

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

During the five-year period covered by the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, the City of Allentown will undertake the following activities to address its various housing and community development needs:

Housing Needs:

Maintenance and improvement of housing stock – aggressive enforcement of existing overcrowding with a priority placed on units in the Center City Initiative Area (CCI);

Make available affordable homeownership within the existing housing stock

Acquisition of vacant properties for use in homeownership and affordable rental programs;

Allocation of acquired properties to appropriate nonprofits

Assistance to moderate-income households in obtaining funds necessary for down payments and closing costs

Development of new programs to encourage potential homeowners to buy properties

Increase the knowledge and skills necessary for residents to own and maintain their own home through the Home Ownership Counseling Program

Support the provision of decent, safe, and affordable rental housing with the City and on a regional basis

Participate in regional efforts to make available a full array of permanent housing opportunities for special needs populations;

Contribute to meeting the shelter and service needs of homeless residents of the City

Community and Economic Development Needs:

Economic and Job Creation

Increase employment opportunities in the City, with special attention to strengthening the commercial/industrial base in the Center City Initiative Area

Facilitate the adaptation and reuse of existing vacant and under-utilized land and buildings

Increase the educational preparedness and level of skills necessary for entrance employment opportunities for residents in the Center City Initiative Area

Create a lending program to facilitate economic development projects

Community/Recreational/Educational Programming and Facilities

Enhance the utilization of existing public/quasi-public facilities for neighborhood activities

Properly maintain and improve the condition of publicly-owned facilities

Increase the number of and access to recreational/educational program opportunities

Infrastructure

Infrastructure improvements that will promote commercial/industrial development

Infrastructure improvements in residential neighborhoods that encourage multimodal transportation options and offer residents the ability to choose

Ensure that industrial properties slated for redevelopment/rehabilitation into other uses have the necessary utilities to support those uses

Livability

Increase cleanliness and sense of well-being in the City's neighborhoods

Decrease the housing density within the Center City Initiative Area

Support existing neighborhood groups and promote the development of new community organizations throughout the City

Increase the supply of parking in the Center City Initiative and rehabilitation areas

Promote the architectural and cultural resources that exist in many City neighborhoods

Public Safety

Create safe and secure residential neighborhoods and commercial districts

Enforce existing safety codes for areas in public rights-of-way and in residential neighborhoods

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

Summary of Housing Needs

The following narrative describes Allentown's demographic characteristics and its estimated housing needs for the next five years covered by the Consolidated Plan. Allentown is the third most populous city in the state of Pennsylvania (behind Philadelphia and Pittsburgh), and the most populous city in Lehigh County, with a population of 118,032 according to the 2010 Census. The city occupies 18.0 square miles (46.5 km²), including 17.8 square miles of land (98.9%) and 0.2 square miles of water- (1.1%). The Lehigh River connects Allentown to the other two cities within the metropolitan statistical area, Bethlehem and Easton, to the east.

Like Lehigh County and Pennsylvania, Allentown's rate of growth has been inconsistent over the past several decades; however, it has seen an overall population loss compared to the gains in the County and the State. Allentown's population decreased significantly between 1970 and 1980, dropping 5.3%, or 5,763 persons, and then grew by 2.8% between 1980 and 2000, from 103,758 to 106,632 persons. From 1970 to 2000, Allentown's population shrank by 2,889 persons, or 2.6% and from 2000 to 2010 increased slightly. By comparison, Lehigh County has grown 22.2% and Pennsylvania has grown 4.1% over the same time 30-year time period. The City grew at a much faster rate (7.1%) between 2000 and 2010, bringing the total population to an estimated 118,032 residents. Between 1990 and 2010, total population growth was 8.7%.

According to the 2010-2012 American Survey, Allentown had a total of 47,000 housing units, 11 percent of which were vacant. Of the total housing units, 60 percent were in single unit structures, 40 percent were in multi unit structures, and .5 percent were mobile homes. An estimated 9 percent of the housing units were built since 1990.

Of the 42,000 occupied housing units, 20,000 (46 percent) are owner occupied and 22,000 (54 percent) are renter occupied. An estimated 73 percent of householders of these units had moved in since 2000. An estimated 71 percent of the owner occupied units had a mortgage.

The median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners was \$1,324, nonmortgaged owners \$478, and renters \$861. An estimated 45 percent of owners with mortgages, 18 percent of owners without mortgages, and 64 percent of renters in Allentown, Pennsylvania spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing.

The following Demographics indicate that Renters between 0-30% and 30-50% AMI have the greatest percentage of having at least 1 or more of the four housing problems (lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding and severe cost burden). Owners between 50-80% AMI have the greatest percentage of having at least 1 or more of the four housing problems

Demographics	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2011	% Change
Population	106,632	117,386	10%
Households	42,051	43,089	2%
Median Income	\$32,016.00	\$35,737.00	12%

Table 1 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2007-2011 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households *	9,540	7,825	8,560	4,355	12,810
Small Family Households *	3,480	3,150	3,535	1,695	6,695
Large Family Households *	940	700	1,000	545	1,165
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	1,060	1,095	1,460	615	2,135
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	1,475	1,300	1,185	460	1,030
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger *	2,775	1,905	1,825	805	1,755
* the highest income category for these family types is >80% HAMFI					

Table 2 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	60	70	20	15	165	50	10	45	15	120
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	40	120	75	15	250	4	0	40	0	44
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	410	100	175	25	710	0	20	65	50	135
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	4,680	1,720	215	0	6,615	1,015	1,000	640	165	2,820

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	900	2,490	1,625	255	5,270	345	740	1,360	765	3,210
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	665	0	0	0	665	80	0	0	0	80

Table 3 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	5,190	2,010	485	55	7,740	1,070	1,030	785	230	3,115
Having none of four housing problems	1,975	3,255	3,790	1,800	10,820	555	1,530	3,500	2,270	7,855
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	665	0	0	0	665	80	0	0	0	80

Table 4 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	2,425	2,110	850	5,385	360	750	820	1,930
Large Related	675	425	195	1,295	115	155	290	560
Elderly	900	620	320	1,840	715	560	450	1,725
Other	2,070	1,225	575	3,870	205	285	445	935
Total need by income	6,070	4,380	1,940	12,390	1,395	1,750	2,005	5,150

Table 5 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	2,195	845	60	3,100	350	505	220	1,075
Large Related	500	115	30	645	105	75	140	320
Elderly	585	270	65	920	445	210	165	820
Other	1,755	495	55	2,305	155	205	110	470
Total need by income	5,035	1,725	210	6,970	1,055	995	635	2,685

Table 6 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	320	185	155	15	675	4	10	55	50	119
Multiple, unrelated family households	120	35	80	40	275	0	10	50	0	60

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Other, non-family households	10	0	25	0	35	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	450	220	260	55	985	4	20	105	50	179

Table 7 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2007-2011 CHAS

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

Table 8 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

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

According to the HUD data identified above, there are 660 single person renter households and 69 single person household property owners who earn below 80% of the median and could be considered cost burdened and in need of housing assistance.

These numbers do not include the single person unsheltered homeless households, who are the majority of single person households in need of housing assistance. These are, by HUD's definition of a single individual who has been homeless for one year or more, or experienced four episodes of homelessness over the past three years and who has a disability

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

Estimated Housing Needs for Persons with Disabilities

Census data reports disability status for civilian, non-institutionalized persons aged five and over. The enumeration excludes institutionalized disabled persons, which consists of persons under formally authorized, supervised care or in custody in institutions. As defined by the Census Bureau, a disability is a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering. This

condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home or to work at a job or business.

In Allentown, there were 20,776 non-institutionalized persons age five years and older in 2013 with a disability. A copy of the American Community Survey is included in the Grantee Unique Appendices. Due to the limited income of many disabled, it can be estimated that approximately 10,000 to 15,000 of the non-institutionalized persons are in need of housing assistance, either in the form of locating accessible units or with assistance in monthly rental or mortgage obligations.

Estimated Housing Needs for Victims of Domestic violence

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley is Lehigh Valley's oldest and largest domestic violence intervention and prevention provider. For 31 years, Turning Point has operated as a community safety net, particularly during times of economic hardship. Turning Point provides a number of services, including a 24-hour helpline, emergency shelter, legal services in the form of protection from abuse orders, and counseling. In addition, the organization works with high schools and colleges, the medical community, religious groups, and law enforcement to spread awareness of domestic violence and develop solutions.

The organization operates two emergency shelters in the Lehigh Valley, one of which is in Lehigh County. There are 15 total bedrooms, which can accommodate up to 20 adults and their children at anyone time. These facilities provide communal living arrangements with shared bathrooms, kitchens, and housekeeping duties.

The two recent Point in Time Counts reported that there were 48 homeless victims of domestic violence in 2013 and 44 homeless victims of domestic violence. It is estimated that all of these victims are in need of housing assistance either to locate temporary housing or in locating permanent housing due to their current living situations.

What are the most common housing problems?

Affordable housing is defined as paying no more than 30% of gross household income for monthly housing expenses including mortgage, utilities, insurance and taxes, or rent and utilities, regardless of income level. It should be noted that some households may choose to pay more than 30% of their income for housing. However, when households spend more than 30% of their income on housing, it is considered excessive and these households are classified as cost-burdened.

When households pay higher proportions of their incomes for housing, they may be forced to sacrifice other basic necessities such as food, clothing, and health care. Additionally, cost-burdened households may have trouble maintaining their dwelling. Cost burden is of particular concern among LMI households, who overall have fewer housing choices.

The most common housing problems are housing cost burden greater than 50% of income for renter households and a housing cost burden greater than 30% of income for owner households. Renters with 0-30% AMI have the highest percentage of having 1 or more of the severe housing problems, while owners between 50-80% AMI have the highest percentage of having 1 or more of the severe housing problems.

Housing problems other than cost burden include overcrowding or substandard kitchen/bath facilities,. While some social service providers reported an increase in households "doubling up" in order to afford housing, the HUD data included in this report identifies 985 Renter households and 179 Owner Occupied Households affected by overcrowding in their living environment.

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

In examining Tables 8 through 11 on Housing Problems, Cost Burdens, and Crowding, it is clear that renters earning less than 30% of the median and between 30% and 50% of the median are affected by these problems more than those of renters earning more than 50% of the median and owners on a consistent basis.

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

The number of persons "at risk" of becoming homeless is difficult to estimate at any point in time. Those threatened with eviction, unemployment, foreclosure, or termination of utilities could become homeless when they no longer have a cushion against the perils of life. Most commonly, it is when a family lives paycheck to paycheck without any savings for emergencies. If only one lost paycheck, a small rent increase, one stint of mental or physical illness, or a temporary layoff from work can cause people to lose their housing, then they are considered "at risk". A common scenario is when eviction from rental housing occurs due to nonpayment of rent. Unemployment or underemployment results in lack of sufficient income to meet the costs of food, housing, transportation, and child care.

Additionally, individuals or families who fall into one or more of the following categories are most likely to become homeless:

- Persons leaving institutions such as mental hospitals or prisons;
- Young adults aging out of the foster care system;
- Households with incomes less than 30% of the median family income;
- Households paying in excess of 50% of income for housing costs;
- Victims of domestic violence;

- Special needs populations such as persons with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, drug and/or alcohol addictions;
- Single parent households who are unemployed;
- Large low income families;
- Renters facing eviction; and
- Homeowners facing foreclosure

The City and the Region's local non-profits and social service agencies continue to work with formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance in order to assist with identifying permanent affordable replacement housing for these families or temporary affordable housing until permanent housing can be identified. In most cases, the rapid re-housing placement is a permanent placement and provides stable housing and case management works to ensure the family can maintain that stable housing moving forward.

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

Not Applicable

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

Households who pay higher proportions of their incomes for housing have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness due to their housing cost burdens and trouble they encounter maintaining their dwelling. In addition, single person households with special needs are linked to an increased risk of homelessness due to the lack of single room efficiency units available in the City.

Individuals or families who fall into one or more of the following categories are most likely to become homeless:

- Persons leaving institutions such as mental hospitals or prisons;
- Young adults aging out of the foster care system;
- Households with incomes less than 30% of the median family income;
- Households paying in excess of 50% of income for housing costs;
- Victims of domestic violence;
- Special needs populations such as persons with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, drug and/or alcohol addictions;
- Single parent households who are unemployed;
- Large low income families;

- Renters facing eviction; and
- Homeowners facing foreclosure

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

A disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in category as a whole. Among renters and owners, the following trends were noted:

The data shown in the 0-30 AMI notes that 82% of the Black population in the 0%-30% Area Median have one or more of four housing problems. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole who have one or more of four housing problems by 10 percentage points, which is 78%. In addition, the data show that 83% of the Hispanic population have more than one or more of four housing problems, not exceeding the percentage as a whole by 10 percentage points.

The data shown in the 30-50 AMI notes that 94% of the Black population in the 30%-50% Area Median have one or more of four housing problems. This number, exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have one or more of four housing problems, which is 80%, demonstrating a disproportionate need. In addition, the data show that 87% of the Hispanic population have more than one or more of four housing problems, which does not exceed the percentage as a whole by 10 points.

The data shown in the 50-80 AMI notes that 54% of the Black population in the 50%-80% Area Median have one or more of four housing problems. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole who have one or more of four housing problems, which is 49%. In addition, the data show that 53% of the Hispanic population have more than one or more of four housing problems, not exceeding the percentage as a whole by 10 percentage points.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,505	1,290	745
White	2,625	735	280
Black / African American	665	45	100
Asian	145	25	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Hispanic	3,985	470	345

Table 9 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,265	1,560	0
White	2,615	1,050	0
Black / African American	570	35	0
Asian	105	65	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	2,800	400	0

Table 10 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	4,255	4,305	0
White	2,220	2,485	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Black / African American	435	365	0
Asian	65	65	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	1,490	1,300	0

Table 11 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,310	3,045	0
White	730	1,845	0
Black / African American	65	315	0
Asian	40	25	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	15	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	435	765	0

Table 12 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

In order to identify those who have **Severe** Housing Problems at a Disproportionately Greater Need, a *disproportionately* greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in category as a whole

The data shown in the 0-30 AMI notes that 74% of the Black population in the 0%-30% Area Median have SEVERE housing problems. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole who have SEVERE housing problems, which is 65%. In addition, the data show that 69% of the Hispanic population have SEVERE housing problems, not exceeding the percentage as a whole by 10 percentage points.

The data shown in the 30-50 AMI notes that 58% of the Black population in the 30%-50% Area Median have SEVERE housing problems. This number, exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have one or more of four housing problems, which is 38%, demonstrating a disproportionate need. In addition, the data show that 42% of the Hispanic population have SEVERE housing problems, not exceeding the percentage as a whole by 10 percentage points.

The data shown in the 50-80 AMI notes that 14% of the Black population in the 50%-80% Area Median have SEVERE housing problems. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole who have SEVERE housing problems, which is 14%. In addition, the data show that 18% of the Hispanic population have Severe Housing Problems. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole who have SEVERE housing problems, which is 14%.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,260	2,535	745
White	2,120	1,240	280
Black / African American	610	105	100
Asian	135	35	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	3,335	1,115	345

Table 13 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,035	4,785	0
White	1,165	2,500	0
Black / African American	350	250	0
Asian	80	90	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	1,345	1,855	0

Table 14 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,270	7,290	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
White	615	4,095	0
Black / African American	115	685	0
Asian	25	105	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	510	2,285	0

Table 15 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	285	4,070	0
White	195	2,375	0
Black / African American	20	360	0
Asian	0	65	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	15	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	45	1,155	0

Table 16 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

Discussion

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

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

Introduction:

In order to identify those who experience **Housing Cost Burdens** at a Disproportionately Greater Need, a disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in category as a whole.

The data shown in the 0-30 AMI notes that 48% of the Black population in the 0%-30% Area Median have Housing Cost Burdens This number exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole who have housing cost burdens problems, which is 36%, demonstrating a disproportionate need. In addition, the data show that 37% of the Hispanic population have Housing Cost Burdens, not exceeding the percentage as a whole.

The data shown in the 30-50 AMI notes that 20% of the Black population in the 30%-50% Area Median have Housing Cost Burdens. This number, does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have Housing Cost Burdens, which is 30%. In addition, the data show that 28% of the Hispanic population have Housing Cost Burdens, a figure not exceeding the percentage as a whole.

The data shown in the 50-80 AMI notes that 30% of the Black population in the 50%-80% Area Median Income category have Housing Cost Burdens. This number does not exceed the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have Housing Cost Burdens, which is 33%. The Hispanic population is 33%, not exceeding the population as a whole by 10 percentage points.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	10,765	8,925	9,825	765
White	14,965	4,950	3,805	280
Black / African American	1,605	690	1,015	100
Asian	470	120	235	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	15	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	5,165	3,955	4,625	360

Table 17 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data 2007-2011 CHAS
Source:

Discussion:

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

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

The data shown in the 0-30 AMI category notes that 48% of the Black population in the 0%-30% Area Median Income category **have Housing Cost Burdens**. This number exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole who have housing cost burden problems, which is 36%, demonstrating a disproportionate need.

The data shown in the 30-50 AMI category notes that 58% of the Black population in the 30%-50% Area Median Income category **have SEVERE housing problems**. This number exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have severe housing problems, which is 38%, demonstrating a disproportionate need.

The data shown in the 50-80 AMI category notes that 94% of the Black population in the 50%-80% Area Median Income category **have one or more of four housing problems**. This number exceeds the percentage of persons as a whole by 10 percentage points who have one or more of four housing problems, which is 80%, demonstrating a disproportionate need.

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

In addition to the needs identified above, Housing Problems, Severe Housing Problems, and Housing Cost Burdens, the needs not identified above are improved incomes, housing rehabilitation assistance, homebuyer assistance, homebuyer education, demolition of deteriorated structures, affordable housing, code enforcement, child care services, additional Section 8 and Tenant-based rental assistance funding, public services identified in the public input session and online survey, and additional jobs and job skills.

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

No. With the exception of Census Tract 12, which is 17.7% Black (10.4% higher than in the City overall), these residents are otherwise distributed throughout the City of Allentown. While some Census Tracts contain more blacks than others, the differences in numbers, generally speaking, are not significant enough to indicate a high concentration in any specific tracts.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

The Allentown Housing Authority (AHA) currently owns and manages 1,223 conventional public housing units, primarily within 14 separate developments located throughout the City of Allentown. Almost all of the public housing units are occupied, with yearly turnover ranging from 2 to 23 units among the 14 developments. This total includes 79 scattered site units located throughout the City of Allentown.

The Public Housing Authority Survey in the Unique Grantee Appendix shows the target population of each development as well as the total units, year built, occupancy rate, and annual unit turnover. Sixty-five percent of the units are designated for elderly tenants overall. The overall annual turnover rate is low, approximately 15% of the units, and the occupancy rates range from 98 to 99%.

In addition, AHA owns and manages 107 units that were acquired and rehabilitated through the federal Section 8 Substantial Rehabilitation Program. Project-based vouchers are used to help payoff AHA debt. These units are also scattered throughout the City. The major unmet need in the City of Allentown reported by AHA was for additional family housing units with a varied bedroom mix. Also, adequate on-site facilities for community programs are seen as a great need.

Overlook Park

There are also 80 new public housing units and an additional 79 rental units that are eligible for Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers that were recently completed in a new development named Overlook Park. Overlook Park is part of a 2005 HUD award that AHA received. This \$20 million HOPE VI Revitalization grant was provided to demolish and rebuild the Hanover Acres and Riverview Terrace (HART) public housing developments and introduce a new mixed-income model of affordable housing and community revitalization to the City of Allentown.

Demolition for the project began in June 2006 with the 322 barracks-style Hanover Acres. Hanover Acres was opened in 1939 as Pennsylvania's first public housing for low income workers. AHA temporarily relocated all tenants prior to the demolition. As the rental development is now finished, a total of 421 public housing units at Hanover Acres and the adjacent Riverview Terrace have been replaced with 269 rental units for low and moderate income residents, a new 17,000 square foot community center, a greenway, and park. The project is a public-private partnership between AHA, a private developer, and the City, which contributed funding through its federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program funding. The rental units are a mix of two-, three-, and four-bedroom townhouses and twin homes. There will also be 53 detached homes that are currently being built and sold to low and moderate income residents. Of the 322 total units, 80 will be public housing, 79 will be affordable rental units, and 53 will be non-HI.D subsidized, homeownership units. AHA procured the Catholic Social Agency to provide case

management and Community Supportive Services, and provide management services. When completed, AHA will have leveraged approximately \$40 million from its partners toward the total cost of the project.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	36	1,097	1,383	0	1,379	4	0	0

Table 18 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	
Average Annual Income	0	9,193	13,137	12,818	0	12,819	12,328	0	
Average length of stay	0	5	6	6	0	6	1	0	
Average Household size	0	1	2	2	0	2	1	0	
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	

Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	8	535	214	0	212	2	0
# of Disabled Families	0	17	250	465	0	463	2	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	36	1,097	1,383	0	1,379	4	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 19 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	30	945	1,088	0	1,085	3	0	0
Black/African American	0	5	134	281	0	280	1	0	0
Asian	0	1	9	5	0	5	0	0	0

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	8	7	0	7	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Table 20 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Program Type									
Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	21	616	943	0	941	2	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	15	481	440	0	438	2	0	0

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

Table 21 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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

AHA last updated its Section 504 needs assessment and transition plan in 1998 and completed their most recent Physical Needs Assessment in 2007. Approximately 40 (4%) of all conventional public housing units had been rehabilitated to be in compliance with Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. This small number is largely due to the age of many of the buildings that comprise the public housing inventory. A portion of these units are available to families with children. There are 105 non-elderly, disabled residents currently living in elderly public housing units. AHA reports that private landlords for Housing Choice Voucher tenants voluntarily make accessibility accommodations for persons with disabilities. AHA participated in an innovative arrangement with the Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MH/MR) agencies where 20 units in its newest rental development, Overlook Park, are reserved for MH/MR tenants.

Applicants that submit applications for Public Housing are asked on the application form whether they are in need of an affordable unit; however, the Housing Authority does not have the capacity at this time, due to the large number of applications, to create a report summarizing the need of those on the waiting list for an affordable unit. They are currently working with their programmers to be able to prepare such a report.

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

As of May 1, 2015, there are 4,423 families on the waiting list for Public Housing and 1,374 families on the waiting list for the Section 8 tenant based rental assistance program. Of these families, the majority of the families, 3,920, on the list for Public Housing and 1,219 families on the Section 8 waiting list are Extremely Low Income, indicating a most immediate need for Extremely low Income Households.

A copy of the Public Housing Authority Survey is included in the Grantee Unique Appendices.

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

The needs identified for the Public Housing Residents and Housing Choice voucher holders reflects the needs of the population at large.

Discussion

Goal I - Maintain housing and a suitable living environment by:

- Reducing public housing vacancies;
- Leveraging private or other public funds to create additional housing opportunities;
- Leveraging private or other public funds to preserve and extend the usable life of existing housing units;

-Utilize HUD programs, such as Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) to stabilize housing funding for existing housing units.

Goal II - Improve the quality of assisted housing by:

Continuing to improve public housing management;

Continuing to improve housing choice voucher management;

Renovating or modernizing public housing units;

Demolishing or disposing of obsolete public housing;

Goal III - Increase assisted housing choices by:

Continuing outreach efforts to potential housing choice voucher landlords;

Implementing public housing or other homeownership programs; and

Utilize technology to keep public informed about housing opportunities.

Goal IV = Provide an improved living environment by:

Designating developments or buildings for particular resident groups (elderly and/or persons with disabilities);

Continuing efforts to reduce illegal drug activities and crime by supporting programs provided by the Boys and Girls Club activities and Neighborhood Police Programs, in conjunction with the City of Allentown;

Continuing support for the Resident Council organizations;

Strengthen existing partnerships with community agencies and programs providing services to resident populations, and

Providing referrals to social service agencies as appropriate.

Goal V - Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted

households by:

Increasing the number and percentage of employed persons in assisted families;

Providing or attracting supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability; and

Providing or attracting supportive services to increase independence for the elderly or families with disabilities.

Goal VI - Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing by:

Undertaking affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion national origin, sex, familial status, sexual orientation and/or disability; and

Undertaking affirmative measures to provide a suitable living environment for families living in assisted housing, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, sexual orientation and/or disability.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

Homelessness is a complex issue that, in addition to housing cost and availability, often involves problems of addiction, mental health, domestic violence, health, and poverty. In June 2007, the City of Allentown officially completed its Plan to End Chronic Homelessness by 2017. The need for the plan surfaced in January of 2006 when representatives of the City of Allentown and the Lehigh County Conference of Churches met to discuss the city's unsheltered homeless. Of particular concern were the unsanitary conditions for homeless persons living underneath the city's Eighth Street Bridge. In order to address these concerns, the Mayor appointed a First Lady's Commission to End Chronic Homelessness charged with developing a ten-year plan to end chronic homelessness in the City. During the plan's development, a total of 53 Commission members met regularly as part of four working committees and a steering committee.

One recommendation of the plan was the creation of the Allentown Commission to End Chronic Homelessness. The Commission is now working to coordinate and support the efforts of all nearby governments, law enforcement and other public safety officials, hospitals, and other public welfare agencies and safety net providers.

The Commission is also working to raise awareness and address homelessness at the state and national levels. Since chronic homelessness has no borders, an emphasis is being placed on a more regionalized approach. This involves expanding efforts throughout Northeast Pennsylvania, and moving beyond the City of Allentown to partner with Lehigh and Northampton Counties, as well as the cities of Bethlehem and Easton. Persons who find themselves homeless travel to cities where the services are located, placing an undue burden on the region's cities to provide services for the region's homeless. These larger efforts have included the work of the National Alliance to End Homelessness and the Pennsylvania Interagency Council on Homelessness.

For the past decade, there has been a federal funding requirement that communities and organizations formally work together to develop a "Continuum of Care" (CoC) process to address homelessness at all levels. Since 2005, the City of Allentown has participated in the regional CoC process led by the Allentown/Northeast PA Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB). The Eastern PA CoC Process is one of two regional efforts created to encompass non-entitlement portions of the state in order to receive homeless assistance from HUD. Within the region, the Lehigh Valley RHAB encompasses Lehigh and Northampton Counties, the cities of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton. The Lehigh Valley RHAB CoC has helped secure \$4 million in competitive federal grants for the region to provide homeless housing and support services during its existence.

The Eastern Pennsylvania CofC (of which LV RHAB is a member) is currently an unincorporated organization that serves as the primary decision-making group for the CoC process. Its responsibilities include ensuring representation of key stakeholders; setting the agenda for full CoC planning meetings; conducting the annual homeless single Point-in-Time count; overseeing the various subcommittees and working groups; completing the annual CoC application; and assisting in reviewing programs, activities, data, and all other efforts that will eliminate homelessness and improve the well-being of homeless persons and families in the northeast region.

Point-in-Time surveys are conducted each year in the month of January. The Point in Time conducted in January 2014 is included in the Grantee Unique Appendices. During 2014, a total of 290 homeless persons were identified in Lehigh County. Of these 34 were unsheltered and 166 were in shelters.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	0	163	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	2	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	34	93	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	14	0	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	2	9	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	0	4	0	0	0	0

Table 22 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments:

Indicate if the homeless population Has No Rural Homeless
is:

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

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	0	0
Black or African American	0	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0

Data Source
Comments:

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

Families with children - Of the 184 homeless households counted in the Northeast Pennsylvania Point in Time count in 2014, 58 (31%) were families with at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult. These families included 161 persons. In 2014, Lehigh County had 11 less homeless families than in 2013.

Veterans - 11 Homeless veterans were counted in Lehigh County in the 2014 Point in Time Count, 2 more than were counted in 2013. All were part of adult only households. 2 veterans were unsheltered and 9 were in emergency or transitional shelters.

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

Not Available

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

Individuals and families are categorized as “homeless” if their housing status meets the definition for homeless at 24 CFR 91.5 on the night of the PITC. Homeless individuals and families are further categorized as “sheltered” and “unsheltered” as described below:

Sheltered, or “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals),” or

Unsheltered, “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.”

Of the 34 Unsheltered Persons, 15 were identified as Severely Mentally Ill, five were identified as having a Chronic Substance Abuse problem, and 8 were Victims of Domestic Violence.

Of the Sheltered persons noted above, 14 identified as Severely Mentally Ill, 26 identified as having a Chronic Substance Abuse problem, six were Veterans and 22 were Victims of Domestic Violence.

Discussion:

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

Introduction:

The category of non-homeless persons with special needs includes the most diverse population with the widest array of needs. Many persons with special needs are also the most dependent on government for their income and fundamental support while others are self-sufficient and only need accessible and appropriate housing.

Persons with special needs are those that are physically, emotionally or mentally impaired or suffer from mental illness, developmentally disabled, youth aging out of foster care, persons with addictions, HIV/AIDS and their families and victims of domestic violence. There are consistent patterns between the special needs population and the increased risk for homelessness because of lack of adequate housing facilities. The City of Allentown has a shortage of permanent housing for non-homeless persons with special needs, but there is a well-integrated service delivery system. The City and County agencies that provide services for these populations work closely and cooperatively. The access to mainstream resources for these populations has a well-defined intake system. The main issue is one of capacity and adequate funding.

One common concern among service providers and clients with special needs is that more and larger housing units are needed to accommodate families taking care of the individuals with special needs. They suggest that many families would like to take care of their own family members with special needs, if supportive services, respite for caregivers and appropriate accommodations, such as barrier-free access, could be provided. Especially in the cases of the physically-disabled population and the population of persons with AIDS/HIV, much of the supportive housing that is available can only accommodate the individual with special needs, isolating him or her from the supportive environment of a family.

Another concern among clients and advocacy groups is that most housing programs/facilities fail to recognize the persons with special needs often have multiple special needs. For example, a significant percentage of persons with AIDS/HIV also have problems of substance abuse or mental illness. Most residential facilities are often targeted for single specific conditions, such as the mentally ill, the developmentally disabled or substance abusers.

HOPWA

Current HOPWA formula use:	
Cumulative cases of AIDS reported	1,680
Area incidence of AIDS	48
Rate per population	6
Number of new cases prior year (3 years of data)	146
Rate per population (3 years of data)	6

Current HIV surveillance data:	
Number of Persons living with HIV (PLWH)	1,495
Area Prevalence (PLWH per population)	181
Number of new HIV cases reported last year	0

Table 23 – HOPWA Data

Data CDC HIV Surveillance
Source:

HIV Housing Need (HOPWA Grantees Only)

Type of HOPWA Assistance	Estimates of Unmet Need
Tenant based rental assistance	0
Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility	0
Facility Based Housing (Permanent, short-term or transitional)	0

Table 24 – HIV Housing Need

Data HOPWA CAPER and HOPWA Beneficiary Verification Worksheet
Source:

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

1. *The Elderly and Frail Elderly:* The estimated number of elderly persons (65+) in Allentown as of the 2009-2013 American Community Survey (ACS) was 14,021 (11.9%) of the population. This percentage is below the number for Pennsylvania (15.6%) but slightly above the number for the nation (11.6%). The percentage of Frail Elderly (75+) in Allentown is 7,496 (6.4%): again, below the state percentage (7.8%) but slightly higher than the nation (6.3%)
2. *Mental Illness:* Severe mental illness includes the diagnosis of psychoses and major affective disorders such as bipolar disorder and major depression. The condition must be chronic, meaning it has existed for at least one year, to meet the HUD definition for a disability. The prevalence of mental illness in the City of Allentown can be inferred from the number of people receiving treatment. Data from the Lehigh Valley Assertive Community Treatment indicates a Community Treatment Team census of 301 individuals, with 143 (47.5%) receiving Intensive Case Management.

Many nonprofit service providers throughout Lehigh County provide a full range of mental health treatment options, including treatment programs, vocational and educational programs, case management, housing, transportation, home health aides, self-help assistance, advocacy and recreational opportunities.

3. *Physically Disabled:* Physically disabled individuals usually require modifications to their living space, including the removal of physical barriers. Generally, accommodations can be made to adapt a

residential unit for use by wheelchair-bound persons or persons with hearing or vision impairments. It is difficult to identify private rental units that have been adapted.

According to data furnished in the 2009-2013 ACS, there were 12,988 (11.1%) disabled individuals in the City of Allentown. This percentage is well below both the state (15.3%) and national (13.2%) percentages.

4. Substance Abusers: Alcohol or other drug abuse is defined as an excessive and impairing use of alcohol or other drugs, including addiction. Persons who are classified with alcohol or other addictions may have a history of inpatient treatment, be identified by current symptomology or by an assessment of current intake, or by some combination of these approaches.

The 2010-2011 Drug and Alcohol Annual Report published by the County of Lehigh indicates that a total of 2,219 people from Allentown received assessments during the noted period. Of this total, 1,629 (73.4%) were adults while 590 (26.5%) were adolescents. The number of individuals in both of these categories, as well as the percentages in both, far exceeded all other municipalities in Lehigh County combined. The significant number of facilities and agencies indicates that this is a substantial problem in the City, and that more housing and services are required for this subpopulation.

5. Residents of Public Housing: Persons living in public or assisted housing may want to leave public housing if their living situation is stabilized or if homeownership opportunities were available. Family self-sufficiency programs and homeownership programs provide such opportunities. Allentown Housing Authority (AHA) manages public housing within Allentown.

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

The non-homeless special needs populations in the City of Allentown have a wide range of service needs, including transitional housing, supportive housing, counseling, case management, transportation to health care facilities and employment, and more. Data and information used to determine priority supportive housing and supportive service needs of the non-homeless special needs populations in the City were derived from interviews and focus group sessions conducted with organizations that serve special needs populations.

Several priorities identified were common across the various subcategories of special needs populations. For example, one priority need identified was more affordable and accessible housing. Another need recognized was supportive housing facilities with adequate case management components. Access to health care and employment opportunities were also common priorities for all special needs populations. These populations need access to doctor appointments, employment centers, and job training and placement services.

In regard to the elderly and frail elderly populations, services such as benefits counseling, care coordination, and development/rehabilitation of house for visitability were identified as priority needs. Home repair grants, property tax assistance, and utility payment assistance were also listed as priority needs for elderly residents who still own their homes, as this population survives on fixed incomes.

There are a number of organizations in Allentown that provide drug and alcohol treatment and support, including:

- Treatment Trends, Inc.
- Step by Step, Inc.
- Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

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

Persons living with HIV/AIDS require several levels of service. In addition to substance abuse and mental health services, clients are also in need of life skills training, including employment and vocational training and managing activities of daily living, such as living on a fixed income. Increasingly, supportive services are also dealing with the complications of aging, as medical advances have increased the life expectancy of those living with HIV/AIDS.

The primary provider of housing and services to persons with AIDS is AIDSNET, a private, non-profit organization, which is one of seven federally-mandated HIV/AIDS coalitions in Pennsylvania. AIDSNET was founded on the premise that the best way to contain the HIV pandemic is through regional strategy. With an annual budget of approximately \$2 million, AIDSNET subcontracts with agencies throughout six counties, including Lehigh and Northampton. AIDSNET is responsible for the development of a comprehensive continuum of prevention and care services and acts as the fiscal agent for federal Title II of the Ryan White Care Act and Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA), State 656 and other HIV/AIDS-related funding. The organization's efforts are aimed at both stopping the spread of HIV infection and providing medical and social services to those who have been infected. Other services provided but not specifically indicated above include Legal Services, Transportation and Mental Health Services.

In their 2013-2014 Coalition Regional Services and Strategic Plan, AIDSNET indicated that there are 2,722 persons with HIV in the six-county region, of which it is estimated that approximately 800 live in Lehigh County. It should be noted that approximately 60% of those with HIV were minorities. Blacks, with only 6% of the region's population, represent 20% of the HIV population and Hispanics, with 13% of the region's population, represent 40% of the HIV population.

Discussion:

Housing and Service Needs- Case Management is the entry point for all care services for persons with AIDS in Lehigh County. The goals of Case Management are to 1) assess consumer care and service needs, 2) facilitate coordination of care and services received by each consumer with HIV; and 3) assist each consumer in obtaining required care and services. These goals are achieved by providing education; creating connections between care seekers and care givers; and encouraging the use of the existing support system identified by the consumer. Care services must be accessed through an AIDSNET-funded case management agency. The case management agency that serve the City of Allentown is the AIDS Activities Office of the Lehigh Valley Hospital.

According to AIDSNET, housing services that it provides include Short Term Assistance with rent, mortgage payments and utilities, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance and Permanent Housing Placement (a first month's rent and security deposit program).

Priority Need - This population group is Low priority with respect to any priority for the next five years, given the availability of resources through existing programs. According to the case management agencies, the primary problem for persons with HIV/AIDS is poverty, which affects their ability to secure affordable housing and access adequate transportation and health care services. Low incomes tend to necessitate the use of food banks that often do not have fresh foods that are most important to individuals with HIV/AIDS.

Discussion - An Affordable Housing Assessment of the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania identified the following special needs housing facilities in Lehigh County:

- Personal Care Boarding Homes/Assisted Living Facilities – 26 facilities with 1,895 beds; 12 beds with enhanced personal care specifically for persons with mental illness
- Nursing Homes: 16 facilities with 2,752 beds
- SBS Young Adult – 4 units
- Salisbury House (transitional for young adults) – 6 units
- Supported living (maximum care) – 11 units
- TLC Community Residential Residences (CCR)(maximum care)– 10 units
- TLC CRR (moderate care) – 28 units
- SBS Supportive Living – 60 units
- PATHY – 147 clients

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Specific needs for Public Facilities and Public Improvements are outlined in the City's City Center Initiative strategy prepared in June, 2014. The strategy's implementation is guided by a steering committee representative of all stakeholders in Center City. It will also form the basis to marshal resources that will be necessary for its successful implementation. A copy of the Initiative Plan is included in the Grantee Unique Appendices. As much community planning was done to complete the Center City Initiative strategy, that data was used as an additional data source for this Consolidated Plan.

The Plan's strategy builds on recommendations presented in a variety of existing plans; supports areas where investment is occurring; fills in gaps in the public infrastructure and strives to improve the overall physical appearance of the area. The **Principle Objectives are:**

1. Improve the overall appearance and functionality of the public realm and street network
2. Provide a sense of security and a pleasant environment for residents, workers and visitors to Center City
3. Create a walkable and bicycle friendly community
4. Ensure sufficient opportunities for parks, recreation and open space
5. Improve the built environment through better design of buildings and public spaces and the use of sustainable design and construction techniques

Specific Projects Outlined in the City Center Initiative include:

Streetscape Improvements

1. Develop and implement a downtown streetscape improvement program
2. Install pedestrian scale lighting on principal residential streets
3. Install streetscape improvements in support of active rehabilitation/redevelopment efforts and major institutions
4. Improve pedestrian connections between the downtown business district and adjoining neighborhoods (i.e. 100 blocks of main north-south streets) through additional street lighting and modest streetscape improvements.

Parks and Recreation

1. Create an open space area on the parking lot located in the 200 block of N. 9th Street

2. Continue to pursue the renovations and recreation facility additions to Stevens Park
3. Support the extension of the Jordan Creek Greenway through the area
4. Enhance the appearance of the Old Allentown Cemetery
5. Continue to look for opportunities to add green space/recreational opportunities within the area

Streets and Transportation

1. Perform a traffic and design study for the 7th Street Corridor that examines the feasibility of providing for two way traffic; for making it more pedestrian friendly and for enhancing its role as a major gateway into the city
2. Make the program area a priority for infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements
3. Continue to implement recommendations contained in the “Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Plans” for the public schools in the area.
4. Continue program of installing bicycle racks in appropriate locations.
5. Inspect and enhance crosswalks at the intersections of all major streets within the area
6. Identify opportunities to create a better environment for on-street bicycling in accord with the city’s “Connecting our Communities Program

The City recognizes that not all these needs can be addressed with one funding source, alone so a variety of funding sources, including CDBG funds will be used to address certain strategies.

How were these needs determined?

Overall Community development priorities were developed by:

- Weighing the severity of the need among all groups and subgroups;
- Analyzing the current social, housing, and economic conditions;
- Analyzing the relative needs of LMI families;
- Assessing the resources likely to be available over the next five years; and
- Evaluating input from focus group sessions, interviews, service provider surveys, municipal departmental staff and public hearings.

The Center City Initiative strategy’s implementation will be guided by a steering committee representative of all stakeholders in Center City. It will also form the basis to marshal resources that will be necessary for its successful implementation. These may include but not be limited to the City’s Community Development Block Grant and Home Programs; participation in a Neighborhood Partnership Program; designation under the state’s Keystone Communities Program; foundation support and others.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Improvements:

See Above narrative under Public Facilities

How were these needs determined?

See above

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The main public service needs were more programs for youths and adults, including literacy, job training, and increased mobility options. The primary economic development needs identified were employment training for City residents and financial assistance to upgrade existing businesses. The City and regional service providers acknowledged that the area most in need of CDBG and HOME funds was downtown Allentown.

Various public agencies, housing groups, and private organizations submit input throughout the year that is part of the CP development process. These organizations include, but are not limited to the following groups:

Allentown Department of Community and Economic Development

Allentown Economic Development Corporation

Allentown Housing Authority

Allentown Rescue Mission

Allentown City School District

Allentown YMCA & YWCA

Boys and Girls Club of Allentown

Casa Guadalupe Center

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley - Sixth Street Shelter and other programs

Community Action Development Corporation of the Lehigh Valley

Community Music School

DaVinci Science Center

Embrace Your Dreams

Habitat For Humanity - Lehigh Valley

Housing Association & Development Corporation

Lehigh Carbon Community College

Lehigh County Conference of Churches

Lehigh County Department of Human Services

Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.

Pennrose Properties

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown

Salvation Army

Syrian Arab American Charity Association

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Valley Housing Development Corporation

Valley Youth House, Inc.

How were these needs determined?

Overall Public service priorities were developed by:

- Weighing the severity of the need among all groups and subgroups;
- Analyzing the current social, housing, and economic conditions;
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