-income (<80% area median income) population.

Bridgton – Downtown Park Improvements

While this park serves an entire community that qualifies as low/moderate income, the neighborhood in closest proximity to this downtown pocket park is the poorest in the Town at 54.53% low/moderate income.

Casco – Community Center Kitchen

This facility serves a community that qualified under the exception rule threshold with a low/moderate income population of 43.7%. This was well above the 41% threshold when the activity was funded in 2009 and slightly above the current threshold of 43%. The primary use of the kitchen is the senior meals program with center based activities qualifying with a presumption of moderate income (>50%<80% AMI).

Freeport – Freeport Community Services Facility

- Food Pantry – 180 extremely low-income (<30 AMI) beneficiaries
- Senior Programs – 259 presumed low-income (>30<50% AMI) beneficiaries

Cumberland County

- Provision of Durable Medical Equipment – 9 presumed low-income (>30<50% AMI) beneficiaries
- Heating Assistance (LIHEAP) – 183 low-income (>30<50% AMI) beneficiaries.
Note: many LIHEAP beneficiaries are most likely extremely low-income but records are not available to conclusively establish this determination.
- Total = 720 persons

Gray – Village Sidewalk & Pedestrian Safety Improvements

The Gray Village sidewalk and pedestrian safety improvement project is located in a low/moderate income block group. 45.3% of this block group is low/moderate income, above the exception rule threshold of 43%. Further, the sidewalk tip-downs greatly enhance the safety and mobility of two presumed benefit groups – the elderly and severely (mobility) disabled adults.

Naples – Food Pantry Deliveries

Through nine months of the program year, the food pantry delivery program served 727 people – 488 were from extremely low-income households (<30%AMI), 197 were very-low income (>30<50%AMI), 16 were low income (>50<80%AMI), and 6 were not from low/moderate income households.

Regional - Housing Rehabilitation Program

Through June 30, 2011, 13 housing rehabilitation projects (24 units) were completed. Income breakdown: 12 were extremely low-income households (<30% AMI); 7 were very low income (>30<50% AMI) and; 5 were low-income (>50<80% AMI).

Regional – Alpha One Handicap Access Ramps

Two residential handicap access ramps were completed during the 2011 program year. Severely disabled adults are a presumed benefit group, but both households were also confirmed be low/moderate income: 1 household consisting of 3 disabled adults were verified to be very-low income (>30<50%AMI) and 1 household consisting of 1 disabled adult was confirmed to be low income (>50<80%AMI).

Regional – Center for Therapeutic Recreation

This program served 15 adults (unduplicated count) with disabilities. 186 hours of service, primarily aquatic recreation was provided during the program year. As an activity serving severely disabled adults, all clients are presumed to be low income (>30-<50 area median income).

Regional – Community Counseling Center

The program, focused on substance abuse treatment, served a total of 279 individuals of which 245 (88%) were from low/moderate income households. Income eligibility was based on the clients' enrollment in MaineCare - the State of Maine's health insurance program (Medicaid/Medicare) for low income residents.

Sebago Home Weatherization Program

Two of the recipients of home repair and weatherization improvements were extremely low-income (<30% AMI). Two recipients were very low-income (>30%<50% AMI).

Sebago – Town Office Handicap Accessibility

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, approximately 113 residents of the Town of Sebago are physically disabled of which approximately half of these are seniors; the total number of seniors, including disabled seniors, is approximately 340. Both of these groups are presumed to be low income (>30<50%AMI).

Windham – Elder Services, Medicare Benefits Counseling & Education

This program served a total of 411 seniors in both group classes (12 persons per class) and individual counseling sessions. As a “non-senior center based” activity serving a senior population, all clients are presumed to be low income (>30-<50% area median income).

South Portland Activities

South Portland has seven low/moderate income neighborhoods in which CDBG funds are targeted. Neighborhoods in which activities occurred during the 2011 program year are as follows:

- Mill Creek Park Improvements, Knightville Sidewalks – Knightville/Mill Creek target area.
 - 776 persons of which 66.2% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
- Redbank Resource Hub – Redbank & Maine Mall target areas.
 - 2,056 persons of which 59.0% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
- Former Hutchins Elementary School Renovations – Ferry Village target area.
 - 945 persons of which 45.8% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
- Community Counseling Center – Low/moderate income target neighborhoods .
 - Pleasantdale Target Area – 745 persons of which 60.7% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
 - Brown’s Hill/Ligonia Target Area – 845 persons of which 45.7% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
 - Thorton Heights & Meadow Glen Target Areas – 1,793 persons of which 45.8% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
 - Census Tract 30, Block Group 2: 1,106 persons of which 45.6% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
 - Ferry Village Target Area – 945 persons of which 45.8% reside in households with incomes below 80% of the area median income.
 - Redbank neighborhood described above.
 - Knightville/Millcreek target area described above.

For 2009 Cumberland County CDBG program funded projects, greater than 41% of residents within the area served by the project must reside in households with incomes below 80% of area median income (adjusted for household size). For 2010 and 2011 funded projects, the standard was 43% of residents must reside in households with incomes below 80% of area median income.

2. Changes in Program Objectives

- a. Identify the nature of and the reasons for any changes in program objectives and how the jurisdiction would change its program as a result of its experiences.

No changes in program objectives.

3. Assessment of Efforts in Carrying Out Planned Actions

- a. Indicate how grantee pursued all resources indicated in the Consolidated Plan.

Consistent with efforts to leverage funds wherever possible CDBG program funds were heavily matched in conjunction with three activities:

Freeport Community Services facility expansion

CDBG = \$268,851 Match = \$605,500

Gray Village Sidewalks/Pedestrian Improvements

CDBG = \$154,000 Match = \$52,635

Gorham Village Sidewalks/Pedestrian Improvements

CDBG = \$150,000 Match = \$96,014

- b. Indicate how grantee provided certifications of consistency in a fair and impartial manner.

Grantee did not receive any requests for certifications of consistency with the Consolidated Plan during the program year.

- c. Indicate how grantee did not hinder Consolidated Plan implementation by action or willful inaction.

Grantee did not hinder Consolidated Plan implementation.

4. For Funds Not Used for National Objectives

- a. Indicate how use of CDBG funds did not meet national objectives.

All CDBG funds met national objectives

- b. Indicate how did not comply with overall benefit certification.

Not applicable

5. Anti-displacement and Relocation – for activities that involve acquisition, rehabilitation or demolition of occupied real property
 - a. Describe steps actually taken to minimize the amount of displacement resulting from the CDBG-assisted activities.

No displacement was required for any CDBG-assisted activities.
 - b. Describe steps taken to identify households, businesses, farms or nonprofit organizations who occupied properties subject to the Uniform Relocation Act or Section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and whether or not they were displaced, and the nature of their needs and preferences.

No displacement occurred during the 2011 CDBG program
 - c. Describe steps taken to ensure the timely issuance of information notices to displaced households, businesses, farms, or nonprofit organizations.

No households, businesses, farms or nonprofit organizations were displaced during the implementation of the 2011 CDBG program.
6. Low/Mod Job Activities – for economic development activities undertaken where jobs were made available but not taken by low- or moderate-income persons
 - a. Describe actions taken by grantee and businesses to ensure first consideration was or will be given to low/mod persons.

No job creation activities undertaken.
 - b. List by job title of all the permanent jobs created/retained and those that were made available to low/mod persons.

No job creation activities undertaken.
 - c. If any of jobs claimed as being available to low/mod persons require special skill, work experience, or education, provide a description of steps being taken or that will be taken to provide such skills, experience, or education.

No job creation activities undertaken.
7. Low/Mod Limited Clientele Activities – for activities not falling within one of the categories of presumed limited clientele low and moderate income benefit
 - d. Describe how the nature, location, or other information demonstrates the activities benefit a limited clientele at least 51% of whom are low- and moderate-income.

Cumberland County Program:

- The Center for Therapeutic Recreation provided aquatic recreation services for 15 adults with disabilities. These individuals qualified as low/moderate income as a

member of the "presumed group" – severely disabled adults. All clients served were developmentally disabled.

- The Naples and Casco Food Pantry Delivery program served 727 people through nine months of the program year – 488 were from extremely low-income households (<30%AMI), 197 were very-low income (>30<50%AMI), 16 were low income (>50<80%AMI), and 6 were not from low/moderate income households.
- Community Counseling Center served a 279 individuals of which 245 (88%) are from low/moderate income households. Income eligibility was based on the clients' enrollment in MaineCare - the State of Maine's health insurance program (Medicaid/Medicare) for low income residents.

South Portland administered ten Public Service activities in 2011, eight of which were limited clientele activities:

- PROP's Senior Companion & Foster Grandparents program served 35 seniors who served as Foster Grandparents or Senior Companions as well as an additional 27 seniors who were aided by the Senior Companions. All of the seniors (100%) are members of a "presumed group"- elderly persons.
- The South Portland School Department's 21st Century Community Learning Program is an after-school program for at risk children and primarily serves children residing in low/moderate income households. 76 children participated in the program during the 2011 program year, 69 (91%) of which were from low/moderate income households.
- Southern Maine Agency on Aging's Nutritional Assistance program, of which the Meals-on-Wheels program is the primary component, supplied meals to 231 seniors. Elderly persons qualify as low/moderate income as a presumed group.
- The South Portland Transportation Department supplied free bus passes to 108 South Portland residents. 107 residents (99%) were from low/moderate income households.
- The South Portland Parks & Recreation and Public Works Departments provided recreational scholarships to 109 children all of which (100%) were from low/moderate income households.
- South Portland General Assistance provided emergency heating fuel assistance to 44 residents- all of whom (100%) were low/moderate income households.
- Family Crisis Services provided support to 126 victims of domestic violence. Victims of domestic violence qualify as low/moderate income as a presumed group.
- The Skillin Elementary Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) set-up a "snack pantry" providing free, nutritious snacks to children from low/moderate income households at Skillin Elementary School. Of the 51 children who received free snacks, 40 (78.4%) were also from low/moderate income households.

7. Program income received

- a. Detail the amount of program income reported that was returned to each individual revolving fund, e.g., housing rehabilitation, economic development, or other type of revolving fund.

No program income received or expended from a revolving loan fund in 2011.

- b. Detail the amount repaid on each float-funded activity.

Not applicable

- c. Detail all other loan repayments broken down by the categories of housing rehabilitation, economic development, or other.

One loan repayment was received during 2010 program year from the E. Street Development Company, South Portland for \$49,500. These funds were credited to South Portland and used to fund their next program draw down.

- d. Detail the amount of income received from the sale of property by parcel.

No program income received.

- 8. Prior period adjustments – where reimbursement was made this reporting period for expenditures (made in previous reporting periods) that have been disallowed, provide the following information:

- a. The activity name and number as shown in IDIS;
- b. The program year(s) in which the expenditure(s) for the disallowed activity(ies) was reported;
- c. The amount returned to line-of-credit or program account; and
- d. Total amount to be reimbursed and the time period over which the reimbursement is to be made, if the reimbursement is made with multi-year payments.

a-d – Not applicable.

- 9. Loans and other receivables

- a. List the principal balance for each float-funded activity outstanding as of the end of the reporting period and the date(s) by which the funds are expected to be received.
- b. List the total number of other loans outstanding and the principal balance owed as of the end of the reporting period.
- c. List separately the total number of outstanding loans that are deferred or forgivable, the principal balance owed as of the end of the reporting period, and the terms of the deferral or forgiveness.
- d. Detail the total number and amount of loans made with CDBG funds that have gone into default and for which the balance was forgiven or written off during the reporting period.
- e. Provide a List of the parcels of property owned by the grantee or its sub-recipients that have been acquired or improved using CDBG funds and that are available for sale as of the end of the reporting period.

a-e – Not applicable.

- 10. Lump sum agreements

- a. Provide the name of the financial institution.
- b. Provide the date the funds were deposited.
- c. Provide the date the use of funds commenced.
- d. Provide the percentage of funds disbursed within 180 days of deposit in the institution.

a-d – Not applicable.

11. Housing Rehabilitation – for each type of rehabilitation program for which projects/units were reported as completed during the program year:

- a. Identify the type of program and number of projects/units completed for each program.

Region-wide housing rehabilitation, 13 projects completed, 24 units

Town of Sebago housing weatherization, 4 projects completed

Alpha One Critical Access Ramps, 2 projects completed.

South Portland home energy audits and housing rehabilitation/weatherization, 9 projects and 9 units completed

- b. Provide the total CDBG funds involved in the program.

Regional Housing Rehabilitation:

Total funds expended - \$166,989

Town of Sebago, Housing Weatherization

Total funds expended - \$8,221.22

Critical Access Ramps:

Total funds expended - \$9,060.70

South Portland Weatherization:

Total funds expended - \$47,232

- c. Detail other public and private funds involved in the project.

Maine State Housing Authority - \$ 13,742

12. Neighborhood Revitalization Strategies – for grantees that have HUD-approved neighborhood revitalization strategies

- a. Describe progress against benchmarks for the program year. For grantees with Federally-designated EZs or ECs that received HUD approval for a neighborhood revitalization strategy, reports that are required as part of the EZ/EC process shall suffice for purposes of reporting progress.

Program Year 5 CAPER Community Development response:

Not applicable.

Antipoverty Strategy

1. Describe actions taken during the last year to reduce the number of persons living below the poverty level.

Program Year 5 CAPER Antipoverty Strategy response:

The single most important antipoverty activity operated by the Cumberland County Community Development program is the Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program. Without safe, secure, permanent housing nobody can hope to rise out of poverty. By intensely working with 76 households the program has achieved permanent housing for 142 individuals, during the 2011 program year. This is a critical first step in the climb out of poverty.

The program has now funded physical improvements to three locally operated food pantries: Gorham (2008), Sebago (2009) and Windham (2009 CDBG Recovery Act) These facilities are a critical component in helping those individuals and families most in need to meet their basic food needs. Improvements to the Wescott Community Center in Westbrook will play a significant role in assisting low-income residents of that community.

The City of South Portland continues to recognize the role community development funds can play in reducing poverty. Two particular foci have been (1) crime prevention through provision of educational assistance to at-risk school children from low/ moderate-income households and (2) to assist people gain employment. The English as a Second Language (ESL) program funded in 2011 served 76 individuals. South Portland developed a program to provide bus passes enabling low-income residents to access work and medical appointments. Over the past five years the City has actively participated in the creation of hundreds of units of affordable housing at Brick Hill neighborhood. This neighborhood is near the Maine Mall, the largest retail complex in Northern New England, and the location of thousands of jobs.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS

Non-homeless Special Needs

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify actions taken to address special needs of persons that are not homeless but require supportive housing, (including persons with HIV/AIDS and their families).

Program Year 5 CAPER Non-homeless Special Needs response:

The program provided funds to Alpha One in 2008 (\$40,000) and 2010 (\$50,000) to install handicap access ramps at the homes of persons with physical disabilities. Two ramps were completed during program year 2011 with 2010 funds. Both Cumberland County funded the Center for Therapeutic Recreation providing aquatic recreational opportunities to 15 adults with mental and physical disabilities.

The program did not provide funds for any supportive housing activities. There are simply limited resources and only so many activities can be attended to.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Overall Assessment of Relationship of HOPWA Funds to Goals and Objectives
Grantees should demonstrate through the CAPER and related IDIS reports the progress they are making at accomplishing identified goals and objectives with HOPWA funding. Grantees should demonstrate:
 - a. That progress is being made toward meeting the HOPWA goal for providing affordable housing using HOPWA funds and other resources for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families through a comprehensive community plan;
 - b. That community-wide HIV/AIDS housing strategies are meeting HUD's national goal of increasing the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS;
 - c. That community partnerships between State and local governments and community-based non-profits are creating models and innovative strategies to serve the housing and related supportive service needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families;
 - d. That through community-wide strategies Federal, State, local, and other resources are matched with HOPWA funding to create comprehensive housing strategies;
 - e. That community strategies produce and support actual units of housing for persons living with HIV/AIDS; and finally,
 - f. What community strategies identify and supply related supportive services in conjunction with housing to ensure the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families are met.

2. This should be accomplished by providing an executive summary (1-5 pages) that includes:
 - a. Grantee Narrative
 - i. Grantee and Community Overview
 - (1) A brief description of your organization, the area of service, the name of each project sponsor and a broad overview of the range/type of housing activities and related services
 - (2) How grant management oversight of project sponsor activities is conducted and how project sponsors are selected
 - (3) A description of the local jurisdiction, its need, and the estimated number of persons living with HIV/AIDS
 - (4) A brief description of the planning and public consultations involved in the use of HOPWA funds including reference to any appropriate planning document or advisory body
 - (5) What other resources were used in conjunction with HOPWA funded activities, including cash resources and in-kind contributions, such as the value of services or materials provided by volunteers or by other individuals or organizations
 - (6) Collaborative efforts with related programs including coordination and planning with clients, advocates, Ryan White CARE Act planning bodies, AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, homeless assistance programs, or other efforts that assist persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
 - ii. Project Accomplishment Overview
 - (1) A brief summary of all housing activities broken down by three types: emergency or short-term rent, mortgage or utility payments to prevent homelessness; rental assistance; facility based housing, including development cost, operating cost for those facilities and community residences

- (2) The number of units of housing which have been created through acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction since 1993 with any HOPWA funds
 - (3) A brief description of any unique supportive service or other service delivery models or efforts
 - (4) Any other accomplishments recognized in your community due to the use of HOPWA funds, including any projects in developmental stages that are not operational.
- iii. Barriers or Trends Overview
 - (1) Describe any barriers encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement
 - (2) Trends you expect your community to face in meeting the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS, and
 - (3) Any other information you feel may be important as you look at
 - (4) providing services to persons with HIV/AIDS in the next 5-10 years
- b. Accomplishment Data
 - i. Completion of CAPER Performance Chart 1 of Actual Performance in the provision of housing (Table II-1 to be submitted with CAPER).
 - ii. Completion of CAPER Performance Chart 2 of Comparison to Planned Housing Actions (Table II-2 to be submitted with CAPER).

Program Year 5 CAPER Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

Cumberland County does not receive HOPWA Program funds.

OTHER NARRATIVE

Include any CAPER information that was not covered by narratives in any other section.

Program Year 5 CAPER Other Narrative response:

No additional narrative response.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY, MAINE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE: SEPTEMBER 4, 2012
15-DAY COMMENT PERIOD**

The Cumberland County Community Development Program has developed its FY2011 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) in accordance with Federal Regulation 24 CFR Part 91. The CAPER summarizes programmatic accomplishments and provides an assessment of progress toward meeting priority needs and specific objectives identified in the County's CDBG 2007-2011 Consolidated Plan.

The CAPER is available for review at the Community Development Office, 142 Federal St. Portland between the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday - Friday. Written comments may be mailed to the Cumberland County Community Development Office, 142 Federal Street, Portland, Maine 04101-4196 or submitted by e-mail to Shapiro@cumberlandcounty.org.

For more information or questions concerning the CAPER, contact Aaron Shapiro Cumberland County Community Development Director: tel. 207-699-1905; e-mail Shapiro@cumberlandcounty.org

Ad ID 4670905

Date 08/29/2012

Time 10:12 AM

PUBLIC NOTICE

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY,
MAINE
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM**

**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT (CDBG)
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL
PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION REPORT**

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For more information or questions concerning the CAPER, contact Aaron Shapiro Cumberland County Community Development Director: tel. 207-699-1905; e-mail Shapiro@cumberlandcounty.org

#4670905

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners Witonis, Cloutier, Feeney, Gorden, Jamieson
CC: Peter Crichton, County Manager
FROM: Aaron Shapiro, Community Development Director
DATE: August 27, 2012
RE: 2011 HUD Report

By September 30th each year the Cumberland County Community Development Office must submit a Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) to HUD. The CAPER details the expenditure of HUD funds and accomplishments achieved during the past program year (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012). Be mindful that this report is a snapshot taken on June 30, 2012. Accomplishments and funds drawdown during July & August 2012 are not documented.

2011 Program Highlights & Accomplishments

The 2011 program year included our standard CDBG allocation and the third year of the HOME Program Consortium. Homeless Services are funded through the special Homelessness Prevention Rapid Re-housing (HPRP) grant.

South Portland and Bridgton operate as set-asides of the County program selecting and managing their own programs.

Three Highlights for the Year 2011

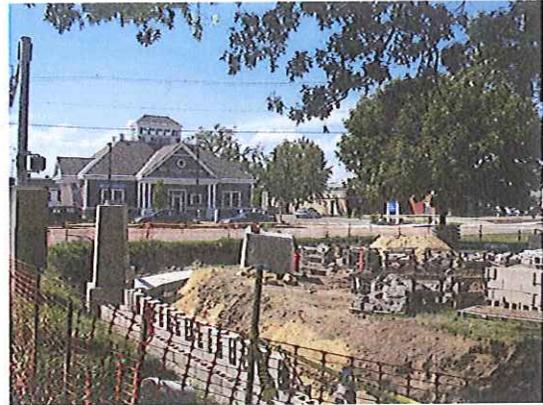
1) Freeport Community Services – Building Renovation & Expansion

This is one of our most innovative projects to date. Meeting stringent requirements of two masters – historic preservation and energy conservation - the renovation and addition to the 3rd “Mallet House” on Depot Street is an unqualified success. Our \$269,000 CDBG investment leveraged \$600,000 in local grants and loans.



2) South Portland – Knightville Sidewalks, Mill Creek Park

If you haven't been to Millcreek/Knightville in South Portland this summer, you've saved yourself a load of trouble. Construction everywhere is how you'd describe it. But Mill Creek Park is coming back together and the sidewalks, storm drainage and utility work will be completed by the fall. This project with significant CDBG investment will do wonders for the area.



3) Domestic Violence, Case Management – Cape Elizabeth (Lead Community), Gorham, Naples, Scarborough, Standish

Spearheaded by Family Crisis Services, this project is innovative – and effective. It pares domestic violence case managers with police officers to aid victims. Also funded by the City of South Portland, the program expands in 2012 to Casco, Gray and Raymond.

2011 Goals and Accomplishments

1.0) Goal: Provide Decent Affordable Housing Action: Funding Four Housing Rehabilitation Activities

1.1) Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program - PROP Program Goal: 15 single-family units & 1 multi-family unit.

Funded Amount: \$150,000 (2011)

Funds Expended: \$ \$149,474 (2011); \$10,534 (2010); \$11,888 (2009-R)

Opportunity Alliance (formerly PROP) completed 12 single-family rehabilitation projects in program year 2011 and one 12-unit multi-family rehabilitation project. Projects included: well and/or septic system replacements; weatherization; rehabilitation to support weatherization; or general rehabilitation.

1.2) Alpha One, Critical Access Ramp Program Program Goal: 7 ramps

Funded Amount: \$50,000 (2010)

Funds Expended: \$32,277 (2010 CAPER)
Funds Expended: \$6,081 (2011 CAPER)

Two critical access ramp projects were completed during the 2011 program year – one in Gorham and one in Harrison. The program has exceeded its projected goal of 7 completed units and has funds available for 2 projects in the summer/fall 2012.

1.3) South Portland Home Energy Efficiency Program
Program Goal: 25 units

Funded Amount: \$35,823 (2011)
Funds Expended: \$30,029 (2011); \$17,203 (2010); \$1,546 (2009)

During its 3rd year, Warm Home Cool Cities' Residential Energy Efficiency program completed five comprehensive repairs and four audit/weatherization activities. Six audit/weatherization projects are in progress. Completed repairs include replacement of three deficient oil-fired units with natural gas furnaces/boilers; building envelope tightening & insulation; and replacement of moldy carpet.

1.4) Town of Sebago – Weatherization/Repairs of Homes of Elderly
Program Goal: 6

Funded Amount: \$25,000.00
Funds Expended: \$16,524.42

Four projects were completed in 2011 program year.

NOTE: Additional housing rehabilitation and homeownership activities are conducted within the boundaries of the Cumberland County Entitlement Jurisdiction with funds provided by the Cumberland/Portland HOME Consortium. These activities are reported in the CAPER completed by the City of Portland.

HOME Consortium Activities

Homeownership Assistance: 9 projects

Bridgton - 1; Brunswick - 1; Gorham - 3; New Gloucester - 1; Westbrook - 3
Total HOME funds expended = \$237,804

Housing Rehabilitation: 13 projects

Bridgton 1; Cape Elizabeth 1; Casco 1; Cumberland 1; Falmouth 1; Scarborough 2;
Sebago 1; South Portland 3; Windham 2.
Total HOME funds expended = \$157,824.41

Rental Housing Development

25 units at Oak Leaf II Senior Housing Apartments, 24 South Street, Freeport.
Total HOME funds expended = \$118,994 (Reported in the 2010 CAPER)
Oak Leaf II Senior Housing opened in March 2012.

Total HOME Consortium "non-Portland" funds expended = \$395,628.41

2.0) Goal: Provide & Expand Community Facilities
Actions: New and/or Improved Community Center facilities; and Handicapped Access at Town Office.

2.1) Action – Funding for Two Community Center Kitchens

2.1.1) Town of Bridgton – Community Center Kitchen Renovation
Funded Amount: \$55,221.00
Expended Amount: \$55,221.00

The kitchen at the Bridgton Community Center was essentially a closet - undersized and primitive - failing to meet the basic needs of the senior and community meals programs. The new modern kitchen is an exceptional facility serving the community's needs.

2.1.2) Town of Casco – Community Center Kitchen Renovation
Funded Amount: \$44,739.77
Expended Amount: \$44,739.77

Originally funded in 2009 the project was plagued by an unscrupulous contractor. The project was finally completed by trustworthy and competent contractors and is now an excellent community facility.

2.2) Action – Handicap Accessibility at the Town of Sebago's Town Office

Town of Sebago – Town Office Handicap Accessibility
Funded Amount: \$7,689.00
Funds Expended: \$7,689.00

This project, completed in the fall 2011, had three components: Roof covering the handicap access entrance ramp to shield it from snow & ice; automatic entrance door opener; modification of Town Clerk service counter for customers using wheelchairs.

2.3) Action - Major Renovation to Community Center Facility

Town of Freeport – Freeport Community Services Facility – 57 Depot Street
Funded Amount: 2010 - \$125,000; 2011 - \$143,851
Funds Expended: 2010 - \$125,000; 2011 - \$143,851
Total Expended: \$268,851

Renovation of the 3rd "Mallet" House at 57 Depot Street has been a long planned initiative of Freeport Community Services (FCS). FCS provides social activities and services for seniors, durable medical equipment for seniors and persons with disabilities; the community food pantry and; LIHEAP heating assistance intake. The renovation of 57 Depot Street was an innovative combination of historic preservation and energy efficiency. CDBG funds were matched by over \$600,000 in local grants and loans.

2.4) Minor Renovation to Community Center for Energy Efficiency

City of Westbrook – High Lake Grange Hall Renovations
Funded Amount: \$20,344 (2010)
Funds Expended: \$20,344

This project was largely completed and reported in the 2010 CAPER. Final payments for insulation and replacement windows were made in September & October 2011. The Boy and Girl Scouts of Westbrook meet at this facility.

Status updates for prior program years' community facilities projects:

Town of Long Island – Community Center Renovations
Funded Amount: \$19,200
Funds Expended: \$ -0-

The project was cancelled. Funding has been rescinded and reallocated.

Town of Bridgton – Community Dental Clinic
Funded Amount: \$45,000
Funds Expended: \$ -0-

This project's status is in limbo. If progress is not made during the Fall/Winter of 2012/2013 the project will be cancelled and funds reallocated.

3.0) Goal: Provide & Upgrade Public Infrastructure
Action: Funding for 12 Infrastructure Projects

3.1) Town of Gorham – Village Sidewalk Reconstruction

Funded Amount: \$150,000
Funds Expended: \$ 150,000

The reconstruction of sidewalks, curbing and storm drainage in Gorham Village was completed June – July 2011. Funds were paid out in one lump sum, August 2011.

3.2) Town of Bridgton – Downtown Park Improvements
Funded Amount: \$5,000
Funds Expended: \$5,000

The reconstruction and redesign of this downtown pocket park was largely funded by community resources. CDBG funds paid for the fabrication and installation of the stair and handicap ramp railings.

3.3) City of Westbrook – Downtown Pedestrian Improvements
Funded Amount: \$ 70,000
Funds Expended: \$ -0-

This project is currently delayed pending determination of larger road and bridge construction work planned in the vicinity.

3.4) Town of Windham – South Windham/Little Falls, Gorham Pedestrian
Improvements
Funded Amount: \$ 80,000
Funds Expended: \$ -0-

The project is in the design phase, will be out to bid August, 2012 and under construction in September/October 2012.

- 3.5) Town of Gray – Village Pedestrian Improvements
Funded Amount: \$154,000
Funds Expended: \$ 89,953 (as of June 30, 2012)

This project includes the installation of 750 linear feet of brick sidewalk, street curbing, catch basins, three sets of crosswalks & pedestrian activated crossing signals and handicap “tip-downs” at driveways & curbs. The project will be completed August 2012.

3.6) South Portland Infrastructure and Public Facilities Projects

- 3.6.1) Mill Creek Park Improvements (2011 & 2010)

Funded Amount: \$220,123 (2011); \$100,000 (2010)
Funds Expended: \$0.00 (2011); \$58,358 (2010); \$46,142 in 2011)

This activity is part of a multi-phase project to improve the Mill Creek Neighborhood Park. The project improves the ecology of the park resulting in greater compatibility with its surroundings and enhanced handicapped accessibility. The project includes new plantings, pedestrian paths, new entrance, and signage. During the past program year, landscaping activities continued, work on shoring up the banks of Mill Creek Pond, and removal of the pedestrian bridge occurred.

- 3.6.2) Knightville Sidewalk Reconstruction (2010)

Funded Amount: \$306,987
Funds Expended: \$201,884

This project was the first phase of a 2-phase sidewalk and combined sewer separation project in Knightville along multiple city streets. The project requires coordination between multiple departments as well as the Portland Water District and Unitil (natural gas utility). Phase 1 was completed fall of 2011 with the installation of new sidewalks in 2 project areas. Phase 2 began spring 2012 in the remaining project areas and is slated to be completed late fall 2012

- 3.6.3) Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub: Building Acquisition

Funded Amount: \$14,819
Funds Expended: \$14,819

The low/moderate income Redbank neighborhood has benefited greatly from the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub. The building, previously rented, was purchased during the 2011 program year. The acquisition allowed the City to extend municipal water and water service to the building.

- 3.6.4) Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub: Building Improvements

Funded Amount: \$2,565
Funds Expended: \$2,565

The building, previously rented, was purchased in 2011 using CDBG funds, but the building's lack of running water and public sewer limited its functionality. The building was connected to public water/sewer in December 2011.

3.6.5) Legere Park Improvements

Funded Amount: \$17,059

Funds Expended: \$ 5,745

Legere Park is located in the Knightville/Millcreek neighborhood and includes a playground, basketball court, and a wide expanse of open space. The improvements included: resurfacing the basketball court, replacement of the basketball post and backboard and installation of new benches.

3.6.6) South Portland Housing Authority Trail Access (2010)

Funded Amount: \$30,000

Expended Amount: \$30,000

The project connected low-income senior housing on Broadway to the South Portland Greenbelt Trail through Millcreek. The project was completed in July 2012.

3.6.7) Hutchins School Renovations (2009)

Funded Amount: \$138,090

Expended Amount: \$103,331 (\$76,143 in 2011)

Hutchins School is a municipally owned building eligible for listing on the National Register in the Ferry Village neighborhood. The project consists of architectural restoration of the building's exterior. Renovations completed: damaged/rotting fascia, architectural details, and sills were repaired or replaced. Remaining work: exterior repainting, railing reconstruction, and installation of a handicap accessible lift or ramp.

3.6.7) High & Sawyer Street Park Improvements (2009)

Funded Amount: \$55,000

Funds Expended: \$ 6,604 (all in 2011)

The High/Sawyer Street Park is a pocket-park in Ferry Village consisting almost entirely of a basketball court. Improvements included resurfacing of the basketball court, new fence, and landscaping around the edges of the court. The project was completed in June 2012 with funding drawn down in July 2012.

4.0) Goal: Provide Access to Public Services
Actions: Funding For Recreation Programming, Child Care, Bus Passes, Senior Programs, Education, Domestic Violence Case management, and Trauma Intervention.

4.1) Action – Funding for Recreation Programming, Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Center for Therapeutic Recreation (County-Wide)

Funded Amount: \$6,950

Funds Expended: \$6,950

The program provided aquatic recreation sessions to 15 clients from the communities of: Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth (2), South Portland (7), Scarborough (2), Windham (1), and Yarmouth (1).

4.2) Action – Funding for Elder Medicare Education Program

Town of Windham, City of Westbrook

Contract with Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging

Funded Amount: \$33,590

Funds Expended: \$33,590

Confusion about Medicare benefits among new Medicare enrollees is almost a given. This program provides three services: Group sessions for new enrollees; individual counseling for new or recently enrolled Medicare recipients; and training of seniors (or "pre-seniors") to assist future or recent Medicare recipients. The program served 411 seniors in the 2011 program year saving households hundreds of dollars and in a few instances - thousands of dollars a year.

4.3) Action – Funding for Domestic Violence, Case Management Services

Towns of Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Naples, Scarborough, Standish

Contract with Family Crisis Services

Funded Amount: \$51,112.00

Funds Expended: \$41,898.88

Higher levels of coordination between police and family crisis services workers was identified as a path to better outcomes for victims of domestic violence in five communities. Persons receiving services in 2011 = 277

4.4) Action – Funding for Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation

Community Counseling Center (County-Wide)

Funded Amount: \$15,000

Funds Expended: \$10,199

The Community Counseling Center is a nonprofit mental health and family service agency. It offers comprehensive outpatient co-occurring mental health and substance abuse services to residents in Cumberland County. The program served 279 people during the 2011 program year.

4.5) Action – Funding for Food Deliveries to Food Pantries

Towns of Casco & Naples

Contract with Wayside Food Services

Funded Amount: \$8,000

Funds Expended: \$2,800

For years individual volunteers would drive their own vehicles to Portland to pick up commodity and other foods for local food pantry distribution. This program provided

funds for a Wayside Food Services truck to make weekly deliveries to 3 pantries in the Towns of Casco and Naples. The truck was driven by either a volunteer or a professional driver. 727 persons were served through 9 months of program year 2011.

4.6) **South Portland Public Service Activities**

4.6.1 Action –Education for non-native English language speakers

City of South Portland
English as a Second Language ("21 Club")
Funded Amount: \$16,000
Funds Expended: \$ 0.00

The 21st Century Community Learning Program, or the "21 Club," is an after-school program for at-risk youth at three elementary schools. The program, run by the South Portland School Dept. promotes student improvement in academics; health, and social skills and; participation in the arts. It seeks to enjoin parental participation in their child's education. The focus over the past program year was science instruction. During the year the 21 Club was open for 111 days and served 76 children, 69 (91%) of whom were from low/moderate income households.

4.6.2) Action – Recreational Scholarship Program

City of South Portland
Recreation Scholarship Program
Funded Amount: \$10,000
Funds Expended: \$0.00

Eighty-five children received scholarships to participate in South Portland's summer rec programs. All (100%) were from qualified low/moderate income households. Funds for the 2011 program year were drawn down July 2012.

4.6.3) Action – Provision of free bus passes

City of South Portland, Dept. of Transportation
Bus Pass Program
Funded Amount: \$4,500
Funds Expended: \$4,500

The South Portland Bus Service (SPBS) provided 3,660 free bus passes (366 books of 10) to help 107 low/moderate income residents ride to work, medical appointments, school and shopping. SPBS coordinates with Ingraham, STRIVE, Day One, Div. for the Blind and Visually Impaired, S. Portland G. A., and S. Portland School Dept.

4.6.5) Action – Senior Services in the City of South Portland

4.6.5.1) Opportunity Alliance Senior Companion & Foster Grandparents
Funded Amount: \$9,462
Funds Expended: \$9,462

Foster Grandparents assigned senior volunteers to 3 elementary schools in S. Portland providing academic support. Each volunteer spent 20 hrs/week working within the schools. Senior Companions enabled volunteers to visit and provide companionship to homebound seniors. 35 volunteers provided 7,702 hours of benefit in both programs. Additionally, 27 seniors were aided by Senior Companions: 76 visits were respite to caregivers, 19 rides for medical appointments, and 97 rides for errands.

4.6.5.2) Southern Maine Agency on Aging – Meals-on-Wheels
Funded Amount: \$12,500
Expended Amount: \$12,500

Southern Maine Agency on Aging's (SMAA) nutrition assistance program provided 19,691 meals/vouchers to 231 seniors over the past program year. The core of the nutrition assistance program is the meals-on-wheels program which delivered 13,325 meals to homebound seniors. SMAA also provided 6,018 units of bulk food from the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and 348 vouchers for a dining-out, "As You Like It," program at 8 participating local eateries.

4.6.6) Action – Personnel for neighborhood resource center.

City of South Portland
Redbank Community Center – Personnel
Funded Amount: \$21,880
Funds Expended: \$9,240

This program pays for staff at the Redbank Neighborhood Center aka the "Redbank Resource Hub." The Hub serves as a community center and repository of information with staff assisting residents to navigate and identify beneficial resources. The Hub is open 35 hrs/week. Due to personnel turnover, not all 2011 program year funds will be expended - \$7,015 to be drawn July 2012 with the remainder reallocated.

4.6.7) Action – Assistance for persons undergoing traumatic events in the City of South Portland

City of South Portland
Community Counseling Services – TIP Program
Funded Amount: \$10,000
Funds Expended: \$ 5,720

The Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) was designed to support South Portland residents in the immediate aftermath of a traumatic event such as unexpected death, burglary, assault, or motor vehicle accident. Trained volunteers provide immediate support to residents in the aftermath of a traumatic event. Police & Fire personnel can focus and complete their primary duties. 82 residents of the city's low/moderate income target neighborhoods were served. The balance of the program funds will be drawn in July 2012.

4.6.8) Action –Funding for Domestic Violence, Case Management Services

City of South Portland
Family Crisis Services: Enhanced Police Intervention Collaborative (EPIC)

Funded Amount: \$9,594
Expended Amount: \$9,402

Higher levels of coordination between police and family crisis services workers was identified as a path to better outcomes for victims of domestic violence. In South Portland, 126 people received services.

4.6.9) Action – Emergency Heating Assistance, City of South Portland

City of South Portland
General Assistance: Emergency Heating Assistance
Funded Amount: \$20,000
Expended Amount: \$18,201

The City of S. Portland G. A. Office operates the Heating Assistance Program to supplement fuel assistance for low income households. Funding for the State of Maine's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was reduced last year placing pressure on local assistance. 44 households received 47 fuel deliveries (5,595 gal).

4.6.10) Action - Nutritional assistance for children during the school day

City of South Portland
Skillin Elementary School PTA – Snack Pantry
Funded Amount: \$500
Expended Amount: \$500

This small grant stocked a food pantry with nutritious snacks at the Skillin Elementary School. 51 children, 40 of whom (78%) were from low/moderate income households, participated in the program.

4.6.11) Action – Operations & Maintenance for a Neighborhood Resource Center

City of South Portland
Redbank Resource Hub, Building Services
Funded Amount: \$29,171
Funds Expended: \$29,171

This activity paid operating costs for the Redbank Neighborhood Resource Hub building in anticipation of the City of South Portland's purchase of the building in 2011.

Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP)

Funded as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, this 3-year grant program (2009-2011) ended June 2012. All activities and funds were managed by our sub-recipient the Opportunity Alliance (formerly PROP). The \$605,000 grant was expended primarily for case management services and to a modest extent financial assistance. Administrative and data collection costs were held below \$50,000.

Over the three year period 506 households with 1,204 people were served. 88% of persons served were housed upon leaving the program. It should be understood that the program was designed to provide assistance to households having a high likelihood of success. Opportunity Alliance social workers did not work with the chronic homeless

population or persons with severe, persistent mental illness. The program was designed to aid households that were “imminently in danger of becoming homeless” or those experiencing homelessness for the 1st time.

With HPRP ending we continue to provide a very modest CDBG grant to Opportunity Alliance to fund a ¾ time case manager helping similar clients.

Wrap-Up

The entire Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (the “CAPER”) is available for your review. It will be posted on the Community Development Program website by September 1st.