



CDBG Briefing – April 29, 2025

Vicki Watson, Executive Director

National Community Development Association

vwatson@ncdaonline.org

CDBG Coalition

- ♦ Created in 2006 by elected official and grantee interest groups
- ♦ 33 national interest groups
- ♦ Purpose: educate, elevate, and support the program
- ♦ Support program funding: \$4.2 billion in FY26

CDBG Coalition

- ♦ Primary focus: Congressional educational
- ♦ How?
 - ♦ CDBG educational materials (state fact sheets, activity fact sheets)
 - ♦ Support letters
 - ♦ Meetings
 - ♦ CDBG briefing
 - ♦ CDBG impact report

2025 CDBG Impact Report

- ♦ [CDBG Impact Report: Strengthening Communities](#) released last week
- ♦ Comprehensive overview of the CDBG program
- ♦ National objectives, eligible activities, grantees, beneficiaries
- ♦ Locally funded project examples
- ♦ Funding trends



Jenna Hampton

Director of Advocacy & Federal Programs

Council of State Community Development Agencies (COSCDA)

jhampton@coscda.org

CDBG PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **History:** Enacted in **1974** (over 50 years ago!) through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974
- **Administration:**
 - Funded by **Congress**, under the HUD Subcommittees
 - Administered by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**)
 - **Managed by entitlement communities, state agencies, and counties**
 - ❖ Entitlement communities are Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), other cities with at least 50,000 population, and qualified urban counties with populations of at least 200,000.

CDBG PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- The CDBG program grows local economies and improves quality of life for low- and moderate-income citizens.
- **Funding is flexible** and can be used for a number of activities, including:
 - **Public facilities and infrastructure improvements**
 - **Public services**
 - **Affordable Housing**
 - **Economic Development**

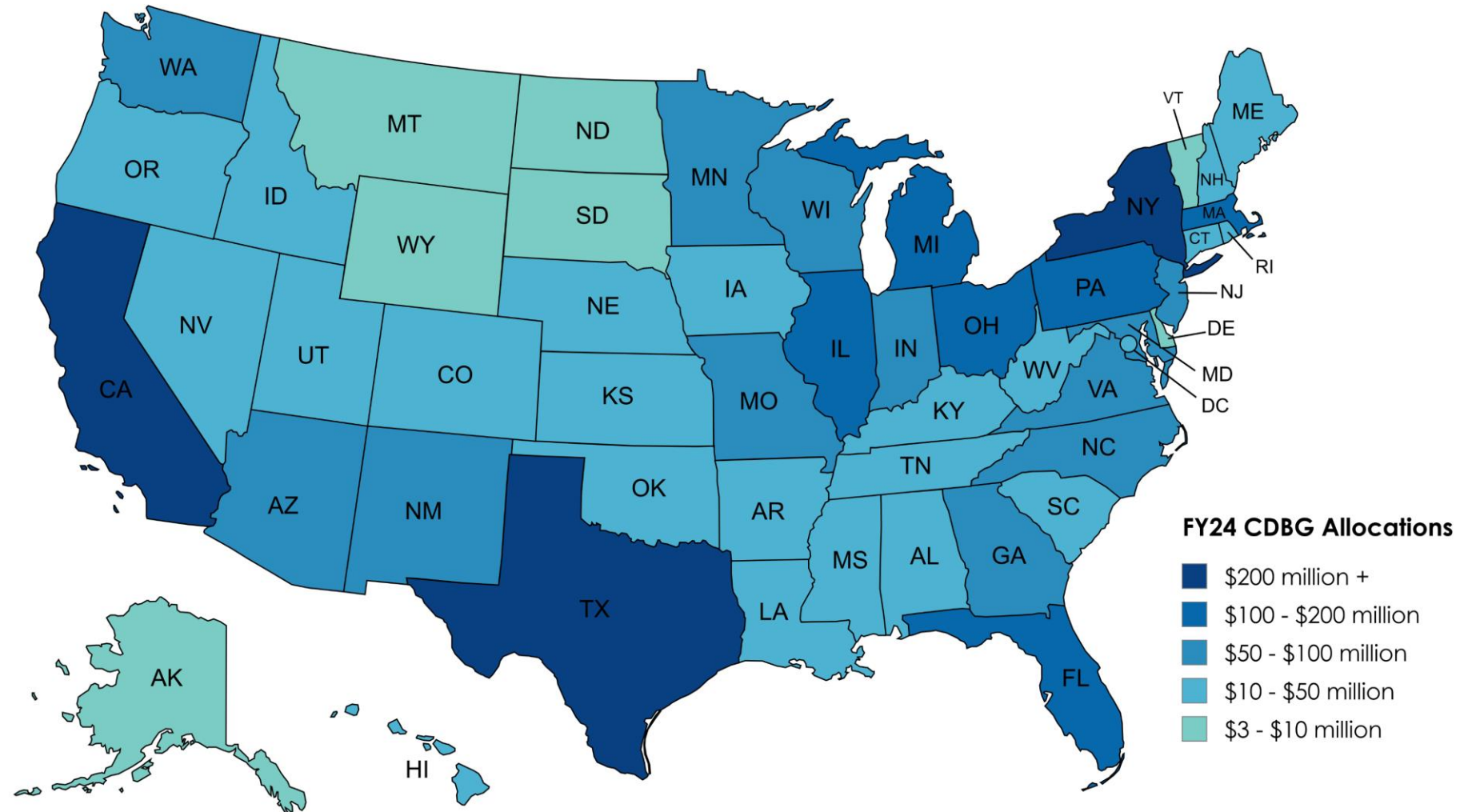


CDBG PROGRAM IMPACT

Since **Fiscal Year 2005 (FY05)**, the CDBG program has:

- Provided safe and affordable housing to over **2.1 million** LMI households
- Supported public infrastructure improvements that have directly benefitted nearly **59 million people** nationwide.
- Created or retained **581,495 jobs** through economic development.
- Assisted over **200 million people** through public service activities (such as food banks and afterschool programs).

**FY24 CDBG
FUNDING**
(\$3.3 BILLION
TOTAL)





TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Texas Community Development Block Grant Program
Overview



TxCDBG – Opportunity for Every Community

“Entitlement”
areas -
Higher
Population
Densities - e.g.
Houston,
Dallas. (more
“urban” areas)



“Non-Entitlement” areas
(more “rural” areas)

Counties < 200,000
Cities < 50,000

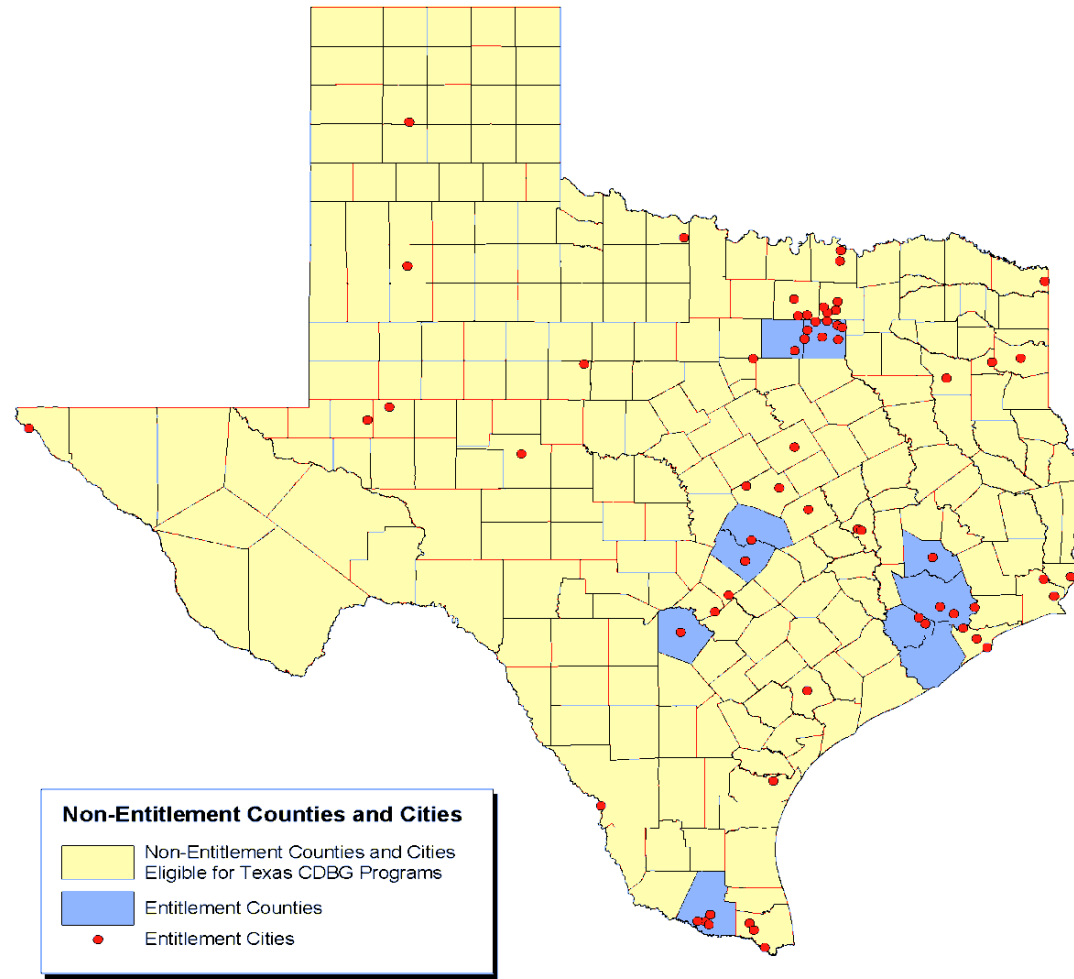


TDA-Texas
CDBG





TxCDBG Non-Entitlement Cities and Counties



The following counties are designated as entitlement counties: Bexar, Brazoria, Dallas, Fort Bend, Harris, Hidalgo, Montgomery, Tarrant, Travis and Williamson.

Map Prepared By:
OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
March, 2008.



TxCDBG – Method of Distribution

- Community Development Program (main competition)
- Colonia Programs
- Downtown Revitalization Program (pedestrian-driven economic development)
- State Urgent Need Fund (small scale disaster response)



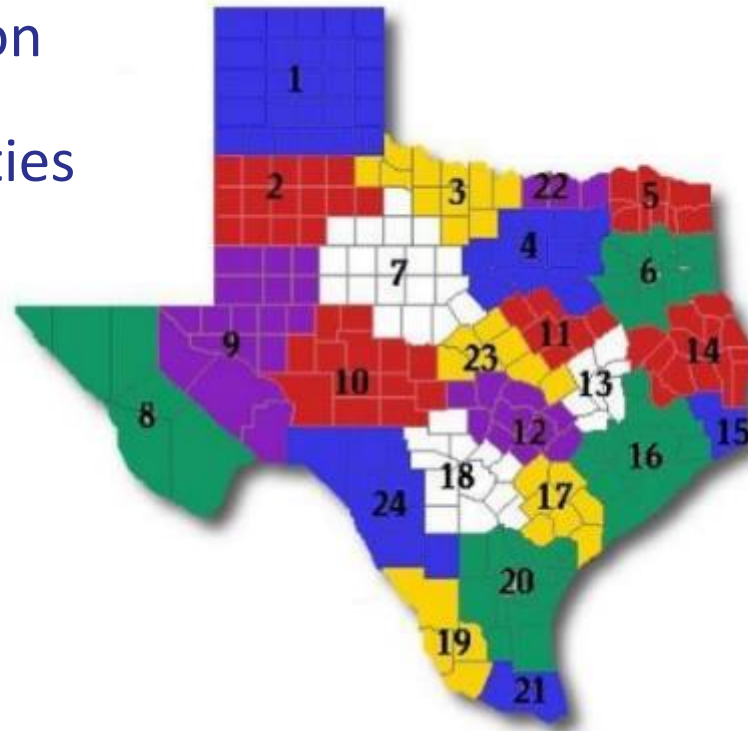
TxCDBG – Method of Distribution

- Most Common Activities:
 - Water & sewer improvements
 - Street & sidewalk reconstruction
- Other Popular Activities, less likely to receive funding
 - Drainage improvements
 - Community center or other facility
 - Fire protection
 - Community planning



TxCDBG – Method of Distribution

- Competitive application process
- Focus on:
 - Fair opportunity for all communities
 - Geographic distribution
 - Local / regional priorities





- [illegible]



Colonia Set-Aside

Colonia defined for TxCDBG:

1. identifiable **unincorporated** community;
2. located within 150 miles of the US-Mexico border;
3. lack of potable water supply, lack of adequate sewage systems, and lack of decent, safe, and sanitary housing; and
4. Existed as a colonia before Nov 28, 1990.



Federal Laws that Affect CDBG Project Management

- Environmental Review
- Labor Standards
- Civil Rights Law
- Acquisition of Real Property / Relocation
- Lead-based Paint
- Competitive Procurement
- Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS)
- 2 CFR 200
- Buy America Preferences (BABA)



Federal Requirements – State Responsibility

- Consolidated Plan
- Annual Action Plan
- Timely Distribution Compliance
- Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report
- IDIS Activity Reporting
- Monitoring of Subrecipients
- Annual/Semi-annual Reports
 - Labor Standards Compliance
 - Acquisition of Real Property
 - Minority- & Women-Owned Business Enterprises
 - Colonia Needs



TxCDBG– Providing Suitable Living Environments in Rural Areas





TxCDBG– Providing Suitable Living Environments in Rural Areas



TxCDBG Stories
and Project List

"These projects are more than just infrastructure—they represent what investment in rural communities can achieve. TxCDBG funding has provided critical support for small towns and unincorporated areas, helping them modernize, grow, and improve quality of life. With important federal funding decisions approaching, stories like these highlight the real-world impact of investing in Texas communities." - Munzer Al-Sarraj, Infrastructure Planning Manager



"460 San Ygnacio colonia residents no longer rely on poor water quality. Aged and deteriorated water plant components have been rehabilitated for the San Ygnacio colonia... These water plant improvements will not only provide for safe drinking water but provide for sustainability and resiliency for the San Ygnacio Colonia for years to come." - Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting, LLC.





TxCDBG – Making a Difference



"The street reconstruction greatly benefitted the George West Primary School on a street that services 250 students each day. Additionally, residents, businesses, and church participants use these upgraded streets, which makes transportation in the area much safer for the lives of the residents and those transporting to school, church and business services in the area have drastically improved their transportation experience and safety." – Andrew Garza, Mayor



MATHIS
moving forward

The Mathis Economic Development Cooperation received letters confirming their approval of two major grants, one of which will be used for the downtown revitalization project and the other will be used for the downtown district of Mathis completely transformed with sidewalks, landscaping and light poles along with many more upgrades. Mathis EDC officials hope construction on the project will begin this summer after meeting with engineers, city planners and Mathis residents.

Downtown revitalization grant approval proves big things come to those who wait

By Paul Gonzales
Mathis News editor

MATHIS — Mathis Economic Development Cooperation Executive Director Doug Dowler has been hard at work since getting the job a little more than two years ago, applying for grants and fixing up the downtown area. And finally it seems like all of his and the EDC board members' hard work is finally paying off.

Big time.
Straight from the desk of Texas Department of Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller to the desk of Mayor Chris Villarreal, two grants have been approved that will allow some major changes to Mathis' landscape.

'We're excited and I hope people will come and visit our downtown once we get through.'

— MEDC Executive Director Doug Dowler

Mathis' landscape. "We've received notification that we've been awarded, first of all, our downtown revitalization project, which will allow us then to take two blocks in our downtown district and revitalize the sidewalks as well as add new landscaping and street lights," Dowler said. "So we're going to make a real positive change and we're excited about the project."

Since Dowler started as the executive director of the MEDC, this project has been one of his and board members' top priorities. The revitalization project will begin with the 100 and 200 block of E. San

(See Downtown, 10)

Suzanne Barnard
Director for CDBG Programs
Texas Department of Agriculture

Suzanne.Barnard@TexasAgriculture.gov



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

CDBG Coalition Briefing



- State Coordinator
National Main
Street Program

- Statewide TA &
education

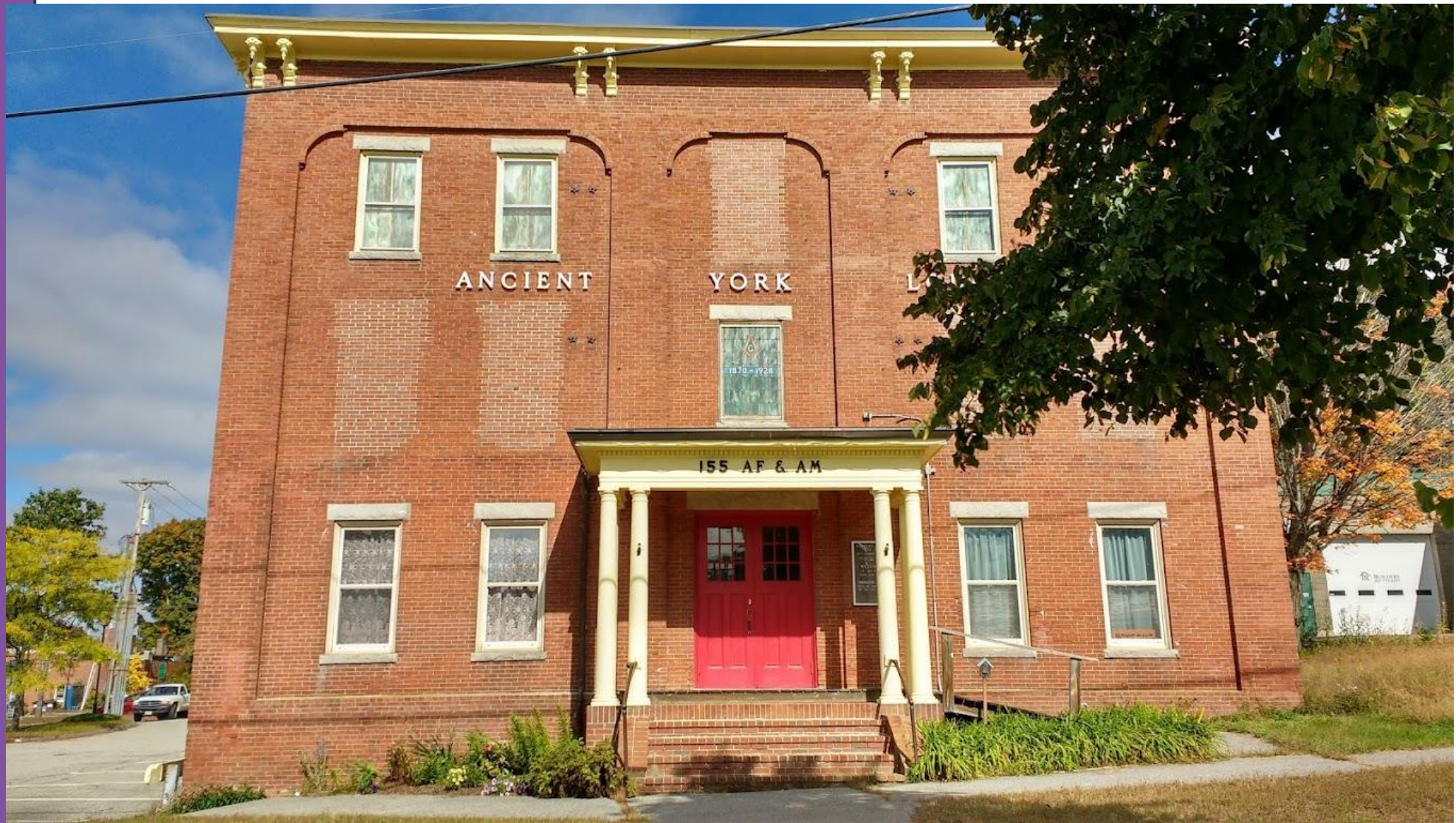
- 45 year old 4 Point
Approach



Current as of March 2025















Thank you

Anne Ball
Maine Downtown Center
Maine Development
Foundation

aball@mdf.org



CDBG Briefing



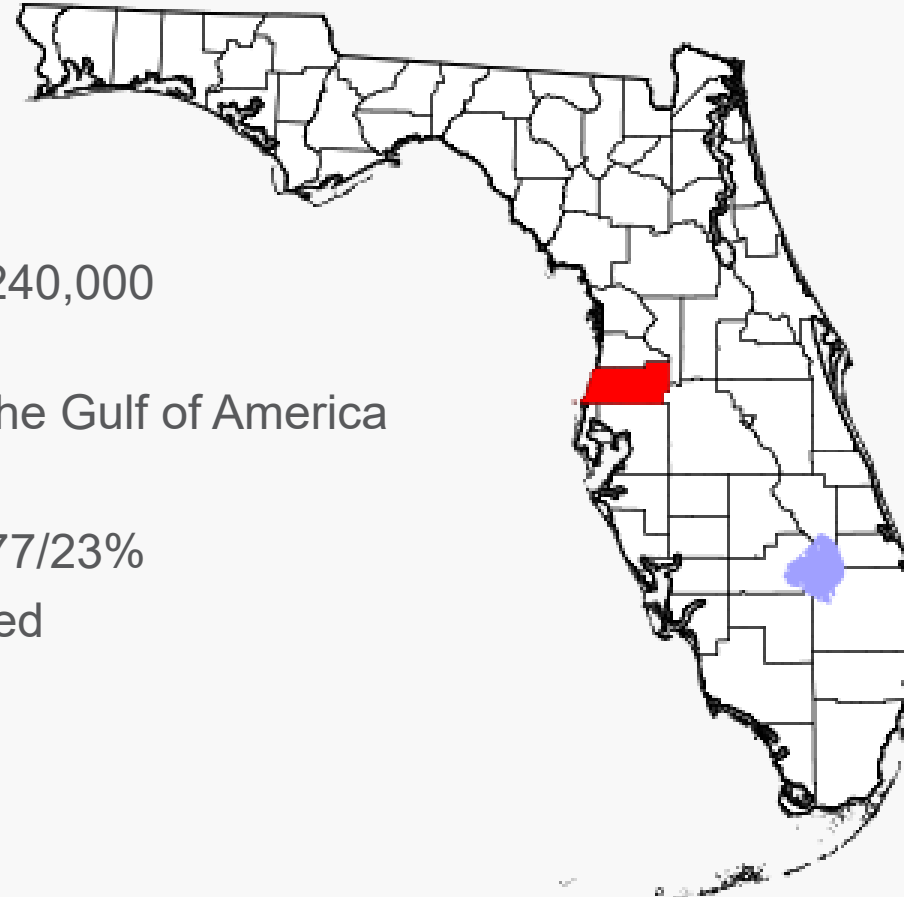
Pasco County Presents Award-Winning CDBG Projects

Commissioner Kathryn Starkey, Chair
Role in NaCO



About Pasco County, FL

- Population – 634,000 (just under 240,000 households)
- Location – north of Tampa, FL on the Gulf of America
- Square Miles – 747
- Owner-occupied/rental housing – 77/23%
- LMI – 40% LMI, 48% Cost Burdened
- CDBG - \$3 million annually



Three Award-Winning CDBG Projects



- **AmSkills** Workforce Innovation – provide higher skills, training and good jobs; help local manufacturers.
- **Vincent House** – Clubhouse model facility for adults with severe and persistent mental illness – County land, leverage funding, transitional employment
- **Lake Lisa Park** – Inclusive playground for children of all abilities, neighborhood revitalization, increase property values



AmSkills - Acquisition - \$551,100 CDBG



October 1, 2020



Rehabilitation - \$589,677 CDBG-CV



Began July 1, 2021





Why invest in workforce development/innovation?

- Break the cycle of a bedroom community
- Provide local high skills jobs and labor force
- Help local manufacturers to go their business
- Provide our citizens with good jobs



Partnerships – Key to Success



- Surrounding 501c3 agencies
- Schools, homeschools
- Jails, homeless shelters
- Manufacturers
- Individuals seeking a career change

www.AmSkills.org



Lake Lisa - A Playground in Distress



BEFORE





AFTER



Rock N Wave



Innovation & Leverage Funding

- Creating a space designed for children of all abilities, not adapted to them
- Getting additional buy-in/support for the entire project
 - CDBG - \$666,794
 - GoBond - \$258,362
 - GENERAL REVENUE - \$50,000 + \$50,188 budgeted for annual maintenance and plans to install lighting
 - United Way donation - \$5,000



Local Impact



[Pasco County, FL - Official Website](https://www.pasco.fl.gov/)

Filled a gap in PRNR services



Increased Sense of Community –
Community Events

Basketball
Tournaments

Roll to Poll
event

Picnics

Impromptu
gatherings



Local Economy Benefit

Food trucks at events

Increased property values





A Recovery Through Work
Program



THE FUNDING – Leverage and Public/Private Partnerships

- Pasco County Board of County Commissioners donated 10 acres of vacant land
- State of Florida awarded Public Defender Sixth Circuit \$1 million dollars for fiscal year 2018-19 specific appropriation to initiate the construction of Vincent House
- Pasco County Community Development granted \$1.1 million dollars in Community Development Block Grant funds
- Vincent House raised \$1 million dollars in donations from across the United States
- Project funding: 33% of each federal/state/private dollars

The importance of growing public/private partnerships to revitalize our communities and serve our LMI populations cannot be overstated. This type of partnership is a catalyst for change and can be replicated in any community.



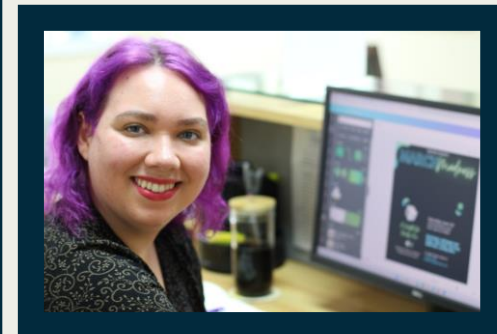
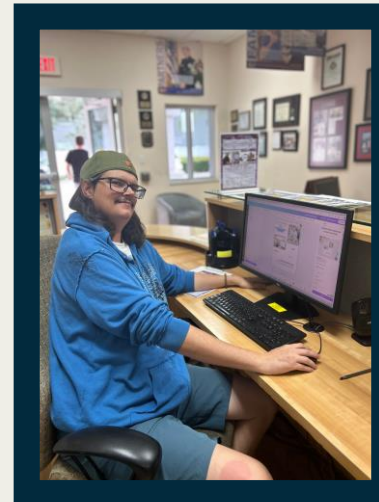


The Clubhouse Model of psychosocial rehabilitation is a community mental health service model that helps individuals with a mental health diagnosis rejoin society.



WORK ORDERED DAY

The work-ordered day is a structured system used in Clubhouses, where members and staff work together to perform work that is important to their community. The work-ordered day is an eight-hour period, typically Monday through Friday, and focuses on strengths, talents, and abilities.



TEAMS

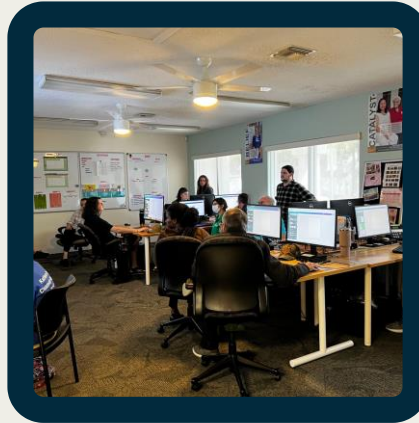
Culinary

- Full Commercial Kitchen
- Prepares lunch every day and breakfast buffet on Fridays
- Servesafe Certified
- Low Cost Meals
- Builds stamina
- Increase in Independence
- Garden



Communications

- Microsoft Office
- Canva
- Phone Etiquette
- Reception Skills
- Social Media
- Photography/Video editing
- Creative Writing
- Attendance



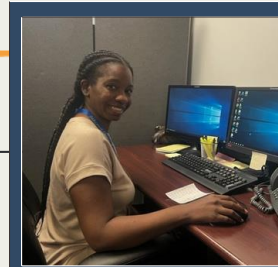
Career

- Bank
- Quickbooks
- Employment Report
- Excel
- Data Entry
- Employment
- FDOT Grants
- Trainings



TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYMENT

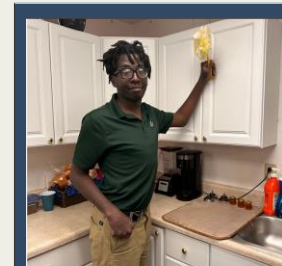
- Real jobs in the community
- Paid by the employer
- Part-time
- No- Interviews
- 6-9 months
- Entry Level
- Position held for Vincent House member
- Full job coverage



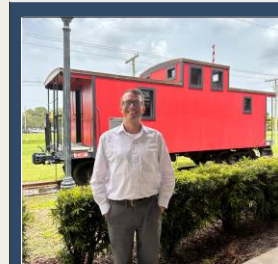
Telishia



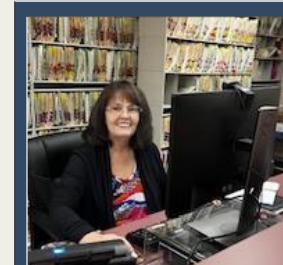
Rhonda



Tremayne



Simon



Pam



Employment Opportunities

➤ Transitional

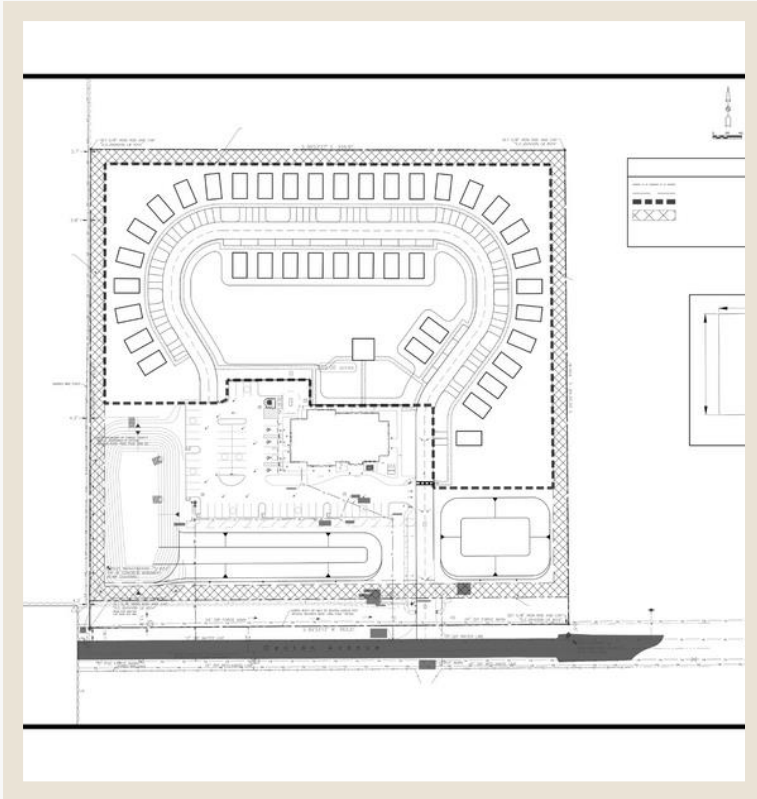
- Real jobs in the community
- Paid by the employer
- Part-time
- No- Interviews
- 6-9 months
- Entry Level
- Position held for Vincent House member
- Full job coverage

➤ Supported/Independent

- Long –term employment
- Job carving/accommodations
- Pre-placement training
- Resume building
- Full or part-time
- Wage reporting
- Vincent House Support



What's Next – Housing!



www.vincenthouse.org

