

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Allentown Public Library

NAME OF PROGRAM: *On Your Mark, Get Set... READ!*

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Allentown Public Library's Summer Reading Program addresses the need for recreational and educational programs for City youth as addressed in the City of Allentown Consolidated Plan 2015-2020. The Library's program does this by providing a wide range of literacy-based recreational activities for children and young adults during the months of June, July, and August. Story times, book groups, crafts and activities, interactive programs, and performances by guests are significant components of the program. The Library gathers statistics regarding all the school-aged children who participate. The resulting information is combined with residency information gathered during program registration to determine if children who reside in areas with limited access to recreational programs have taken advantage of the program.

This program is consistent with the City of Allentown Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020, specifically meeting the Public Service Priority and Goal #9: "Increase the Number of, and access to, recreational and educational program opportunities for the residents of the CCI."

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ <u>10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$ <u>22,979</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$ <u>32,979</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Allentown Rescue Mission

NAME OF PROGRAM: The Gateway Center

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: The Gateway Center at the Allentown Rescue Mission is an emergency walk-in shelter for homeless adult men and is the only shelter of its kind in Allentown. The Gateway Center provides 66 beds for homeless men; and is the largest shelter in the Lehigh Valley. Open seven days a week; Monday through Friday the shelter closes at 8:15 a.m. after breakfast, and opens at 5:00 p.m. just before Dinner. On Saturdays the shelter remains open. On Sunday the shelter is closed only from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. when it resumes its normal schedule. During a Cold Weather Alert, the Gateway Center is open 24 hours a day and men are not required to have an ID for entry, they are also offered lunch.

The Gateway Center provided 13,416 nights of shelter in 2015, and a total of 736 homeless men, of which 663 (or 90%) were unduplicated. 315 men reported coming directly from Allentown into the Gateway Center, a clear indication that the Gateway Center plays an integral role in addressing the needs of homeless people in the City of Allentown. Additionally, 18,697 meals were served to Gateway Center men, not including bagged lunches that are provided to homeless men who are working.

Clients are given clean clothing and toiletries, and personal hygiene is of the utmost important in order to reduce and prevent the spreading of community disease, the men are required to take a shower and have clean linen on their beds. Clothing and toiletries are In-Kind donations made by the generosity of the local community.

The Gateway Center works closely with other homeless service providers such as Hope for Veterans, the Conference of Churches, Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse to name a few. Staff regularly attend RHAB meetings in order to assist regional service providers to connect the homeless with permanent supportive housing. In June of 2015 The Allentown Rescue Mission implemented the PA HMIS recordkeeping system to monitor trends in homelessness and to help address the underlying issues of homeless more closely.

Men at the Gateway Center are offered free medical services through the DeSales Medical Clinic which is open 2 nights a week and fully funded by DeSales University. Once seen there, men can return for medical services for life.

All men in the Gateway Center are given a needs assessment and counseled on our Christian Living Program and Clean Team Workforce, which would provide them with transitional housing and a choice to work their way out of homelessness. Dedicated staff, intentional programming and continued financial support are vital to help a homeless man return to the community, obtain a full time job and reuniting with his family.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$	<u>30,000.00</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$	<u>281,209.99</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$	<u>251,209.99</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Name of Agency: Allentown YMCA & YWCA
Name of Program: Community Outreach Program
Summary of Program:

The Allentown YMCA & YWCA requests \$10,000 from the City of Allentown's Community Development Block Grant Program to support our Community Outreach Program, an initiative that provides after school activities for children ages 9 to 13 at the Allentown YMCA & YWCA, 425 South 15th Street in Allentown. The program is designed to reach youth who reside in the CCI Area.

During the 2016-2017 program year, the Community Outreach Program's primary focus will be to provide a safe haven for youth through our after school program that provides recreation, fitness, and sports activities. Through these activities, the Community Outreach Program will seek to: increase age appropriate skills through sports and games; provide physical activities that impact a youth's health and well being and provide developmental relationships that powerfully and positively impact a child's youth development.

According to the After School Alliance, more than a decade of research shows that afterschool programs across the country are an integral support for children, families and communities. The America After 3pm report shows that 11.3 million children are without supervision between the hours of 3pm and 6pm. The impact for parents of having accessible and affordable after school opportunities for their children serves as a source of support and comfort for working families.

Our program works with youth organizations and schools within the CCI area that do not have the space, or resources to provide after school recreation for their students. We understand that working families have a difficult time taking their children to agencies that offer after school programs so we are working with our organizations within the CCI area to provide transportation from their locations to our facility, allowing a practical solution and peace of mind for working families.

In years past we looked to our schools to provide recreation and physical fitness for our children. With increased emphasis on academic improvement, schools no longer have the time to provide daily physical activity for their students. Information provided by the Allentown School District states that physical activity in the school has been reduced to 50 minutes per week. In December of 2015, Pediatrics Magazine announced that kids are only active (moving) 23 minutes per day in school and 42 minutes overall.

The Department of Health and Human Services created physical activity guidelines that recommend children participate in at least 60 minutes of activities a day. In addition to decreased physical activity in school, the advancement of technology, social media and video games have created a generation of youth that would rather stare at a screen than engage in any type of physical activity.

The Search Institute reports that youth who spend 1 to 4 hours in extracurricular activities a week are less likely to drop out of school, use drugs, smoke, get pregnant or be arrested. After School programs and the organizations that offer them can provide a safe environment where children can engage in much needed physical activities and learn healthy lifestyle habits.

The Community Outreach Program serves children ages 9 to 13 years of age and encompasses a broad range of focus areas including mentoring, sports and recreation, fitness, academic support, and youth development. Our staff forms developmental relationships with the youth in the program that can powerfully and positively impact a young person's identity and provide a framework for social and physical development. Our program helps build assets and develops a youth's physical and social skills by providing an environment where our young people are supported, taught values and are encouraged to succeed.

Amount of Funds Requested:	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Amount of Other Funds Needed/Available:	<u>\$16,083</u>
Total Program/Projected Budget:	<u>\$26,083</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Baum School of Art

NAME OF PROGRAM: Inner City Neighborhood Youth Art Program

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Baum School of Art's Inner City Neighborhood Youth Art Program has been an integral community outreach initiative for the past 25 years that enables underprivileged and disadvantaged youth to study the visual arts. This program provides after school education and recreation to Allentown School District elementary students, from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, a time when students are more likely to engage in risk-taking behavior. Our program targets students in third, fourth and fifth grades, and not only curtails idle after school time, but also allows students to explore their talents, develop skills and interests, and experience cultural activities. The Baum School of Art provides this program for students from eight elementary schools in the Allentown School District, but is requesting funds for students from Central, Cleveland, and McKinley elementary schools that are within the Center City Initiative Area of the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan 2015-2020. The Baum School strives to reach 130 inner-city Allentown youth annually with the Inner City Neighborhood Youth Art Program, 30 of whom are included in our request for funding, as CDBG eligible residents. This program strengthens the City of Allentown Consolidated Plan by supporting priority activities in public service with the goal to increase the number or, and access to, recreational and educational program opportunities for residents of the Center City Initiative.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ <u>4,394.00</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE	\$ <u>28,376.00</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$ <u>32,770.00</u>

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PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Boys & Girls Club of Allentown

NAME OF PROGRAM: Make Your M.A.R.K.™ (Motivated Academically Ready Kids)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

A September 2015 Brookings Institution article, “*Growing Economic Segregation Among School Districts and Schools*”, stated that children who grow up in disadvantaged neighborhoods have worse educational and occupational outcomes later in life. “Research has shown that growing up in disadvantaged contexts and attending school with disadvantaged peers has negative impacts on children’s future educational and economic outcomes. The increase in economic segregation between schools and districts suggests that children are increasingly exposed to unequal contexts, indicating that inequality in their future outcomes may grow.”

Fourteen years ago, the Boys & Girls Club of Allentown (BGCA) developed and implemented Make Your M.A.R.K.™ (Motivated Academically Ready Kids). Under BGCA’s leadership, the program is being offered at ten inner-city locations throughout the Allentown area. This grant will support Make Your M.A.R.K.™ at our Teen Institute site at 641 N. Seventh Street in Allentown and at Allentown Central Elementary School located at 829 Turner Street. All of the targeted students, in grades 2 - 12, reside in the Center City Initiative Area. This educational reading/language arts/English and math program is aligned with the Allentown School District (ASD) standards and the Pennsylvania (PA) standards for instruction.

Last school year, the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) scores on the state's standardized tests plummeted across the state and in the Lehigh Valley. This was due to the first time tests were aligned with the Pennsylvania Core Standards, the state’s version of the Common Core, adopted in 2013. PSSA scores are normally used to determine School Performance Profile. The scores are so low that the state received a one-year waiver from the U.S. Department of Education. Urban schools (which includes ASD), with the most transient student populations and highest percentage of students living in poverty, had the lowest scores. District wide, of the 18 ASD schools, 81% scored basic or below basic in math; and 66% scored basic or below basic in English/language arts.

The final results of Make Your M.A.R.K.™ pre/post testing for the 2014-2015 year indicated that 63% of participating youth demonstrated a 15% improvement in their math skills levels; and 62% of participating youth demonstrated a 15% improvement in their language arts/reading skills levels; which represents an increase in approximately one grade level in their abilities.

Make Your M.A.R.K.™ assists the efforts of the ASD. They have reviewed our program and endorse it. This program utilizes Science Research Associates revised and current educational products, and assessments from the PA Standards Aligned System for 3rd - 12th grade, and Study Island for second grade. The math materials provide drill and practice in number concepts, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, word problems, measurement, time and money. The reading materials build comprehension, word pattern groupings, writing and critical thinking skills. The reading passages are age-appropriate and range from slower performing to advanced levels. Materials are culturally diverse and engage youth in the stories and promote comprehension.

Make Your M.A.R.K.™ has been approved by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development as a qualified educational program to receive funds under the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ 10,000 _____
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$ 42,357 _____
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$ 52,357 _____

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PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OR AGENCY: Allentown Health Bureau

NAME OF PROGRAM: Alliance Summer Recreation Program

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Alliance Summer Recreation Program will start its 23rd year in 2016. The program is a collaborative effort by several organizations providing recreation, arts and crafts, swimming, field trips, breakfast and lunch to inner-city children in Allentown, PA. The program registers approximately 200 children ages 7-13, with 100-150 participating daily on a drop-in basis during the program's 5-week operational period in July. Program participation is free of cost to the families.

Besides recreational activities, the Alliance Program offers a variety of positive life skills, self awareness and self esteem building activities through its 12-15 staff members. Through the Allentown School District's Summer Feeding Program, daily breakfast and lunch are provided to all participants, thereby alleviating hunger for children who might not otherwise eat during the day when school is not in session. In addition to the benefit to children who might not have access to meals, this program also combats obesity. Paradoxically, many overweight youth are "overweight yet undernourished." The Alliance Summer Playground Program promotes healthy eating among its participants by providing balanced nutritional choices and proper serving sizes. The program is also visited weekly by the "Fruits and Veggies on the Move" truck which delivers fresh summer fruits and vegetables to the children. This, in conjunction with the opportunities for physical activity provided, helps to oppose childhood obesity in our community. With a combined rate of overweight and obesity among school-age children in the Allentown School District of 41%, the program's contribution to fostering a healthy, active lifestyle among participants is significant.

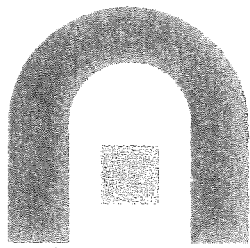
This long-standing program is an incredible resource for the families of the community. Particularly for families with limited financial resources, this free program may be the only recreational opportunity some of these children have. The program is often utilized by families as a fun, safe alternative to placing children in standard day care programs.

This contract request is for costs incurred for summer field trips (admission fees and bus transportation), as well as daily bus transportation to local pools and parks. Past field trips have included: The Pa Shakespeare Festival at DeSales University, the DaVinci Discovery Center, Skate-away, Crayola, etc. Our goal is to offer a minimum of 4 field trips with CDBG funds (one per week), as well as transport the children to local pools/parks the remaining days of the week for an average of \$1,375/week for a total of \$5,500. Since the awarding of CDBG funds in 1999, the children have enjoyed more experiences outside the city setting. The field trips and bus transportation costs will, however, require continued funds for bus transportation and admission fees.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ 5,500
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$ 41,520
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$ 47,020

CDBG 2016-2017	
Building Standards	
Hazard	\$ 150,000.00
Demolition	\$ 150,000.00
Lead Based Paint Abatement	\$ 150,000.00
Old Allentown Facades	\$ 20,000.00
Program Delivery	\$ 150,000.00
	\$ 620,000.00

2016-2017						
Administration Budget						
			Actual	ESG	HOME	
Postage and Shipping	\$ 2,000.00					
Printing	\$ 500.00					
Publications and Membership	\$ 3,000.00					
Training and Professional Dev	\$ 5,000.00					
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 2,000.00					
Professional Services Fees	\$ 10,000.00					
Other Services and Charges	\$ 15,000.00					
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00					
Operating Materials and Supplies	\$ 6,000.00					
General City Charges	\$ 300,000.00	383083		14417	71682	
	\$ 344,500.00					



Allentown
City without limits.

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Theodore.Berger@Allentownpa.gov

Memo

To: Heidi Baer, HUD Grants Manager
From: Theodore S. Berger, Construction Operations Manager
CC: Craig Messinger, Interim Director of Public Works
Mark Geosits, Assistant City Engineer
Date: 02/04/2016
Re: CDBG Fund Request – Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017) – 2016-2017 Construction

As part of the City's Transition Plan to comply with the "Americans with Disability Act" we are requesting your consideration to provide funding for our ADA Handicap Ramp Program. The funds requested are used in conjunction with our Reconstruction and Pedestrian Safety Program.

The Act requires all radius curb at intersections be designed to accommodate people with disabilities, and Municipalities receiving CDBG funds are required to comply. It further requires streets receiving resurfacing to comply with this Act. Also, as mandated by City Ordinance #13320, properties with radius curb and sidewalk in good condition without ramps will initially be installed at the expense of the City. We are requesting funds to support this work.

As you can see from the ADA Handicap Ramp Contract Cost History we have expended our excess balance from previous years and require full funding for this federally mandated program. These funds represent money to be expended during our 2016-2017 construction season. This is due to the fiscal year availability and our construction year expenditures.

Additionally, there has been a continuing interest from an advocacy group noting that our previous ramps are not placed in strict accordance with ADA specifications. Although we had been providing accessibility, the dimensioning, slopes and surfacing do not meet the guidelines in all cases. We had been incorrectly placing our current ramps consistent with other municipalities.

With a threat of an impending lawsuit it has been determined, by the Public Works Director in conjunction with the City Solicitor, that in the best interest of the City we should address the improperly installed ramps. These would be in addition to the new ramp installations on our Street Program in order to show an effort in addressing the advocacy groups concerns. In doing this we find that the estimated construction cost continues to accumulate.

Currently, we continue to fall further behind on the ramp replacements as insufficient funds have been available to replace ADA ramps to keep pace with the Streets Resurfacing Program. The requested funding reflects current year needs as well as funding requests to "catch up" on streets that have not been improved with the current guideline approved ADA handicap ramps.

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Therefore, our projected costs and request is as follows:

CDBG Request 2016 Fiscal Year (funds required for the 2016-2017 construction season)

CDBG funds available for 2012-2014 construction	\$0
2012 Required monies to complete 2012 Street program ADA Ramps	\$581,000.00
2013 Required monies to complete 2013 Street program ADA Ramps	\$593,000.00
2014 Required monies to complete 2014 Street program ADA Ramps	\$524,000.00
2015 Required monies to complete 2015 Street Program ADA Ramps	\$790,000.00
2016 Required monies to complete 2016 Street Program ADA Ramps	\$886,200.00
Requested for 2015 Fiscal Year (2015-2016 Construction) :	\$3,374,200.00

We realize that CDBG Fund cuts make it harder to accommodate all agencies making requests. However, since this an **unfunded Federal mandate**, our future CDBG requests will continue to be for the full funding of anticipated work. Any changes in funding sources that may be anticipated should be discussed at a higher level prior to that time. (2016-17 Budget Requests)

With insufficient past CDBG Funding and limited other sources, we were unable to complete the ramps as required from the 2012 and 2013 Street Program. 2012-2016 Ramps not completed in 2016 ADA Program will be added to the 2017 ADA program. As stated above we are in need of full funding for Construction Year 2016-2017 in order to make up for past funding shortfalls.

Attachments: ADA Curb Cut Contract Cost History
Projected Cost for 2012-2016 ADA Ramps

cc: Craig Messinger, Interim Director of Public Works
Mark Geosits, Assistant City Engineer

HOME Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO)

There were no requests for CHDO funding so these funds will be awarded at a later date. CHDO funding can only be given to a qualified non-profit housing development organization.

Landlord Fair Housing

The City of Allentown Department of Community and Economic Development is anticipated developing a fair housing training for City landlords to be held in the next year.

City of Allentown Pedestrian Street Lighting

A multi-year program to install pedestrian street lighting in Center City residential neighborhoods.

City of Allentown Retail Mosaic Self Forgiving Loan Program

Round 2 of funding for loans to create small businesses within the Center City Area.

PROPOSAL SUMMARY
(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OR AGENCY: The Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. (CACLV)

NAME OF PROGRAM: The Community Action Financial Services (CAFS)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The mission of CAFS, a HUD and PHFA-approved housing counseling program, is to provide low- to moderate-income individuals and families with a continuum of coordinated financial counseling services in one location in order to encourage and assist them to build personal assets, to increase and preserve homeownership, and to develop neighborhood wealth for the benefit of the entire community.

CAFS offers the following services to low- to moderate-income residents of Lehigh and Northampton counties:

- 1) The Homeownership Counseling Program (HOCN) provides first-time homebuyer educational seminars, one-on-one pre-purchase counseling, and small group and one-on-one pre-settlement counseling.
- 2) The Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program provides counseling services to homeowners in default, at risk of default, or facing foreclosure.
- 3) The Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program is a mediation program—in the Lehigh and Northampton county court systems—available to owners of single family homes in foreclosure.
- 4) The Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) – CAFS staff provides foreclosure mitigation services to homeowners in default who have received an ACT 91 Notice by assisting them in applying for HEMAP.

CACLV is seeking a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to support CAFS' Homeownership Counseling Program.

CAFS has been operating HOCN for over 20 years. HOCN addresses CAFS' mission to expand and preserve homeownership opportunities, particularly for minorities and persons with low- to moderate-incomes. By educating prospective first-time homebuyers on the responsibilities, benefits, and burdens of homeownership, they are able to make an informed decision regarding their housing goals. HOCN includes: homeownership counseling seminars, pre-purchase counseling, and pre-settlement counseling. Pre-purchase and pre-settlement counseling are conducted in one-on-one and small group settings.

Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Program Goals

Goal: To increase homeownership, stabilize neighborhoods and build community wealth, particularly for minorities and low- to moderate-income households, in the City of Allentown, through the provision of homeownership opportunities (Priority #2: Affordable Housing/Owner Occupied Housing in the Consolidated Plan 2015-2020).

Objectives:

- Provide homeownership counseling services to at least 110 low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Allentown.
- At least 10 low- to moderate-income individuals from the City of Allentown will receive individual counseling for first-time homebuyers.
- At least 25 low- to moderate-income individuals from the City of Allentown who are buying homes, for which counseling is a requirement, will receive pre-settlement counseling.
- At least 75 low- to moderate-income individuals who live in the City of Allentown will complete a two-day homeownership seminar.
- At least 15 low- to moderate-income individuals will purchase a home in the City of Allentown.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:

\$10,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:

\$403,675

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:

\$413,675

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.

NAME OF PROGRAM: Sixth Street Shelter

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: Since 1984, the Sixth Street Shelter has been offering services to help prepare families for the challenges of a difficult job and rental market that too often result in homelessness. The mission of the Sixth Street Shelter is "to provide the opportunity and direction for all people to become self-sufficient, productive members of the community." It is the only family shelter in the region that admits families with at least one child under age 18, including fathers and teenage boys, and houses them in their own private apartments. The casework services that each family receives are intended to help them to become and remain self-sufficient when they move into their own housing. The Center City site consists of 25 apartments for families who are working toward moving on to stable housing by the end of 60 days.

During their residency at the Sixth Street Shelter, the members of the family work with the Shelter's staff on the issues that contributed to their homelessness to learn household, budgeting, educational, and vocational skills. At the same time, they look for appropriate housing with the support of their counselor. Following the family's move back into the community, the Shelter staff maintains contact with them whenever possible in order to offer additional assistance and to determine how well they are continuing to move toward self-sufficiency.

The Sixth Street Shelter is a program of Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, whose mission is "to improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley by building a community in which all people have access to economic opportunity, the ability to pursue that opportunity, and a voice in the decisions that affect their lives."

Evaluation and monitoring of all CACLV programs takes several forms, including a mid-year evaluation and a year-end evaluation, both conducted by the Program Development and Evaluation Committee of the Board of Directors of CACLV. Included in the year-end evaluation is a participant survey, which each resident is asked to complete before his or her exit from the Shelter.

This proposal is a request for partial funding for families at the Sixth Street Shelter as they live at the Shelter and work toward stability. We are grateful for this opportunity.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$ 30,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE: \$ 592,417

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: \$ 622,417

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PROPOSAL SUMMARY
(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Community Action Development Corporation of Allentown (CADCA)

NAME OF PROGRAM: Start Your Business Program

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

Community Action Development Corporation of Allentown (CADCA), a subsidiary corporation of Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV) incorporated on September 7, 1993, provides business training and technical assistance, facilitates start-up financing, and assists with research for the creation of new businesses while working with residents to solve community problems. *The mission of CADCA is to assist and promote neighborhood revitalization and community spirit by providing access to economic opportunity, creating and sustaining businesses owned and operated by neighbors, and empowering people to have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.*

As a community development corporation, the primary focus of CADCA is economic development. All of CADCA's programs seek to revitalize low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, most significantly through microenterprise development. CADCA's strategy of community organizing and resident ownership produces neighborhoods that are stronger, safer, and more stable. As neighborhood revitalization proceeds, competition amongst peers to succeed and greater citizen participation in civic affairs create a renewed sense of community and safer, more well-taken-care-of streets and homes. CADCA is unique in its efforts in this community. *No other* vehicle exists for building a neighborhood by starting businesses owned and operated by the residents themselves. *No other* organization in Allentown combines economic development with community organizing to encourage people to speak for themselves while working together to solve community problems.

CADCA administers the Start Your Business program and provides technical assistance to existing businesses and entrepreneurs, the strategies of which are consistent with those found in the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020. The Start Your Business program is a 19-week program offered twice each year that introduces potential entrepreneurs to nearly every aspect of small business-ownership. Students learn financial planning, marketing and promotion, accounting, tax preparation, and networking in addition to basic business skills. Guest experts from the local business community assist in presenting and strengthening course material as students are guided through the process of writing a business plan.

CADCA's technical assistance is provided to individuals that may include former Start Your Business students, existing City businesses owned by low- and moderate-income person(s), or low and moderate income entrepreneurs who want to start their own business in the City of Allentown. Information and technical assistance may include such topics as obtaining necessary permits and licenses, developing a marketing plan, pricing products and services, creating cash flow projections, and securing financing for business establishment or expansion and, in conjunction with the City, finding potential locations for their businesses.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$973,790</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$998,790</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley

NAME OF PROGRAM: School-to-Career Services

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley (CIS) School-to-Career Services is designed to help at-risk adolescent youth in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades in the Allentown School District to gain work readiness skills and exposure to career opportunities. These students attend William Allen High School, Dieruff High School, and/or William Penn Alternative Education, reside in the Focus Area, and meet the stated income guidelines. Many of these students face numerous barriers that increase the likelihood that they will drop out of school. Students who participate in this program are provided with work readiness curriculum. CIS is the only provider of work readiness and career services at William Penn. Without these services, students would be unprepared for the workplace upon completing high school.

The CIS School-to-Career Coordinator works with students to:

- Teach basic work-readiness skills to CIS students
- Teach career aptitude and awareness to CIS students
- Provide career exploration opportunities to CIS students
- Provide mock interview experience to CIS student
- Provide career mentoring for CIS students
- Assist CIS students in applying for summer employment or part time employment, if applicable

The City of Allentown and CIS share the same goals: reducing the number of school drop outs, keeping students out of the juvenile justice system, raising student competency levels in math and literacy, involving parents, families, and community, and equipping students with marketable employability skills to use upon graduation. The City of Allentown's goals include: increasing educational preparedness for entrance level employment opportunities, fostering economic development, and improving the quality of life in Allentown neighborhoods including the reduction of crime and safer streets.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ 10,000.00
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$ 45,313.00</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT BUDGET:	<u>\$ 55,313.00</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: Community Bike Works

NAME OF PROGRAM: Earn a Bike

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: Community Bike Works teaches life lessons through bicycle mechanics. We offer youth development programs that allow the young people of Allentown to learn mechanical and work ethic skills while developing relationships with caring adults. We seek to serve youth, ages 9-17, who need us most. According to recent Allentown Promise Neighborhood survey results, 40% of students in the area do not participate in extracurricular activities.

In Community Bike Works' flagship Earn a Bike program, students team up with adult mentors for a 12-week course in bike mechanics and safety. While working on their bikes, students learn work skills by following their manuals and writing in their journals, working as a team, and seeing the satisfaction of turning a broken bike into a functional one. Once students complete their classes, they earn their refurbished bike and new helmet.

Once enrolled in Earn a Bike, students are able to participate in our full range of programs, including afterschool drop-in, Earn a Book, and Youth Leadership. All are offered at no cost to our students, and they may participate until they turn 18. As students move through the programs, they gain increasing responsibility and opportunities. In our most recent year, 316 students participated in Earn a Bike -- more than any previous year -- including 149 from CDBG neighborhoods. In total, students made 5,550 visits to Bike Works and spent nearly 11,000 hours with mentors.

In the past year, we have worked to expand the enrichment opportunities for our Earn a Bike students. We expanded our summer hours, and in the past summer we offered programming from 10 am to 8 pm Monday through Thursday, and at least 10 am to 6 pm evening each Friday. We also began, in partnership with the Allentown Health Bureau, a Saturday bike ride program.

In offering mentoring relationships and enrichment activities to the young people of Allentown, Community Bike Works' Earn a Bike program addresses Allentown's Five-Year Consolidated Plan priority goal #9: Increase the number of, and access to, recreational and educational program opportunities for residents of the Center City Initiative. We also help youth gain the job skills they need to succeed.

In the words of Randy, 9, who completed the Earn a Bike program last year: "I liked learning about bikes because it was so fantastic and fun."

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$ 370,000</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$ 380,000</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: Grace Montessori School

NAME OF PROGRAM: Grace Montessori School Scholarship Fund

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

Founded in 1992 to provide high quality education and child care to children of Allentown's economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, Grace Montessori School is located in the heart of the downtown economic revitalization area and serves the Allentown Center City Initiative Area of the Consolidated Plan's Focus Area. At the heart of the school's mission is our goal to maintain a first-rate preschool and kindergarten for children 18 months to 6 years old who live in the focus area of the city. While the school attracts children of families of all economic levels and who live throughout the Lehigh Valley, we reserve approximately 30 percent of our enrollment for children who are able to attend only because of the financial assistance offered by our scholarship program made possible by the Grace Montessori School Scholarship Fund.

Our early childhood programs offer full-day education for children as young as 18 months old, plus extended child care. Our facility is open for child care from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., 5 days a week. This allows working parents, single mothers, and those returning to school and training themselves to have the necessary child care they require for more than just the school programming hours of the day. In addition our school offers an elementary program for children ages 6 through 11. Enrollment normally stands at approximately 100 students.

Our student population is diverse, coming from a variety of religious, cultural, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. Our scholarship program helps to strengthen this diversity, and the rich diversity of our students promotes an opportunity for shared learning as well as respect for those of different religious, racial, and cultural backgrounds and for the environment, in the classroom, the neighborhood, our city, and beyond.

The aim of our Scholarship Fund is for approximately 30 percent of our students, who are low income and at risk, to attend Grace Montessori School with financial assistance. Nevertheless our priority is to serve those children who live in the HUD focus area and, without early intervention, would experience difficulty entering public school ready to learn. Serving the children in our scholarship program will require that Grace Montessori School will spend a minimum of \$80,000 of scholarship funds, including approximately \$20,000 for children living in the focus area.

Tuition per student for the half-day (3 1/2 hours) toddler program is currently \$620 per month for 10 months. The full-day toddler program (6 1/2 hours per day) costs \$780 per month. The half-day preschool program (3 1/2 hours per day) tuition is \$580 per month for 10 months. The full-day preschool program (6 1/2 hours per day) costs \$8700 per month for 10 months. Scholarship families pay part of this tuition (\$20 to \$300 per month). Funds for this program come traditionally from private and public sources, among them: The CDBG Funds, The Trexler Trust, The Century Fund, The Hoch Foundation, The Hurd Foundation, KNBT Charitable Foundation, NAES, The Rider-Pool Trust, The Payne Foundation, EITC Funds, private donors, and parent fundraising. Eligibility is based on HUD Moderate and Low Income Guidelines, and all who qualify from the focus area are at or below 80 percent of the area median income guidelines for homeowner programs. Last year we received a CDBG grant in the amount of \$10,000. We provided scholarships to 11 children in the focus area, and the value of the scholarships was \$40,000. In 2016-2017 we will actively recruit 8 or more children from the HUD focus area to whom we will award scholarships.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:

\$ 10,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:

\$ 70,000

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:

\$ 80,000

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Housing Association & Development Corporation

Jordan Heights Housing Rehabilitation Program

Housing Association & Development Corporation will use an award of CDBG rehabilitation funding in 2016-2017 to renovate two blighted and vacant residential properties in the Jordan Heights neighborhood. The houses will be completely gutted and reconstructed with the intent to create two homeownership opportunities for income-eligible first-time buyers under long-term occupancy and retention standards established by HUD. All of the demolition and renovation work will be performed by student construction trainees recruited under the YouthBuild Allentown program.

Every dollar in this request will support HADC programs that directly address two fundamental goals of HUD's Community Development Block Grant program:

- To eliminate slums and blight
- To develop housing for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents

In addition, HADC's work is reducing the number of absentee landlords in the neighborhood and embedding new owner-occupants into the target area. De-conversion of the multi-unit dwellings into single-family houses is lowering the housing density, thereby reducing neighborhood crowding. The addition of owner-occupants to the neighborhood who are capable of paying monthly mortgage payments will help diversify the residential mix and help raise the median income of central Allentown.

HADC's activities meet many of the specific goals of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020.

Amount of Funding Requested:	\$50,000
Other Funds Available:	\$180,301
Total Program Budget:	\$230,301

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Housing Association & Development Corporation

HADC Rental Rehabilitation Program

Housing Association & Development Corporation will use an award of CDBG rehabilitation funding in 2016-2017 to renovate two blighted and vacant residential properties in the Jordan Heights neighborhood. The houses will be completely gutted and reconstructed with the intent to create two homeownership opportunities for income-eligible first-time buyers under long-term occupancy and retention standards established by HUD. All of the demolition and renovation work will be performed by student construction trainees recruited under the YouthBuild Allentown program.

Every dollar in this request will support HADC programs that directly address two fundamental goals of HUD's Community Development Block Grant program:

- To eliminate slums and blight
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In addition, HADC's work is reducing the number of absentee landlords in the neighborhood and embedding new owner-occupants into the target area. De-conversion of the multi-unit dwellings into single-family houses is lowering the housing density, thereby reducing neighborhood crowding. The addition of owner-occupants to the neighborhood who are capable of paying monthly mortgage payments will help diversify the residential mix and help raise the median income of central Allentown.

HADC's activities meet many of the specific goals of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020.

Amount of Funding Requested: \$194,200

Other Funds Available: N/A

Total Program Budget: \$194,200

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Housing Association & Development Corporation

YouthBuild Allentown: Year 2

Housing Association & Development Corporation will use an award of CDBG rehabilitation funding in 2016-2017 to renovate two blighted and vacant residential properties in the Jordan Heights neighborhood. The houses will be completely gutted and reconstructed with the intent to create two homeownership opportunities for income-eligible first-time buyers under long-term occupancy and retention standards established by HUD. All of the demolition and renovation work will be performed by student construction trainees recruited under the YouthBuild Allentown program.

Every dollar in this request will support HADC programs that directly address two fundamental goals of HUD's Community Development Block Grant program:

- To eliminate slums and blight
- To develop housing for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents

In addition, HADC's work is reducing the number of absentee landlords in the neighborhood and embedding new owner-occupants into the target area. De-conversion of the multi-unit dwellings into single-family houses is lowering the housing density, thereby reducing neighborhood crowding. The addition of owner-occupants to the neighborhood who are capable of paying monthly mortgage payments will help diversify the residential mix and help raise the median income of central Allentown.

HADC's activities meet many of the specific goals of Allentown's Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020.

Amount of Funding Requested:	\$200,000
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Other Funds Available:	\$358,782
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Total Program Budget:	\$558,782
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PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: Lehigh Carbon Community College

NAME OF PROGRAM: *The Next Step to Success*

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Next Step to Success program is designed to work with residents in the CDBG area to fill a crucial need - the need for help in transitioning into higher education, job training or the workforce. This need is addressed by having a total of 15 students working one-on-one with our Student Success Coach for up to 35 hours to improve or acquire skills needed to transition into the next step on their career pathway. In addition, there will be weekly two-hour wrap-around support dedicated to workshops and tutoring that is made available to all students in the program. Attendance is voluntary but given the number of students who regularly attend it is clear that this is a valued service.

LCCC's *Next Step to Success* program fulfills the Economic Development High Priority Need in the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan and specifically addresses Job Creation which includes job training as a priority. Once again, we address job training through entrance into post-secondary education, entrance into a job training program, or entrance into the workforce. Additionally, we will make referring students to the Allentown Employment and Training Center (AETC) a priority when it becomes appropriate in regards to their progress. LCCC-Allentown is the site of the AETC which is a joint venture with CareerLink, the ANIZDA, LCCC, and the City of Allentown.

The program just passed the halfway point in its program year and we've already served 10 students. We anticipate adding new students to the program as recruitment is underway for the next session of GED and ESL classes.

This year the program added a new level of support once students transition into the next step on their career pathway. Previously, a student's involvement with the program ended when they transitioned to higher education, job training, or the workforce. *The Next Step to Success* recognized that these students need follow-up support to maintain their success. For example, we continue to give support throughout the first semester for students who transition into higher education. For participants who enter the workforce we follow-up with them for the first three months of work.

It is anticipated that at least 10 of the 15 students being served will successfully transition into higher education, job training, or the workforce.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$ 9,971

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE: \$ 17,636

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: \$ 27,607

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: THE LEHIGH CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES

NAME OF PROGRAM: DAYBREAK DROP-IN CENTER

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: Men and women with mental illness are among our most vulnerable neighbors. Social Security Disability Income barely exceeds \$700 a month, less than the HUD Fair Market Rent for a one-bedroom apartment in our region. Federal budget cuts have diminished the availability of Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly Section 8) and have reduced funding for SNAP (Food Stamps), the most frequent income benefit listed by people in emergency shelters. For over 35 years, the Lehigh Conference of Churches has focused on assisting this population reach housing stability and the greatest level of self-sufficiency of which they are capable through its Daybreak drop-in center.

The Daybreak drop-in center of the Conference began in 1979 as a result of the deinstitutionalization movement that released men and women from the Allentown State Hospital without the services and supports necessary for them to live independently in the community. Working together, the downtown Allentown business community and the Conference founded Daybreak to provide a safe, secure, and vital day program for these men and women. Daybreak has become the primary referral for people transitioning from institutional/congregant living into the community. Over the years, Daybreak has expanded services to meet the needs of many other special needs individuals who require assistance. Today, Daybreak's purpose is to prevent homelessness by offering self-sufficiency, socialization, recreational, educational, and vocational programs to adult men and women with mental illness who have successfully completed or who are currently being treated for their illness, drug and alcohol abuse, or HIV/AIDS - the homeless and the impoverished elderly.

Daybreak provides supportive services to as many as 200 Allentown Center City Initiative residents; access to information and referral, community engagement, access to technology, socialization opportunities, free meals, housing assistance, bus tickets, adult education, a place to meet their case workers, a place to develop treatment and recovery plans, and a place to receive medical care where they feel comfortable.

Goal #1: 150 of 200 Daybreak members with special needs (75%) residing in the City of Allentown will participate in various Daybreak activities throughout the program year, verifying annually that they are actively involved in mental health treatment.

Goal #2: 15 Daybreak members with special needs residing in the City of Allentown will participate in at least 75 hours apiece of pre-vocational service hours (volunteer work opportunities).

Daybreak meets Priority Need #4, Goal #8: Public Services (Non-Homeless Special Needs) for people with mental illness, chemical dependencies, and other disabling conditions. Indirectly, Daybreak also addresses Priority Need #2, Homelessness, as a first referral for street homeless with disabilities, providing an entrance point for The Conference's Continuum to include housing case management.

AMOUNT OF CDBG FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE:	<u>\$370,750</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$380,750</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: The Lehigh Conference of Churches

NAME OF PROGRAM: Pathways Rapid Re-Housing (FY 16-17)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Lehigh Conference of Churches Pathways housing and referral service, initiated in 1988, connects low-income families and individuals living in Allentown and Lehigh County with available resources to help them meet a basic human need: housing. Pathways goal is to prevent homelessness by counseling persons who are at high risk of becoming homeless on the actions and steps necessary to stabilize their housing situation and their lives. In addition to counseling, Pathways provides advocacy services on behalf of clients to landlords and utility services and, when a client qualifies, can provide rental assistance.

As a long-term recipient or distributor of rental/utility assistance funding from FEMA, Lehigh County Aging and Adult Services, and the HUD Supportive Housing Program, Pathways has been a leader in the region in the provision of case management and cash assistance for households that are homeless or threatened with homelessness. More recently, we are recipients of funding from both Lehigh and Northampton County HealthChoices to provide rental assistance. Pathways has been awarded City ESG RR City grants during the last three funding rounds.

During the current fiscal year, 859 householders have undergone The Conference's Coordinated Assessment/Central Housing Intake, 634 of whom (73.8%) live in zip codes 18101 and 18102. 91.2% had incomes of from 0-30% AMI even though 322 (37.2%) reported working full- or part-time. With an average income of \$12,904, these householders are at imminent risk of homelessness and 126 householders did indeed report homelessness at the time of assessment.

The Coordinated Assessment/Central Housing Intake regimen acts not just as an entry point for Pathways but for all Conference programming. 469 householders (55%) reported a total of 982 (duplicated) disabling conditions. A householder may come to Pathways for housing services but may leave having entered a continuum that provides services and supports that address a variety of barriers to success.

Pathways Rapid Re-housing addresses ConPlan Priority Need #2: Homelessness. All populations are served. And while Pathways Rapid Re-housing specifically addresses the Rapid Re-housing component of Homeless Support Services, the Daybreak drop-in center and other Conference programming also address Priority Need #4: Public Services (Non-Homeless Special Needs). 469 (55%) of householders assessed reported a disabling condition. All conditions listed in the ConPlan were represented.

The goal of Rapid Re-Housing funding under this proposal will be to provide housing relocation and stabilization services for 10 City households to assist them in moving as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing by providing cash assistance for rent or security deposit to qualified households as determined by a Pathways Housing Case Manager. Pathways staff will determine client needs and qualifications. Case notes and reporting through Conference ETO software and HMIS for those clients receiving cash assistance will verify services rendered.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ <u>62,198</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$ <u>619,722</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM / PROJECT BUDGET:	\$ <u>681,920</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: The Lehigh Conference of Churches

NAME OF PROGRAM: Fountain Park Warming Station

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: In 2012, homeless-facing advocates were expressing concern that the safe havens for the street homeless established as a result of four deaths of chronically homeless men due to hypothermia during the winter of 2010 were no longer able to meet the growing need to provide safe, secure, and sanitary emergency winter shelter for those unwilling or unable to access the traditional sheltering system in Allentown and Lehigh County. As a part of the strategy to end chronic homelessness, the Commission to End Chronic Homelessness created a Seasonal Sheltering Committee to assess the need and, if warranted, create the model for an emergency shelter for the winter months. This committee involved existing shelters, homeless service providers, street medicine clinics, faith-based organizations, concerned citizens and advocates for the homeless, and members of the homeless community in this process. The result was a winter sheltering strategy that had the following minimal requirements: a single location, open every night from November through April; cots and blankets; consistent intake process to know people by name and by need; scheduled case managers, to help develop housing action steps for each person; and non-uniformed supervisory staff. These requirements were met by the 6th and Chew Winter Shelter (6CWS) last winter and will be met by the subject of this request, the Fountain Park Warming Station.

For the winter of 2014/2015, 6CWS operated in Alliance Hall, the home of main offices of The Lehigh Conference of Churches, from November 1 to April 2, administered by The Conference. Guests were provided a cot and bedding, bathroom facilities, given access to street health services, and offered the opportunity to enter case management. The Conference anticipated that 150 unique individuals would attend 6CWS. Instead, 304 unique individuals spent 4,498 guest nights. Guest attendance averaged 29 per night with a high of 53. Over 95% of guests listed their residency as Allentown. 185 guests reported no financial resources. 119 reported mental illness. 15 guests were veterans.

The Lehigh Conference of Churches actively engaged 38% of guests of the 6CWS. 29 formerly homeless individuals had been housed by the end of the shelter season. An additional 15 were about to be housed or had a person-specific housing plan in place. And 20 individuals qualified for and accessed the Daybreak drop-in center. The Conference now seeks funding for a partnership project with the City of Allentown for the current winter, the Fountain Park Warming Station. The facility has been renovated by the City and, due to construction delays, opened on December 1. Such funding specifically addresses Goal #4, the Homeless Support Activities of the Con Plan to provide overnight shelter for the homeless and indirectly addresses Priority Need #4 by providing enhanced access to the mental health and housing continuum of The Conference.

AMOUNT OF ESG FUNDS REQUESTED: \$ 25,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$ 99,500

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: \$ 124,500

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Inc. (LVCIL)

NAME OF PROGRAM: PLACE (People Living in Accessible Community Environments)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The City of Allentown is home to greater than 21,000 people with disabilities¹, many of whom are struggling with homelessness due to high rent and utility costs, cuts in essential benefits programs, and the lack of affordable, accessible housing.

The **PLACE (People Living in Accessible Community Environments)** program will provide homelessness prevention services to 40 City residents with disabilities, and their family members, with an annual income at or below 80 percent AMI. The PLACE program will connect consumers with affordable housing opportunities that will lead to stability. In addition, area landlords, property managers and realtors will receive information on the benefits of renting to persons with disabilities. PLACE program services will include:

1. **Intake:** An LVCIL Community Support Coordinator will meet with consumer to gather essential information for the program. The assessment will determine the consumer's eligibility for the program and his/her specific housing needs.
2. **Housing Search and Placement:** The Community Support Coordinator and consumer will work together to locate affordable, accessible housing. Program staff will educate private landlords, property managers, and realtors in order to increase available housing opportunities for consumers.
3. **Supports Coordination:** Once housing has been obtained, the Community Support Coordinator will work with the consumer to identify the services needed to support housing stability. Referrals will be made to other agencies and homelessness prevention programs.
4. **Follow-along Services:** Once housing stability has been achieved, the Community Support Coordinator will work with the consumer for a period of at least six months.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$43,200</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$53,200</u>

¹ US Census Bureau, factfinder2.census.gov

SECTION 1 -PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Literacy Center (TLC)

NAME OF PROGRAM: ESL Instruction for Work, Family and Life

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: The Literacy Center proposes to utilize Allentown CDBG funds to support the provision of English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction to 35 City of Allentown residents in the Center City Initiative target area. Educational instruction will be provided to adults 18 years of age or older.

Activities associated with instruction include registration, orientation, goal planning, pre and post-testing to determine learning gains. Classes will be provided during the day and in the evening making instruction accessible to students who are employed. All classes will be held at the 1132 West Hamilton Street location. The new location offers 6 classrooms, a private counseling room and dedicated computer learning laboratory.

ESL Instruction is designed to serve low-income adults (80% area median income guidelines) who meet the following criteria:

- Individuals who have not yet developed proficiency in the English language to acquire basic knowledge and skills needed to progress to a post-secondary education or technical school, or function effectively in the community as parents, workers and participating citizens.
- Individuals who have limited ability in speaking, reading, writing or understanding the English language
- Individuals whose native language is a language other than English, and currently reside in an home environment where a language other than English is dominant.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$ 467,899</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$ 477,899</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OR AGENCY: Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. (NHSLV)

NAME OF PROGRAM: Community Partnership Program (CPP)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley (NHSLV), Inc. seeks funding for Community Partnership Program (CPP), which provides down payment and closing cost assistance to first-time, low-income (up to 80% of median family income) home buyers purchasing a home in Allentown. NHSLV also offers Home Ownership Outreach Program (HOOP) loans to those clients who qualify and require additional funds for down payment and closing costs. Lack of affordable housing continues to be a major issue in the Lehigh Valley. Providing funding for CPP loans will ensure that low-income families have access to the financial resources and housing counseling services they need to make home ownership a reality.

Prior to applying for assistance through HOOP/CPP, a client must first secure a conventional mortgage at a lending institution or mortgage company. NHSLV staff will then review information to determine if the client is eligible for HOOP/CPP. The main guideline for determining eligibility is household income. In order to qualify for the program, household income must meet the Federal low-income guidelines by not exceeding 80% of median income. Other qualifications include having savings of \$1,700, no delinquencies on the credit report, and two years of verifiable employment. The client is also required to participate in a Home Ownership Counseling Program Seminar.

Lending institutions/mortgage companies will provide 90% of the financing. HOOP/CPP will provide a 10% down payment plus closing cost assistance. The average HOOP loan is \$10,761 and has a low interest rate with a maximum term of 20 years. CPP funds will provide a \$4,000, 0% interest loan to households with very low incomes (0-50% of median income) and \$3,500, 0% interest loan to households with low incomes (51-80% of median income). The CPP grant/loan will be forgiven if the client lives in the home for at least 5 years. The HOOP portion of the loan is funded by NeighborWorks America. The CPP portion of the loan is funded by the City of Allentown.

NHSLV has provided down payment and closing cost assistance to low- and moderate-income households in Allentown since 1992. NHSLV is the only agency providing this service in Allentown. HOOP/CPP preserves and improves the quality of life experienced in Allentown's neighborhoods. Home ownership is a powerful way to make residents feel like they are truly a vital part of the neighborhood in which they live. Home ownership builds a sense of pride a person feels about their own property as well as their neighborhood.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: **\$100,000**

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE: **\$200,000**

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: **\$300,000**

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OR AGENCY: Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.

NAME OF PROGRAM: Home Ownership Outreach Program/Community Partnership Program (HOOP/CPP)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley (NHSLV), Inc. seeks funding for the delivery of the Home Ownership Outreach Program/Community Partnership Program (HOOP/CPP), which provides down payment and closing cost assistance to first-time, low-income (up to 80% of median family income) home buyers purchasing a home in Allentown. Lack of affordable housing continues to be a major issue in the Lehigh Valley. Providing operating assistance to HOOP/CPP will ensure that low-income families have access to the financial resources and housing counseling services they need to make home ownership a reality.

Prior to applying for assistance through HOOP/CPP, a client must first secure a conventional mortgage at a lending institution or mortgage company. NHSLV staff will then review information to determine if the client is eligible for HOOP/CPP. The main guideline for determining eligibility is household income. In order to qualify for the program, household income must meet the Federal low-income guidelines by not exceeding 80% of median income. Other qualifications include having savings of \$1,700, no delinquencies on the credit report, and two years of verifiable employment. The client is also required to participate in a Home Ownership Counseling Program Seminar.

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NHSLV has provided down payment and closing cost assistance to low- and moderate-income households in Allentown since 1992. NHSLV is the only agency providing this service in Allentown. HOOP/CPP preserves and improves the quality of life experienced in Allentown's neighborhoods. Home ownership is a powerful way to make residents feel like they are truly a vital part of the neighborhood in which they live. Home ownership builds a sense of pride a person feels about their own property as well as their neighborhood.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$10,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$228,721</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$238,721</u>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: North Penn Legal Services, Inc.

NAME OF PROGRAM: Lehigh Valley Fair Housing Project

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: NPLS requests \$25,000 to fund a portion of the Fair Housing Coordinator position for the Lehigh Valley Fair Housing Project. This position works out of NPLS' Bethlehem office and will serve Allentown City residents. Project activities include coordinating fair housing trainings and outreach events, distribution of fair housing materials, work on fair housing cases, and participation in additional county-wide fair housing opportunities.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	<u>\$25,000</u>
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	<u>\$62,000</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	<u>\$87,000</u>

City of Allentown
2016 Consolidated Grants Program Application for Gordon Street Residences
City of Allentown, Lehigh County, PA

Name of Agency: Pennrose Properties, LLC
Name of Program: City HOME Funds for Gordon Street Residences
Summary of Program: New construction general occupancy affordable housing development

Pennrose Properties, LLC is excited to present Gordon Street, the redevelopment of a former lumber yard located in the Historic District neighborhood of the City of Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. The City of Allentown is experiencing a massive resurgence, thanks in large part to the resounding success of the Commonwealth's only Neighborhood Improvement Zone (NIZ) taxing district. As part of this revitalization, the Allentown Comprehensive Plan 2020 specifically recognizes the need for a contemporaneous increase to its stock of affordable housing. The plan states as one of its main goals "the provision of sufficient affordable and special needs housing within the City and on a regional level." The Gordon Street development, building off the City's growth momentum, will respond to this goal by providing new, high-quality apartment homes for families seeking to take advantage of the great new amenities and job centers the city has to offer.

As currently envisioned, the Gordon Street development will consist of six (6) newly constructed, multi-unit apartment buildings and one (1) attached community/maintenance building. All residents will have access to the newly constructed, centrally located community building, which will house both the management and maintenance offices needed to support ample resident services provided the Management Agent, and other cooperating organizations. Designed as "stacked flats" the proposed residential structures will emulate the town home aesthetic and scale of the surrounding residential community. Within these structures are to be sixty-two (62) total units in the following breakdown: seventeen (17) one-bedrooms; twenty-seven (27) two-bedrooms; and, eighteen (18) three-bedrooms. All sixty-two (62) units will be available for general occupancy. Seven (7) of the units are to be affordable at 20% of AML, twenty-five (25) units are to be affordable at 50% AML, and thirty (30) units are to be affordable up to 60% AML. The leveraging of operational subsidies at this development will increase the viability of the project to support private debt, while preserving the ability to serve families at the lowest income tiers.

In addition to the services and amenities available on-site, residents of the development will be situated less than a mile from downtown Allentown, the largest municipality in the Lehigh Valley and the third largest city in Pennsylvania. Such proximity to a major metropolis yields access to major employment, entertainment, health and transportation centers such as the Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, the worldwide headquarters of Air Products, Inc., Muhlenberg College, the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs minor-league baseball team, the Lehigh Valley Mall, Dorney Park, and the Lehigh Valley International Airport to name a few. In addition, the 1201 West Gordon Street site has a Walkability score of 84 out of 100. Designated by Walk Score as "Very Walkable", most errands to and from the site can be accomplished on foot, including access to many locally-focused amenities within the Allentown City Historic District neighborhood, such as West Park Fountain Park, and Valinez Park.

The redevelopment of this underutilized lot within Allentown's City Historic District neighborhood will improve accessibility and VisitAbility (including re-grading, added utility and green infrastructure, and streetscape improvements). The apartment homes at Gordon Street will include high-quality construction materials assembled using sustainable and modern techniques, including energy-efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems.

The revitalization of the Gordon Street site promises to be a well situated addition to the exciting revitalization of Allentown, further evidencing the City's commitment to quality affordable housing that is seamlessly integrated with the surrounding neighborhood communities surrounding its burgeoning downtown core. It is the intention of the redevelopment effort to produce affordable rental housing that is reflective of this commitment, and that preserves the long-term vitality of the Historic District neighborhood as well as and the city and Lehigh Valley as a whole.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$1,250,000
Amount of Other Funds Needed / Available:	\$13,759,883
Total Program / Project Budget:	\$15,009,883

Submitted: February 8, 2016
By: Pennrose Properties, LLC

I. PROPOSAL SUMMARY
(Please limit summary to this page only.)

NAME OF AGENCY: Pinebrook Family Answers

NAME OF PROGRAM: *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative*

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: The *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative* has been in operation since 1999, and supported in part by CDBG funding since 2002. This innovative *Initiative* provides a continuum of ongoing community-based services that target a population of homeless women offenders transitioning out of the criminal justice system and reuniting with their children, and homeless women at risk of criminal behavior. The *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative* is the only one of its kind in the Lehigh Valley that addresses the unique needs of the women it serves. All of the women and children participating in the *Initiative* reside at the agency's Transitional Residence apartment building located within the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan's Center City Initiative (CCI) area at 814 Gordon Street.

Pinebrook Family Answers is seeking funding from the city of Allentown's Consolidated Grants Program in 2016-2017 to provide partial support for a key position – the Director of Forensic Services – which involves the provision of direct services, including but not limited to case management services. The services provided under the auspices of the *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative* include case management, employment counseling, housing counseling, maintenance mentoring, and the in-home services of a family partner. These services and the measurable objectives tracked as part of the effort to document their short and long-term impact on the clients served advance the high priority need of *Homelessness* identified in the 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan insofar as it provides homeless support activities in a transitional housing setting to women with children, many of whom have a history of mental illness and substance abuse. The *Initiative* also advances one of the Plan's goal outcome indicators insofar as it incorporates tenant-based rental assistance that includes a rental savings plan. The population of women and children served by the *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative* is one of the most difficult to reach in the city of Allentown. Typically, the women are young, they are undereducated and underemployed, and they lack even the most basic life skills. In addition to CDBG funds, the services provided under the auspices of the *Transitional Residence Continuum of Care Initiative* are made possible in part by a renewable HUD Continuum of Care grant and ongoing support from local foundations including the Trexler Trust.

Pinebrook Family Answers is the result of a culmination of two consecutive mergers: Pinebrook Family Services and Family Answers merged in October 2014 to form Pinebrook Family Answers, and in July 2015 THE PROGRAM for Women and Families merged with Pinebrook Family Answers to form the agency's Forensic Services Department. All three organizations have long, proud histories of serving the city of Allentown with highly effective programs and services. These mergers not only have resulted in more funds going directly to client-focused services, they have pioneered a path toward groundbreaking cross-sector collaboration and the innovative integration of services and programs. Today, the mission of Pinebrook Family Answers is to improve the lives of individuals and families across generations by providing a continuum of high-quality programs that promote self-sufficiency, nurture healthy children and strong families, support seniors, advocate for change and strengthen communities.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$ 10,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE: \$162,845

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: \$172,845

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PROPOSAL SUMMARY
(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Salvation Army

NAME OF PROGRAM: Hospitality House Emergency Shelter Program (HHESP)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

The Beall and Linny Fowler Hospitality House Emergency Shelter Program (HHESP) is located in the Rich Fleming Family Hope Center at 344 N. 7th Street. The HHESP provides shelter on an emergency basis to single women and children. The HHESP is the only emergency shelter in the City of Allentown and in the Lehigh County which is able to respond to this vulnerable population of homeless single women and women with children 24 hours a day.

The HHESP is a 24 hour secure facility staffed with caring and trained individuals who are able to address the needs of its guests by providing timely emergency shelter, respect, nutritious meals (three balanced meals and snacks), and the basic tools to help them attain self-sufficiency.

The shelter is a positive nurturing environment with classes designed to address the basic life skills necessary for successful independent living, a required savings plan, and intensive case management. HHESP is an emergency shelter with parameters providing housing from one to forty-five days; however women are often granted an extended stay as they actively work to secure permanent housing, employment or educational opportunities. The HHESP has nine residential rooms. Eight rooms are designated for families and one room is designated for singles. There are forty-five available beds.

Guests are required to attend weekly Life Skills classes. These classes are taught by both staff and community partners. Topics covered include: Budgeting, Parenting, Goal Setting, Communication, Resume Writing, Interviewing Skills, and Nutrition. Community partners also work closely with the guests to teach them how to effectively access community resources and to establish a continuum of care upon exiting the program.

Guests work closely with the caseworker to establish attainable goals. Examples of these goals may include: obtaining and maintaining employment, developing a savings plan, establishing a budget, finding affordable housing, or enrolling in an educational or training program. The case worker empowers the guests by educating them about the local social service system and then linking them to the appropriate resources available. All services provided are intended to allow each homeless client to become self-sufficient in our community.

The case worker meets with the guests weekly and maintains accurate documentation of each meeting. An Exit Survey is completed when a guest is ready to leave the program and it is requested that they provide a forwarding address. A thirty day follow-up is done to verify if the guest has been able to maintain their housing. If the guest has not been able to maintain housing, the caseworker is able to provide appropriate referrals.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$ 30,000
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$508,323
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$538,323

PROPOSAL SUMMARY
(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Salvation Army of Allentown

NAME OF PROGRAM: Youth Enrichment Program

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

In 2014 our Youth Enrichment Program had 128 low income youth Community Center members, 36 of which attended Central Elementary School. This past year we had 179 youth members, 62 of which attended Central Elementary school and 89 of which who resided within the Center City Initiative Area. With our facility being located in the heart of the Center City Initiative Area, we are able to offer children residing at or below the poverty level in this area with structured academic and recreational opportunities that they otherwise may not have. Specific examples of our Youth Enrichment instruction are listed below. The following programs take place at different times throughout the year and represent our 2016/2017 current and planned programs:

- Choose Health: The BMI (Body Mass Index) shows that 41% of ASD students are obese or overweight, which is higher than both the state and national averages. (www.allentownpa.org) In 2008, The City of Allentown was one of ten communities nationwide selected to receive an Action Community for Health Innovation and Environmental Change grant which is aimed at decreasing the local obesity rates. Today, we continue to fight these battles across the city and will structure our new Fun Fitness program to directly correlate with what the city is trying to accomplish by encouraging healthy and active lifestyles with the local youth. The Allentown Health Bureau, CareNet, Aetna and other community agencies present interactive workshops to youth on a series of health-related topics. These sessions are offered to all participants, with presentations targeting the appropriate age groups. Topics include fitness for fun; MyPyramid; reading food labels; bike safety; hand washing; dental health; personal health and safety.
- Reading Revival – This strategy, which involves small group and individual reading daily, enables students to discern inflection and appropriate sentence and punctuation stoppages and pauses, diction and flow. This program directly correlates with the Allentown School District's 'Read and Respond' curriculum. Read and Respond is a daily exercise in which students must read for twenty minutes and then respond by writing a few sentences showing that they understood what they had just read.
- We just doubled the size of our computer lab and now have 10 computers for children to use. Additionally, an instructor was hired to work specifically on STEAM related concepts with the children using recently purchased software: Lego Education WeDo STEM Classroom Packs, StoryStarter Classroom Packs and the Education StoryStarter Core Set.
- Everfi – Through a national agreement, our Allentown Corps has been selected to instruct computer classes to youth including; Responsible Money Choices, Income & Careers, Planning & Money Management, Credit & Borrowing, Savings & Investing, Internet Safety, Cyber Bullying & STEM careers.
- Art Studio - Children learn the basics of drawing, line work, shadowing and three dimensional mechanics.
- Music Instruction - Guitar and brass instrument instruction.
- Dance - Jazz Dance and Hip Hop Dance classes teaching various techniques.
- Cooking Class - A Spring and Fall Culinary class aimed at teaching children ages 8-15 how to prepare quick, easy, and inexpensive snacks and meals.
- Poetry Interpretation - There are a number of benefits in exposing children to a diverse selection of poetry at an early age.
- Environmental Education: The Wildlands Conservancy provides hands on animal and environmental presentations both at our site and at their location. This organization, who provides STEAM instruction within the Allentown School District, builds upon their curriculum as it relates to the school district instruction and continues that instruction for our program participants

The two specific components associated with this Community Development Block Grant request are:

- Improved Reading Comprehension by documenting academic improvement through our "Read and Respond" curriculum.
- Improved physical health as shown by documenting physical performance abilities during our weekly "Fun Fitness" class for children who live within the Allentown Center City Initiative Area

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$10,000
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:	\$89,740
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT BUDGET:	\$99,740

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Please limit summary to this page only)

NAME OF AGENCY: The Neighborhood Center

NAME OF PROGRAM: The Elementary Program

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: To address the need for positive role models, for safe care, for discussions regarding values and decision making, and to assist in preventing further youth involvement in gangs. The Neighborhood Center operates and the Elementary Program, it serves youth from Kindergarten to 5th Grade, and it's a year round program, During the school year the Elementary Program offers Programming after school with programming to develop better reading and computer skills, math skills creative art and a healthy you program. In the summer, programming is offer to develop on culture resources that will enhance their reading and, math skills creative art and healthy you. In addition, the program supports good citizenship by organizing neighborhood cleanups and encouraging youth to participate in local arts/educational institutions. The Elementary Program will serve at least 60 youth between Kindergarten and 5th grade who are of low to moderate income who reside in Center City Allentown located in the Focus Area of the City.

By providing The Elementary Program as described above, The Neighborhood Center's Elementary Program meets the following strategies of the Consolidated Plan: 1) Community Recreational/Educational Programming & Facilities, Priority Activity #3: Increase the number of and access to recreational/educational program opportunities within the Focus Area; 2) Livability, Priority Activity #1: Increase cleanliness and sense of well-being in the City's neighborhoods by supporting program that recognize individual and neighborhood efforts to maintain or improve the appearance of neighborhoods; and 3) Livability, Priority Activity #4: Support existing neighborhood groups By strengthening the relationships among neighborhood groups, community institutions, businesses, government, and residents, especially in the Focus Area.

Established in 1998, The Neighborhood Center is a separate 501©3 that is managed by a board of Directors composed of community members. The Neighborhood Center is located in one of the lowest income, high crime neighborhoods of Allentown. The center's approach is neighbors helping neighbors and the guiding principles of all its youth's programming 1) Provide a Safe haven, 2) Promote Positive life choices and 3) Promote and strengthen community relationships. The Neighborhood Center implements these principles and by offering a Pre-K Program which run a school year. The Elementary Program and a Teens Program runs year round. For Adults we offer a Clothes Closet (free clothing for job interviews and families who live in Allentown and are in need), We also have neighborhood Cleanups and host community events lie it's popular summer movie night hosted in our parking lot. Over 300 families and their children in the neighborhood have participated in the programming The Neighborhood Center of whether it's Pre-K, The Elementary Program, Teens Program or the Clothes Closet.

All Programming which includes The Elementary Program is overseen by Karen Berard, Executive Director, with eight years at The Neighborhood Center. She ensures that The Elementary Program meets the following objectivities: 1) Provide a Homework Time, Reading Logs, Beginning Middle and End of a Story. 2). Provide a program that will focus on improving students' math skills, as measured by a pre-test and post test. 3) Provide an art program measured by a survey. 4) Provide a Healthy You Program that promotes a healthy lifestyle, physical fitness and positive nutritional habits which is measured by ending results. 5) Coordinated three neighborhood Cleanups during the year.

Amount of the Funds Requested:	\$10,000.00
Amount of other Funds Needed/Available	\$42,258.33
Total Program/Projected Budget	\$52,258.33

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: ***Syrian Arab American Charity Association***

NAME OF PROGRAM: ***Project Outreach***

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

Project Outreach is a program established by Syrian American Charity Association (SAACA) in 1973, to address the employment, health, and welfare needs of the nearly 3000 low and middle income Arabic speaking residents who reside within Allentown's First and Sixth Wards, as well as Arab American residents residing in the Center City Initiative area. The SAACA, located at 608 and one half North Second Street, not only serves the Arabic speaking residents who live in our community, but also all who come to us for assistance. The SAACA proposes the use of CDBG funding to maintain our Program's bilingual (Arabic-English) Outreach Worker program. Our program offers help in the following areas:

Employment and employment-related services: Helping clients find jobs by cultivating contacts for job referrals, arranging transportation to interviews, if needed, and helping them navigate employment-related paperwork including unemployment assistance claims.

Quality of Life Assistance: Our clients frequently need help with pressing every day problems that usually require translation assistance to be resolved. In a single day, our outreach worker will be translating a full range of legal, medical and financial documents; providing health care assistance by resolving insurance and prescription problems, etc., making medical appointments and transporting clients to clinics; tutoring life skills activities like check writing, budgeting and bill-paying, navigating the school system, and preparing clients for getting their learners' permits and drivers' licenses. Recent crises in the Middle East have brought us numerous clients needing help with immigration and naturalization concerns.

We believe our focus matches the *City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan 2015-2020*, especially *Goal 6 Economic Development & Job Creation (employment and employment related services)* and *Goal 9 (accessibility to jobs, education and recreation)* and *Goal 2 Housing (owning, maintaining, repairing and improving a home.)*

SAACA's entire Outreach Program is directed toward the ultimate goal of enabling clients to become independent, self-sufficient individuals who will be able to build strong families and neighborhoods through their contributions to our community.

AMOUNT OF CDBG FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$10,000
AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE:	\$44,600
TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET:	\$54,600

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

NAME OF AGENCY: Valley Youth House Committee, Inc.

NAME OF PROGRAM: Great Beginnings Maternity Group Home

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:

Funding is sought through the City of Allentown Consolidated Grants Program to help underwrite services in an established program, called Great Beginnings, for pregnant and parenting homeless youth between the ages of 16 and 21. Renewed CDBG funding will support case management and life skills instruction for six Allentown youth and their children.

Great Beginnings is housed in two six-unit apartment buildings located side-by-side on E. Tilghman Street, purchased by Valley Youth House in June 2012. The project accommodates up to 17 youth and their babies at a point in time. Services and linkages provided at the site assure the outcomes of self-sufficiency for the mother and healthy development for the child.

The program is staffed with one masters-level Supervisor, two Life Skills Counselors, two on-site Residential Advisors and an on-site Mental Health Therapist. Staff members provide counseling, case management, instruction, parenting support and linkages with community-based services. Their efforts ensure that program participants finish high school, prepare for and find employment, develop parenting skills, and exit the program to stable housing with the skills to live independently.

The success of Great Beginnings services is measured against the goals of each youth's individual treatment plan and include improved mother and child well-being as follows:

- 100% of mothers will demonstrate improved parenting and life skills
- 80% of mothers who identify educational advancement as a goal will earn a high school diploma or GED or will be on track for completion
- 75% of mothers who identify employment as a goal will be employed part-time or full-time at program completion
- 75% of employed mothers will have a minimum of \$500 in savings at discharge
- 80% of mothers will remain in stable housing 180 days following discharge

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$10,000

AMOUNT OF OTHER FUNDS NEEDED/AVAILABLE:

Federal grants:	\$300,000
County per diem contracts:	\$375,523

TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECTED BUDGET: \$685,523