



# City of Lawrence, KS First Program Year Action Plan

The CPMP Annual Action Plan includes the [SF 424](#) and Narrative Responses to Action Plan 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.

## Narrative Responses

### GENERAL

#### Executive Summary

This Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan provide a basis and strategy for the use of federal funds granted to the City of Lawrence by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) programs. This Action Plan covers the period beginning August 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009. Programs and activities described in this plan are intended to primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents of the City of Lawrence, neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income and moderate-income residents, and the city as a whole.

This plan is the product of public outreach, public hearings, and consultation with over 50 agencies, groups, and organizations involved in the development of affordable housing, creation of job opportunities for low and moderate-income residents, and/or provision of services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons. A complete draft of this plan has been made available for public review and comment for a 30-day period beginning April 10, 2008. The availability of both the draft plan and the final plan is advertised in the local newspaper and the complete documents are available for review on the City's website [www.lawrenceks.org](http://www.lawrenceks.org) and in print form in the Development Services office of Planning and Development Services.

### Available Funds

	CDGB	HOME	TOTAL
2008 Entitlement	\$798,320.00	\$626,133.00	\$1,424,453.00
Estimated 2008 Program Income	\$100,000.00	0	\$100,000.00
Reallocation of Funds	\$250,000.00	0	\$250,000.00
Total Funds Available	\$1,148,320.00	\$626,133.00	\$1,774,453.00

### Summary of Priorities, Goals, Budgets, and Anticipated Accomplishments

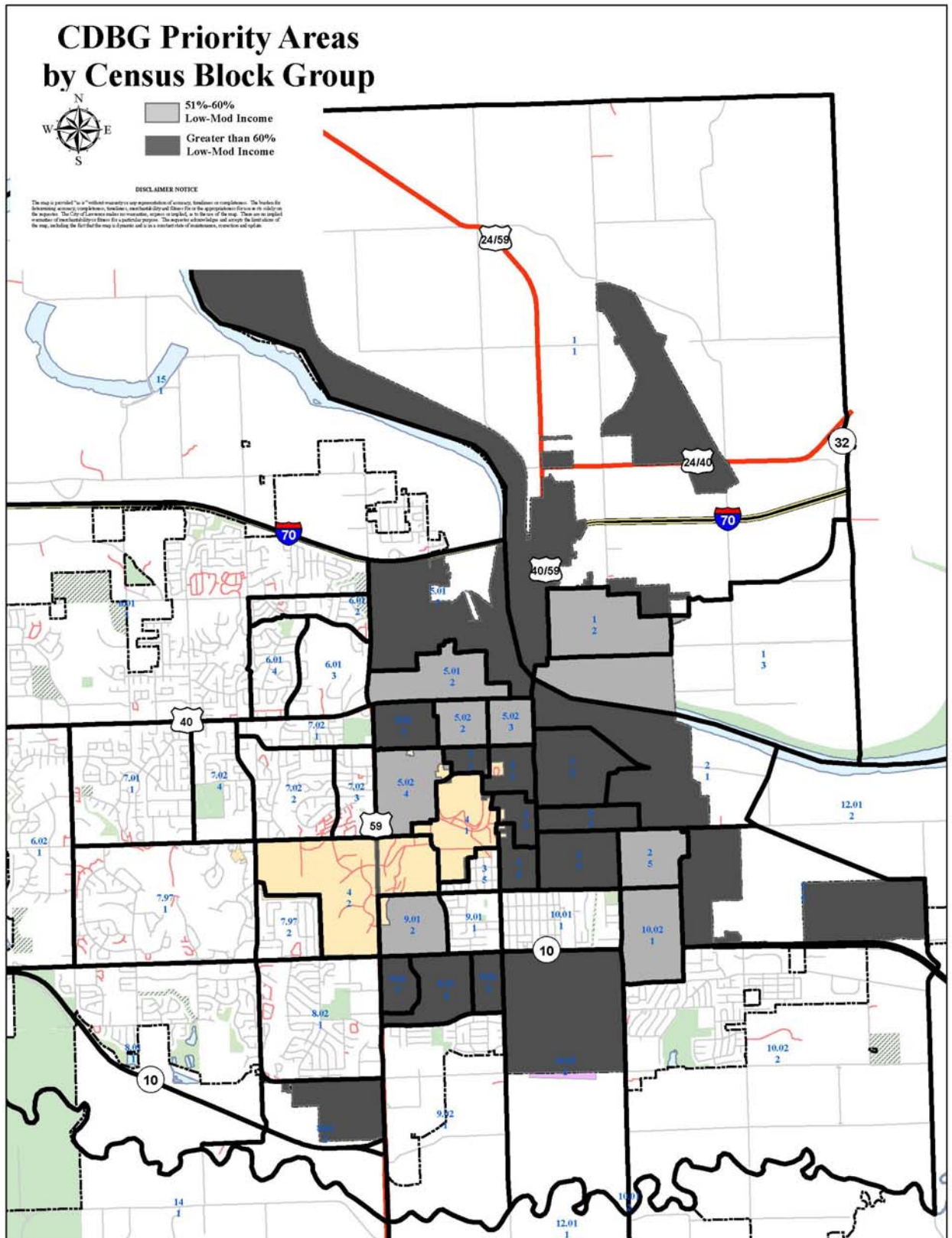
The table below outlines the priority need categories that HUD has found to be eligible to be supported with Consolidated Plan program funds. The chart estimates the amount and percentage of total Consolidated Plan funds that will be spent on each priority need category during the 2008 Program Year covered by this plan. Below each goal, high and medium priority objectives are also listed. The proposed funding amounts are constrained in many cases by program eligibility requirements and expenditure caps.

<b>Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS - \$56,000 (3%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Increase the number of homeless persons moving into permanent housing.	HIGH
2. Provide housing assistance and supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS.	HIGH
<b>Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs - \$50,000 (3%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Increase housing opportunities and services for persons with special needs.	MEDIUM
2. Improve accessibility of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
<b>Goal: Rental Housing - \$317,613 (18%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Increase the availability of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
2. Provide assistance/counseling to avoid eviction and utility disconnection.	HIGH
<b>Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing - \$865,520 (49%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Increase the availability of affordable owner housing.	HIGH
2. Improve the quality of owner housing.	HIGH
<b>Goal: Public Facilities - \$9,500 (.5%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Improve the quality of neighborhood facilities serving LMI persons.	MEDIUM
<b>Goal: Infrastructure - \$239,690 (14%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons.	MEDIUM
<b>Goal: Public Services - \$28,748 (2%)</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Priority</b>
1. Improve services for LMI persons.	HIGH
2. Support neighborhood improvement and stability, and encourage a sense of community in LMI areas.	HIGH

Note: Program Administration for CDBG and HOME is estimated to cost \$199,664 (11%). Contingency Fund is \$7,718 (.5%). Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## **Geographic Areas to be Assisted and Priorities for Area-wide Assistance**

As of the 2006 American Community Survey, Lawrence was home to 88,587 people, 14,955 of whom were members of minority groups. According to the same survey, Lawrence was home to 14,863 households who earn less than 80% of the area median income and are therefore classified as low-or moderate-income by HUD. This represents 44% of the city-wide population for whom household income could be determined. The following map illustrates the block groups with the heaviest concentrations of low-income and moderate-income residents in Lawrence. Consolidated Plan funds will generally be targeted toward these low and moderate income neighborhoods or toward activities that benefit all residents of the city who are low or moderate income.



## **Basis for Allocation of Funds**

Geographic Allocation – Because the primary national objectives of the Consolidated Plan programs are to benefit low and moderate-income residents, Lawrence’s block grant program funds will be targeted to low and moderate-income activities and neighborhoods. The map above illustrates these areas.

Priority Needs – Guided by the eligibility requirements of the various Consolidated Plan programs, the City of Lawrence recognizes the following priority need categories for the 2008 program year. Relative priorities and funding ratios were established through the needs information obtained through the plan development process. A core component of the public outreach in preparing this plan was to prioritize among a list of real needs given the limited amount of funding available through the Consolidated Plan programs.

Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the number of homeless persons moving into permanent housing.	HIGH
2. Provide housing assistance and supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS.	MEDIUM
Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase housing opportunities and services for persons with special needs.	MEDIUM
Goal: Rental Housing	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
2. Improve accessibility of affordable rental housing.	HIGH
3. Provide assistance/counseling to avoid eviction and utility disconnection.	HIGH
Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing	
Objectives	Priority
1. Increase the availability of affordable owner housing.	HIGH
2. Improve the quality of owner housing.	HIGH
Goal: Public Facilities	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve the quality of neighborhood facilities serving LMI persons.	MEDIUM
Goal: Infrastructure	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve quality/quantity/access of public improvements that benefit LMI persons.	MEDIUM
Goal: Public Services	
Objectives	Priority
1. Improve services for LMI persons.	HIGH
2. Support neighborhood improvement and stability, and encourage a sense of community in LMI areas.	HIGH

## Obstacles

The primary obstacle to meeting all of the identified needs, including those identified as high priorities is the general lack of funding resources available to the public and private agencies who serve low and moderate income residents. Lawrence, due to being an entitlement community, is not eligible for state CDBG or HOME programs. No state dollars are available for community development activities and the city's general fund has been stretched to overcome stagnant property and sales tax revenues. Local cuts have resulted in a hiring freeze and reductions of all department budgets. This leaves little room for expansion of community development funding at the local level. Furthermore, the City of Lawrence's entitlement grants have been reduced over the last several years further limiting the funds available to address the needs in the community.

City of Lawrence Consolidated Plan Resources PY03 – PY08					
City Program Year	CDBG	HOME	ADDI	Total	% Change
2003	\$990,000.00	\$716,448.00		\$1,706,448.00	
2004	\$963,000.00	\$719,997.00	\$50,174.00	\$1,733,171.00	+2%
2005	\$911,227.00	\$684,842.00		\$1,596,069.00	-8%
2006	\$816,981.00	\$645,694.00		\$1,462,675.00	-9%
2007	\$828,822.00	\$643,923.00		\$1,472,745.00	+1%
2008	\$798,320.00	\$626,133.00		\$1,424,453.00	-3%

## Managing the Process

### Lead Agency

The Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Services Department, City of Lawrence, KS oversaw the development of the plan. Three citizen advisory boards performed key roles:



## **The Community Commission on Homelessness (CCH)**

Purpose:

- To implement the community's plan for homeless services
- To make policy recommendations regarding addressing homelessness
- To make regular reports to the community on the progress of the plan

Members: The 11 committee members are drawn from the following community resources – housing and other service providers, law enforcement, business leaders, current or previously homeless individuals, faith leaders, neighborhoods and researchers. Members are appointed by the mayor and may serve up to two, three-year terms.

Members	Constituency	Term Expires
Jeanette Collier	Service Provider	12/31/08
Phil Hemphill	Private Housing Provider	12/31/08
Robert Mosely	Community Volunteer	12/31/08
Charlotte Knoche	Public Housing Authority	12/31/08
Katherine Dinsdale	Faith Community	12/31/09
Loring Henderson	Service Provider	12/31/09
Shirley Martin-Smith	Business Leader	12/31/09
Wes Dalberg	Service Provider	12/31/09
Hubbard Collinsworth	Homeless Community	12/31/10
Mike Monroe	Law Enforcement	12/31/10
Jane Faubion	Community Volunteer	12/31/10

## **The Neighborhood Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC)**

Purpose:

- To develop and propose community development strategy and policy
- To recommend allocation of CDBG and HOME funds
- Review housing, environmental and rental housing code appeals.

Members: The 11 committee members are drawn from low and moderate income areas and neighborhoods at-large.

<u>Members</u>	<u>Constituency</u>	<u>Term expires</u>
Jeanette Collier	Low-mod area	09/30/08
Julie Mitchell	Low-mod area	09/30/08
Patti Welty	Low-mod area	09/30/09
Brenda Nunez	Low-mod area	09/30/09
Marci Francisco	Low-mod area	09/30/10
Quinn Miller	At-large area	09/30/08
Curtis Harris	At-large area	09/30/09
Vern Norwood	At-large area	09/30/09
Kirsten Roussel	At-large area	09/30/10
Susan Mangan	At-large area	09/30/10
Aimee Polson	At-large area	09/30/10

## **The Housing Practitioner's Panel (PP)**

Purpose:

- To develop and propose affordable housing development strategy and policy
- To promote collaboration of agencies serving low and moderate income people

Members: The 20 committee members are drawn from agencies and groups who serve residents with low-moderate income. The following agencies are represented.

### Agency

Bert Nash Mental Health  
Coalition on Homeless Concerns  
Douglas County AIDS Project  
ECKAN  
First Step at Lake View  
Habitat for Humanity  
Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.  
Independence, Inc.  
Landlords of Lawrence  
Lawrence Board of Realtors  
Lawrence Community Shelter  
Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority  
Lawrence SRS  
Lenders Consortium  
Project LIVELY  
Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.

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## **Plan Development**

The fore-mentioned committees make recommendations to Community Development Staff and the City Commission regarding housing and neighborhood development needs, strategies and policies. All meetings are open to the public and the public may provide input and feedback as needed.

In addition to the public participation efforts outlined above, the City of Lawrence CDD and the NRAC conducts two advertised public hearings and provides an advertised public comment period to obtain feedback and solicit input into this Consolidated Plan. The first hearing was held on September 27, 2007 at City Hall. The hearing included an introduction to the Consolidated Plan's purpose and process as well as the presentation of the 2006 CAPER. The primary purpose of the hearing was to solicit comment on the performance of past activities, community needs and strategies for addressing those needs in the 2008 Action Plan.

A second public hearing was held April 10, 2008 at City Hall. The hearing concluded the NRAC's allocation deliberations and started the 30-day comment period for this Consolidated Plan and One-Year Action Plan. A draft of the Consolidated Plan was prepared in March 2008 and made available for public review and comment from April 3-May 12, 2008. A summary of comments received and the City's responses is included elsewhere in this document.

Notice of the availability of the draft plan and the opportunity to comment on them was advertised in the Lawrence Journal World, posted on the website ([www.lawrenceks.org](http://www.lawrenceks.org)), and e-mailed to a distribution list containing members of advisory boards, elected officials, government officials, agency personnel, and interested members of the public.

## **Consultation Process**

In developing this Action Plan, the Community Development Division, acting as the lead plan development agency, has consulted with representatives from more than 50 agencies, groups, and organizations involved in the development of affordable housing, creation of job opportunities for low-income and moderate-income residents, and/or provision of services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons. In addition to the hearings, CDD staff has met with representatives, staff, and members of the Lawrence-Douglas

County Housing Authority, the Continuum of Care, and the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods, during PY 2007.

### **Citizen Participation Process**

Citizen participation is the heart of the consolidated planning process, involving citizens in decisions that directly affect their lives. The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan is to encourage and insure full and proper citizen participation at all stages of the Consolidated Plan process. The Citizen Participation Plan formally designates structures, procedures, roles and policies to be followed by program participants. Citizen participation is encouraged in the development of the Consolidated Plan and any substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan, and the Performance Report. To achieve the purposes of the Citizen Participation Plan, six objectives are established.

1. Provide for and encourage citizen participation with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low- and moderate-income, particularly those who are residents of slum and blighted areas and of areas in which CDBG and HOME funds are proposed to be used, and provide for participation of residents in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods as defined by the City of Lawrence. Additionally, provide for and encourage participation of all citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities. Provide for and encourage, in conjunction with the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority, citizen participation of residents of public and assisted housing developments, along with other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which the developments are located. Provide information to the housing authority about consolidated plan activities related to its developments within the community so that it may make this information available at the annual public hearing required under the Comprehensive Grant program.
2. Provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the Consolidated Plan, Substantial Amendments, and the Performance Report, as required by regulations and relating to the actual use of funds under this title. Provide information regarding the displacement of persons and specifying the types and levels of assistance that will be available, even though no displacement is expected to occur.
3. Provide for technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low- and moderate-income that request such assistance in

developing proposals, with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the City.

4. Provide for public hearings to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the consolidated planning process, including the Citizen Participation Plan, the development of needs, the review of proposed activities, and the review of program performance. Such hearings shall be held after adequate notice, at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodation for persons with disabilities. Notice of public hearings will be published as display ads prior to the date of the public hearing.
5. Provide for a timely written answer to written complaints and grievances, within fifteen (15) working days where practicable.
6. Identify how the needs of non-English speaking residents will be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate.

## **Summary of Public Comment**

### **Institutional Structure**

The Planning and Development Services Department, Community Development Division (CDD) is the lead agency of the City in the development of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. CDD provides fiscal and regulatory oversight of all CDBG and HOME funding sources. The Lawrence City Commission acts as the final authority for the appropriation of funds for Annual Action Plan activities under the Consolidated Plan grant programs, following recommendations of the NRAC.

Within each of the priority funding areas, activities will be completed and managed by a diverse team of public, private, not-for-profit, and institutional partners. The lists below identify some of the principal partners for each funding area.

### **Goal: Homeless/HIV/AIDS**

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center	Douglas County AIDS Project (DCAP)
Lawrence Community Shelter	Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority
The Salvation Army	Women's Transitional Care Services

### **Goal: Non-homeless Special Needs**

Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center	Community Living Opportunities
Cottonwood, Inc.	Independence, Inc.

### **Goal: Rental Housing**

Emergency Services Council	Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.
Independence, Inc.	Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority

### **Goal: Owner-Occupied Housing**

Habitat for Humanity	Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc.
Independence, Inc.	Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. (Housing Trust)

### **Goal: Public Facilities**

Ballard Community Center	Penn House
Social Service League	Van Go Mobile Arts

### **Goal: Infrastructure**

Public Works Department	Various Neighborhood Associations and Agencies
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### **Goal: Public Services**

Neighborhood Associations	Various Non-Profit Organizations
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Lawrence prides itself on a decades-long track record of successful partnerships among public and private sector entities. The Consolidated Plan delivery system is an example of this. Communication and cooperation between the City of Lawrence's Community Development Division and the partner agencies and organizations that administer activities is strong.

CDD staff has worked closely with the organizations involved in Consolidated Plan programs to improve regulatory compliance,

monitoring, cooperation and partnerships among agencies, and technical capacity of organizations involved in project delivery.

The greatest weakness in the delivery system remains the lack of available funding to support community development, affordable housing and public service activities. It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain existing levels of activity and nearly impossible to expand services or undertake new activities.

### **Monitoring**

The City of Lawrence's Community Development Division will conduct at least one on-site monitoring visit for each sub-recipient during the program year. A monitoring schedule will be prepared and the sub-recipient visits will be prioritized by determining if any organization is new to the program; if there has been staff turnover in key agency positions; and if there have been previous compliance issues.

Following the monitoring visit, a written letter describing the results of the visit will be drafted and a copy retained in the agency's file.

Community Development staff closely monitors all federal programs. Administrative procedures will meet all federal rules, regulations and guidelines for program monitoring, compliance, and reporting. Staff conducts field inspections and also desk-monitors sub-recipients to ensure the compliance of locally administered projects. Staff also monitors the Consolidated Plan through the Annual Performance Report.

### **Lead-based Paint**

The city will ensure that all federally funded improvement programs for the existing housing stock use lead hazard reduction activities including evaluating lead hazard risk and using only lead free paint. Staff distributes *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home* pamphlets, published by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Community Development Division has two staff certified as Lead Hazard Risk Assessors and Inspectors. They have also received training in Lead Safe Work Practices. One staff serves on the state board that deals with lead issues.

## HOUSING

### Specific Housing Objectives

The following table outlines the specific accomplishment goals that the City of Lawrence hopes to achieve during the 2009 Program Year.

Activity	Accomplishment Unit	Goal
Rental Housing Subsidies (HOME)	04-Households	50
Construction of Housing (HOME)	10-Housing Units	4
Direct Homeownership Assistance (HOME)	04-Households	4
Rehab, Single Unit Residential (CDBG)	10-Housing Units	12
Energy Efficiency Improvements (CDBG)	10-Housing Units	40

### Needs of Public Housing

The Lawrence Community Land and Housing Trust (Housing Trust) program is the City's first time homebuyer program. Outreach to tenants of public housing, families assisted by public housing agencies, and residents of manufactured housing will be done primarily through Tenants to Homeowners, Inc. (TTH, Inc.), and Independence, Inc.

First-Time Homebuyer workshops are advertised in the local newspaper, through the local television channel, on local radio stations through public service announcements, in neighborhood association newsletters, in agency newsletters including those from Independence, Inc. and Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA), and on Tenants to Homeowners' and the City's websites.

To ensure targeted populations are reached, brochures are distributed and a workshop is scheduled onsite at Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA), Independence, Inc., and Haskell Indian Nations University.

### Barriers to Affordable Housing

A review of the City of Lawrence housing policy indicates there are no institutional barriers to obtain affordable housing. The city has adopted the 2006 International Codes (Building, Residential, Fire, Energy, Mechanical, Plumbing and Fuel Gas) and the 2005 National Electrical Code. The 2006 International Property Maintenance Code that has been adopted as the minimum housing code is similar to the requirements of HUD's Housing Quality Standards. The minimum housing code is enforced through the rental registration program that requires all rental properties located in single-family zoned areas to be



inspected at least once every three years. All other minimum housing code is enforced on a complaint basis.

The city does not impose rent controls or impact fees. Regulations that are designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens may affect the cost of housing. However, these regulations are not designed to discourage the availability of affordable housing. Therefore, the City of Lawrence does not propose actions or reform steps to remove or restructure such policies in the coming year.

## **HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)**

### **Resources**

In 2008, the City will receive \$798,320 in CDBG funds. The budget projects \$100,000 in program income and \$250,000 will be reallocated from previous allocations, which provides total CDBG funding of **\$1,148,320**. The HOME grant will have \$626,133 and thus, the 2008 Investment Summary lays out spending of **\$1,774,453**. See Investment Summary below.

Source of Funds	Amount
CDBG Grant	798,320
Program Income (Projected)	100,000
Reallocation	250,000
<b>Total CDBG Funds</b>	<b>\$1,148,320</b>
HOME Grant	626,133
<b>Total HOME Funds</b>	<b>\$626,133</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$1,774,453</b>

Additionally, the City of Lawrence applied to the state of Kansas for Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds through a competitive process. An award announcement is expected in June, 2008.

## 2008 Investment Summary - DRAFT

<b>CDBG Public Services</b>		<b>CDBG Capital Improvements (continued)</b>	
<b>Brook Creek Neighborhood Association</b>		<b>North Lawrence Improvement Association</b>	
Operating Expenses	5,626	Light Installation - Lyons Park	2,500
<b>East Lawrence Neighborhood Association</b>		<i>Subtotal Neigh. Cap. Improvements 2,500</i>	
Operating Expenses	6,211	<b>Independence, Inc.</b>	
<b>North Lawrence Improvement Association</b>		Accessible Housing Program (AHP)	30,000
Operating Expenses	4,170	<b>Tenants to Homeowners, Inc.</b>	
<b>Oread Neighborhood Association</b>		1120 Rhode Island Rehab	7,000
Operating Expenses	9,901	<b>Van Go Mobile Arts - 715 New Jersey</b>	
<b>Pinkney Neighborhood Association</b>		Parking Lot Lighting	7,000
Operating Expenses	2,840	<i>Subtotal Agency Capital Improvements 44,000</i>	
<i>Subtotal Target Neigh. Public Service 28,748</i>		<b>Total Capital Improvements</b>	<b>861,190</b>
<b>Community Development Division (CDD)</b>		<b>Contingency</b>	<b>7,718</b>
Voluntary Demolition and Clearance	10,000	<b>CDD Administration of CDBG</b>	<b>159,664</b>
<b>Douglas County AIDS Project</b>		<b>GRAND TOTAL CDBG</b>	<b>1,148,320</b>
Emergency Financial Assistance	4,000	<b>HOME</b>	
<b>Housing &amp; Credit Counseling</b>		Tenant Based Rental Assistance	270,000
Tenant/Landlord Counseling & Educ.	25,000	LDCHA TBRA Administration	22,613
<b>Lawrence Community Shelter, Inc</b>		CHDO Set-Aside	100,000
<b>214 W. 10th Street</b>		CHDO Operating Expenses	31,306
Emergency Shelter Operations	23,000	First-time Homebuyer Program	162,214
<b>The Salvation Army</b>		CDD Administration of HOME	40,000
<b>946 New Hampshire</b>		<b>GRAND TOTAL HOME</b>	<b>626,133</b>
Emergency Shelter/Feeding Program	29,000	<b>FUNDING SOURCES:</b>	
<i>Subtotal Agency Public Service 91,000</i>		<b>2008 CDBG Grant</b>	
<b>Public Services Total</b>	<b>119,748</b>	<b>Projected Program Income</b>	<b>798,320</b>
<b>CDBG Capital Improvements</b>		<b>Grant Reallocation</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<b>Community Development Division (CDD)</b>		<b>Total CDBG Grant Allocation</b>	<b>1,148,320</b>
Comprehensive Housing	400,000	<b>2008 HOME Grant</b>	
Rehabilitation		<b>Projected Program Income</b>	<b>626,133</b>
LCLHT First Time Homebuyer Rehab	100,000	<b>Total HOME Grant Allocation</b>	<b>0</b>
Weatherization	40,000	<b>Total CDBG Grant Allocation</b>	
Furnace Loans & Emergency Loans	35,000	<b>Total HOME Grant Allocation</b>	<b>626,133</b>
<i>Subtotal CDD 575,000</i>		<b>GRAND TOTAL, CDBG &amp; HOME</b>	<b>1,774,453</b>
<b>Public Works - Sidewalk Division</b>			
Sidewalk Installation and Replacement	207,500		
Various locations			
Van Go Mobile Arts Sidewalk	16,440		
715 New Jersey			
Sidewalk Installation	15,750		
700 Block New Jersey			
<i>Subtotal Sidewalks PW 239,690</i>			

## **Other Resources**

United Way of Douglas County and individual social service agency funding continue to address many needs identified in this plan. United Way usually raises more than a million dollars each year and nearly all the social service agencies raise money through annual campaigns and special events. CDBG and HOME funds enhance agency stability, increase public confidence and fill one-time needs, thus leveraging additional resources.

## **HOME Program Match Sources and Uses**

The City continues to identify match contributions for the HOME program. Thus far, match has been obtained from cash from non-federal sources; forgone taxes, fees, and charges; appraised land and real property; and site preparation, construction materials, and donated labor. The City received a 100% reduction of match liability for Fiscal Years 2003 through 2009 as a result of the declaration of a major disaster for Douglas County, Kansas, pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. This designation is due to the May 2003 tornado, the January 2005 ice storm, and the December 2007 winter storm in Douglas County. The reduction in match will apply to all HOME funds expended by the City during the 2003 through 2009 Program Years. The City will continue to accumulate and track match from non-cash resources such as forgone taxes, fees, and charges and in 2010 will begin documenting/expending the 25% match requirement for HOME funds as they are expended.

## **HOME Program Recapture Provisions**

Recapture provisions must ensure that the City recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability. Currently, Lawrence uses the *reduction during affordability period* method. The City reduces the amount to be recaptured at the rate of 5% a year for four years, then 10% a year for three more years. The maximum reduction of the HOME investment is 50%. The reduction for each year occurs at the completion of the year and is not prorated by the month. Recapture occurs when the homebuyer ceases to be the owner occupant of the home.

Recapture provisions, as mentioned previously, pertain to the on-going participants in the former HOOT program. Because the HOOT program has changed to a Housing Trust First Time Homebuyers Program the affordability requirements will be based on resale, rather than recapture, provisions. These provisions will ensure that the housing is

made available for subsequent purchase only to a buyer whose family qualifies as a low-income family and will use the property as its principal residence.

## HOMELESS

### **Specific Homeless Prevention Elements**

#### **Continuum of Care**

Lawrence developed its Continuum of Care strategy in 1993. Revisions and updates have been made to the strategy as services have changed and needs have shifted. The Continuum of Care strategy is used to move homeless individuals and/or families from homelessness through necessary supportive services to permanent housing. The lead entity for the CoC planning process has been the Practitioners Panel (PP), however in 2008 the Practitioner's Panel opted to join the Statewide Continuum of Care in order to access additional funding opportunities. Homeless strategy for Lawrence will continue to be developed locally, although funding will now be aligned with the statewide continuum that is lead by the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition. See Continuum of Care Diagram and the Housing Vision Chart below.

#### **Intake, Outreach, and Assessment**

Through the PATH grant, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center conducts homeless outreach for people who are mentally ill. Through a contract with the City of Lawrence, Bert Nash manages an outreach team of four, for the homeless community at-large. Outreach workers go to places frequented by homeless people, establish contact in order to build trust, then offer assessment and services. The homeless outreach workers can set up case management services for those who qualify or can refer people to other organizations for services. Besides outreach workers, most agencies that provide for the very-low income and homeless individuals or families are able to provide services or referrals for assistance. Programs with ongoing case management and continuing care also contribute to prevention services in the community.

To further assist with homeless prevention and outreach efforts information and education about programs are posted on community bulletin boards in various locations where homeless and at-risk individuals congregate.

Douglas County Aids Project, The Lawrence Community Shelter, The Salvation Army, Housing & Credit Counseling, Inc. and Independence, Inc. are all agencies that do intake, outreach, or assessment and will receive CDBG funding. See Investment Summary for details.

### **Emergency Shelter**

The general homeless population, including families, is able to access nighttime emergency shelter at The Salvation Army upon passing a Breathalyzer test. The plan for 2008 includes the continuation of a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week shelter that began operations during 2004 as the result of collaboration between The Salvation Army, and the Lawrence Community Shelter. The Community Shelter provides shelter for those who are unable to pass a Breathalyzer test. They also accept non-intoxicated, single male/female individuals in need of shelter. The Lawrence Police Department assists with late night emergency admissions to the shelters. On weekday mornings the Community Shelter provides day shelter and services, with an emphasis on employment, for people experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness. The Lawrence Community Shelter and The Salvation Army will receive CDBG support for emergency housing activities.

### **Transitional Housing**

Service agencies assist homeless individuals with finding housing and supportive services. Transitional housing is also provided through vouchers funded by HOME funds to the general homeless population. LDCHA will receive HOME funds for transitional housing vouchers (Tenant Based Rental Assistance).

### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

Private nonprofit agencies administer 62 (only 6 for chronically homeless) units of permanent supportive housing. The Community Commission on Homelessness estimates the need for another 32 supportive housing units for chronically homeless individuals. The need was based on 2007 Homeless Survey.

Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA) is currently in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Grant for its permanent supportive housing program, Hope Building. Hope Building provides housing and support services for up to 6 chronically homeless persons with disabilities. The LDCHA operates the program with the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center providing mental health services and DCCCA providing substance abuse services. As of January 2008, there were two (2) units available and the LDCHA was contacting applicants on the waiting list.

## **Chronic Homelessness**

Developing permanent supportive housing units for chronic homelessness is a high priority for the City of Lawrence. LDCHA will continue to operate HOPE Building, a PSH project that serves six chronically homeless individuals. Additionally, LDCHA plans to submit a Shelter+Care application for the 2009 CoC and The Salvation Army plans to submit for a PSH project as well. As stated earlier, faith-based initiatives are developing small PSH projects serving 2-3 chronically homeless individuals. It is the goal of the city to develop 26 new PSH opportunities during the 2008-2012 Consolidated Plan Period.

Beginning in 2006, the City of Lawrence began funding a homeless outreach team with general fund dollars. The outreach team of four makes connections with homeless individuals on the street and in shelters, with the goal of engaging them in services and eventually assisting them in movement to more stable housing options.

The coordination of efforts to end chronic homelessness includes the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The Lawrence CoC implemented HMIS with nine participating agencies in 2006 and will transition to the statewide HMIS during 2008. The HMIS will include HUD funded and non-HUD funded emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing programs, as well as service agencies providing outreach and case management services to homeless.

## **Preventing Homelessness**

The city will continue to support homeless prevention activities such as rent and utility assistance to avoid eviction and shutoff as well as landlord-tenant counseling. The further development of emergency transitional housing, as described in the housing vision, will result in fewer families being forced into shelters or onto the streets.

## **Discharge Planning**

Foster Care:

Youth who leave the foster care system because they have attained 18 years of age are eligible to participate in Independent Living Services, contracted by Kansas Social and Rehabilitative Services. Caseworkers begin working with youth who will age out of foster care on a discharge plan as early as age 15 to ensure that youth will not need to seek McKinney-Vento housing options. Planning includes housing, employment and education.

#### Health Care:

Lawrence Memorial Hospital has social workers in charge of discharge planning. Homeless individuals admitted to the hospital are assisted with a discharge plan upon admission that includes housing.

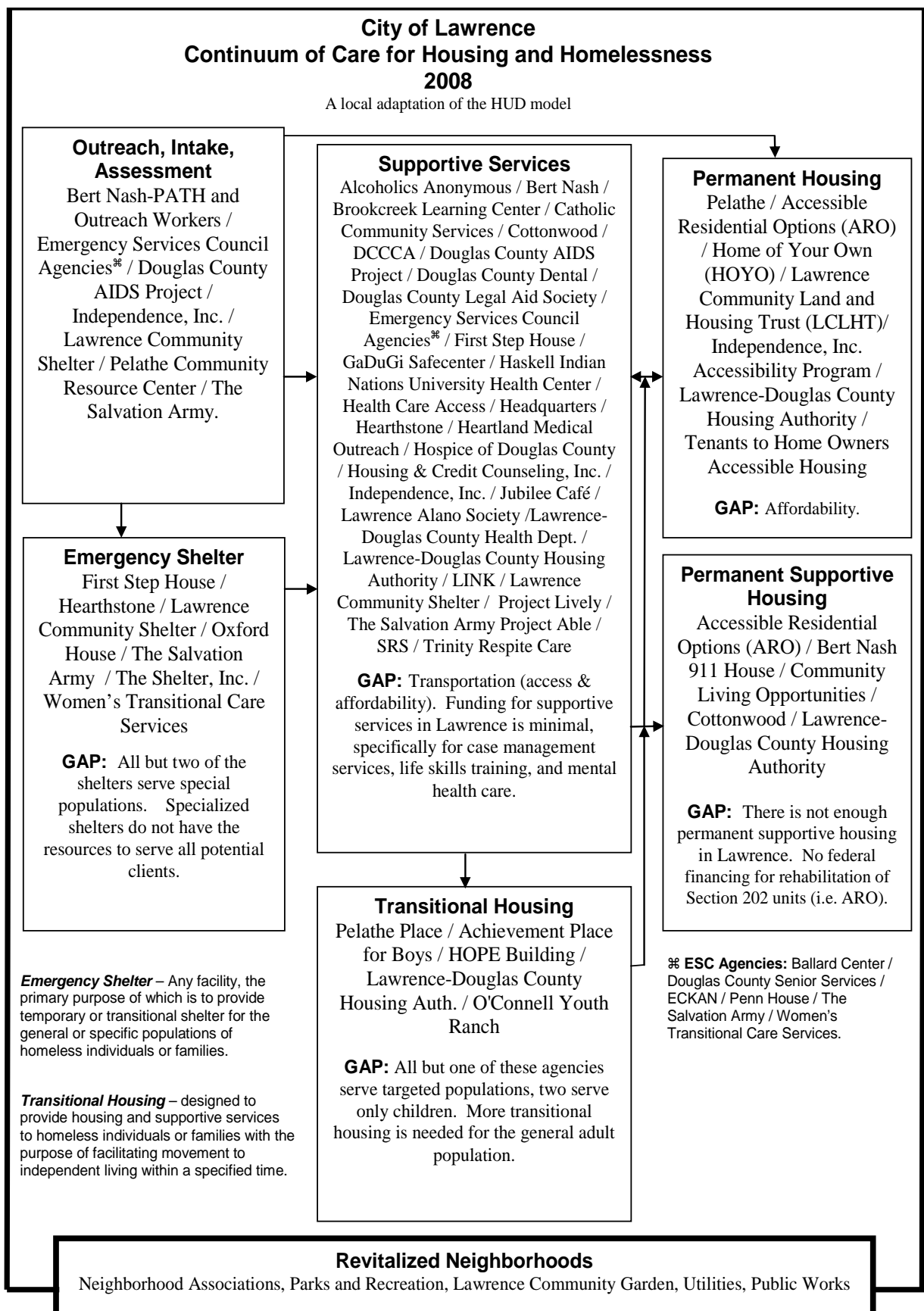
#### Mental Health:

SRS has adopted a policy that would prevent discharging homeless individuals from publicly funded institutions or systems of care into homelessness or into HUD funded programs for the homeless.

#### Corrections: \*

The Douglas County Jail is in the process of developing an extensive re-entry program that includes a housing component. A full-time Re-entry Coordinator has recently been hired. The County recognizes that releasing offenders into homelessness increases the likelihood for re-offending.







## HOUSING VISION CHART (09/10/2007)

Emergency Housing Options								
Shelter		Temporary Housing		Transitional Housing (TBRA)		Permanent Supportive Housing		Permanent Housing
*75 (one facility)		*100 new		*35 new		*22 new		
<b>Transients</b> (10 – outreach worker estimate) – may or may not seek shelter. <b>Chronically homeless</b> (32 – PIT count) - may or may not seek shelter, may or may not be interested in permanent ETH, TH or PSH.		<b>Single Homeless and Families without Children</b> (70 PIT count) – likely will seek shelter; 35% will move into TH; some will need PSH and others will need private housing. <b>Homeless Families with Children</b> (45) – likely will seek shelter; many will move into TH; some will need private housing.		<b>Single Homeless, Families Without Children and Families with Children</b> (35 HA estimate) – likely will qualify for TH immediately if vouchers are made available.		<b>Single Homeless, Disabled and/or Chronic</b> (22 estimate) - assuming not ALL disabled will need PSH and not all chronically homeless will pursue PSH.		

\* Number of units needed to meet immediate housing needs, based on 2007 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count numbers and service provider estimates.

Emergency Shelter: A short-term facility (90-120 days) used to get people off the street in order to stabilize for movement to better housing options. This option does not include or account for shelters that serve special populations (WTCS, First Step House, etc.).

Emergency Temporary Housing: A parallel alternative to the shelter, where people can obtain immediate housing while awaiting a spot in TH or other longer-term housing, working to address housing barriers.

Transitional Housing: Assisted housing with support services, available for up to two years. Major gap is for people who are precluded from LDCHA due to methamphetamine conviction, sex offender status or other recent drug convictions.

Permanent Supportive Housing: Permanent housing with ongoing support services.

Permanent Housing: Assisted or non-assisted public or private housing with no time limit.

## Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

**Error! Reference source not found.**Action Plan ESG response:

Not Applicable

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Community Development

Lawrence has a wide variety of non-housing community development needs. Most of these needs are met through the General Fund and other non-CDBG sources. Based on the Capital Improvement Plan projections and needs identified during the Consolidated Plan process, the city projects nearly \$34,000,000 in non-housing community development needs during the next program year.

### Antipoverty Strategy

One purpose of the Consolidated Plan Programs and other initiatives in Lawrence is to reduce the number of persons in poverty. The emphasis in Lawrence is to help people rise out of poverty, rather than temporarily easing their situation. Although essential short-term direct aid such as emergency food and shelter is provided, the strongest community support is for programs to address the root causes of poverty and assisting people in becoming self-sufficient in the long-term. Two key components of helping people attain self-sufficiency are employment and housing.

Examples of programs that directly influence people's ability to escape poverty include job education and placement services as well as housing advocacy, homeless prevention and rental assistance. Projects that indirectly affect poverty include those that improve the community at-large and provide transportation and child care services that help people access employment and services. CDBG, HOME, CoC and State ESG funds are often used as matching funds for other grants that also contribute to reducing the number of families living in poverty. Thus, the power of these federal dollars is leveraged to a greater extent.

Recognizing that limited Consolidated Plan dollars should be focused where the need is greatest; Lawrence gives preference to projects that directly benefit low and moderate income residents or serve low and moderate income neighborhoods over those that will benefit the city as

a whole. This strategy will ensure that scarce resources are directed to best serve those who have the greatest need, including those areas with the greatest concentration of poverty.

In addition to Consolidated Plan programs, a number of other public, private, and partnership initiatives have been designed to assist in the reduction of poverty rates. These include the Workforce Development Center, the Douglas County Re-entry Program, and a newly forming partnership of employment agencies.

The city's Step Up to Better Housing Strategy and the Housing Vision developed by the Community Commission on Homeless will serve as the baseline for the city's antipoverty strategy.

## NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

### **Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))**

Due to limited funding, the City of Lawrence anticipates supporting only those activities identified as "high" priorities among all identified needs. Since none of the non-homeless special needs are identified as "high" priority, no Consolidated Plan Funds will be allocated to this during the 2008 PY.

### **Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS**

Not Applicable.

### **Specific HOPWA Objectives**

Not Applicable.

## Other Narrative

Not Applicable.