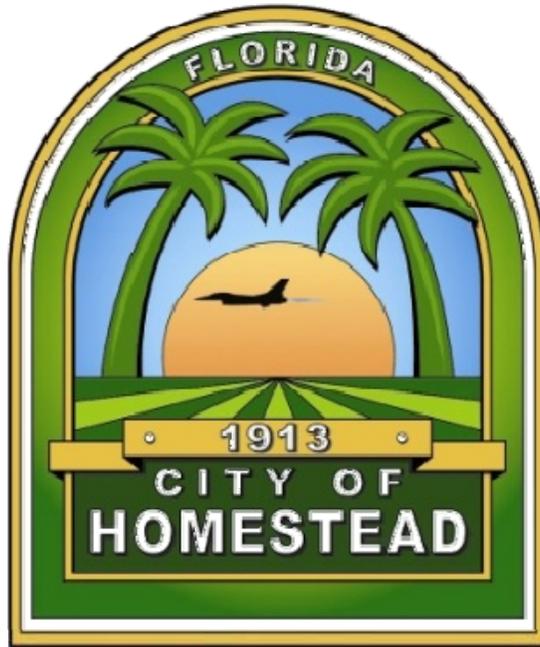


CITY OF HOMESTEAD FY 2009-2010 ACTION PLAN



TRADUCCION SERA DISPONIBLE AL SER SOLICITADA.

A FAIR HOUSING, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / HANDICAP ACCESS JURISDICTION



FY 2009-2010 CITY OF HOMESTEAD ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Homestead is entering its second year of entitlement funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This year, the City will receive \$796,075 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The City has conducted a process to develop a listing of projects and intends to implement the activities as follows:

Federal Sources of Funding (Fiscal Year 2009-2010)

City of Homestead Community Development Block Grant	\$796,075
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Uses of Federal Funding

Wittkop Park Renovations	\$512,781
Wittkop Park Design	\$100,000
Galata, Inc.	\$ 25,125
South Dade Weed and Seed, Inc.	\$ 14,875
Administration	\$143,294
TOTAL	\$796,075

Summary of Community Development Activities

The City of Homestead has undergone a series of public meetings and processes to arrive at a list of eligible projects. The renovation of Wittkop Park, located in a low income census tract, is designed to enhance the neighborhood and provide a valuable community asset.

In addition, the City conducted a Request for Proposal and selected two applicants to receive FY 2009-2010 CDBG funding: Galata, Inc. and South Dade Weed and Seed, Inc. In addition, FY 2008-2009 CDBG funding was also made available through the same RFP, and enFamilia, Association for Retarded Citizens, American Red Cross, and a portion of the South Dade Weed and Seed was recommended for funding using previous year's funding. A summary is below:

CDBG Proposed Projects

Activity	National Objective	Activity Number	2009 Action Plan Funding	2008 Action Plan Funding (Amended)
Wittkop Park	LMI Benefit	03F	\$512,781	\$600,000
Wittkop Park Design	LMI Benefit	03F	\$100,000	\$0

GALANTA, Inc.	LMI Benefit	03A	\$25,125	\$0
South Dade Weed and Seed, Inc.	LMI Benefit	03D	\$14,875	\$10,250
Association for Retarded Citizens	LMI Benefit	03B	\$0	\$5,780
American Red Cross	LMI Benefit	05	\$0	\$9,000
enFAMILIA, Inc.	LMI Benefit	03P	\$0	\$10,970
Administrative Costs	NA	21A	\$143,294	NA
TOTAL			\$796,075	\$636,000

The City intends to meet specific community develop goals and objectives through the implementation of these projects.

General Questions

Assistance will be provided community-wide to the LMI and LMI Special Needs residents of Homestead. The majority of funding is directed to Wittkop Park, which is in a Census Tract and Block Group that is 75 percent LMI (011202.2). Funds were allocated according to greatest need, eligibility of projects, readiness to proceed, and community acceptance. In the case of the non-profit applications, criteria were established through a Request for Proposal Process (RFP).

The City will work with local non-profits and social service agencies to address underserved needs, especially through the non-profit RFP process initiated by the City.

Managing the Process

The City of Homestead is the lead agency. The City coordinated all aspects of the planning for the 2009-2010 Action Plan. In addition, the City employed consultants to assist in the identification of projects, public meetings, and document preparation. The City will continue to facilitate cooperation between local and state social service agencies.

Citizen Participation

The City of Homestead conducted a number of public meetings and published notices to encourage citizens input. A timelines and summary is as follows:

May 27 and May 28: Advertisements are run to allow citizens the opportunity to comment on housing and community development needs, proposed activities, and program performance prior to the development and submittal of the 2009 Action Plan, to provide a notice of funding availability (NOFA) for non-profit organizations, and to announce a public meeting.

Mailing: Postcards are mailed directly to non-profit organizations to advertise the availability of funding and the public meeting.

June 10: A public meeting is conducted as advertised to discuss the non-profit application process, an amendment to the 2008-2009 Action Plan, and to discuss proposed renovations to Wittkop Park.

Notices Posted: City staff posts notifications in and around Wittkop Park to publicize a public meeting to discuss proposed improvements to the Park.

June 19: Applications are due for non-profit projects. Six applications are received. Of the six, five meet City application guidelines and are ranked.

June 24: City staff holds neighborhood meeting to discuss improvements to Wittkop Park.

July 3: Advertisement summarizing Action Plan is published listing five proposed non-profit applicants and Wittkop Park as CDBG projects for FY 2009-2010. Beginning of public comment period.

August 5: Public comment period ends.

Citizen comments regarding the proposed projects have been positive overall. Most comments were questions regarding the application process. The residents in attendance at the Wittkop Park meeting expressed favorable comments related to the renovation of the park.

At this time, no comments have been received that were not accepted or that expressed concerns or problems with the proposed Action Plan or other related matters.

Spanish speaking employees of the City were available at all meetings to provide translation services. Notices offering Spanish translations were incorporated into documents.

Institutional Structure

The City is in its second year of entitlement funding. In order to facilitate greater efficiencies, the City is working with HUD and its consultants to establish correct procedures for programmatic implementation of HUD programs.

Monitoring

The City of Homestead has identified several projects that will be carried out by non-profit organizations. In order to ensure accountability, the City will develop a Subrecipient Agreement outlining roles and responsibilities. The City will retain all

Federal funds prior to disbursement to Subrecipients to ensure that program conditions are met.

The City will conduct regular site visits to ensure that improvements funded through the CDBG program are used as intended.

Lead-Based Paint

As stated in the Consolidated Plan, the City will continue to rely on Miami-Dade County's Health Department to address this issue. The County's efforts to educate the citizenry and mitigate lead-based paint poisoning has resulted in a dramatic drop in cases of lead-based paint issues.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

The City's housing activities are being undertaken with Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding, of which the City received \$2,887,010 in 2008. The activities undertaken with these funds are described in detail in the NSP Amendment to the 2008 Action Plan. No housing activities are being undertaken with CDBG funds in 2009-2010. In addition, the City does not receive a direct allocation of HOME, ESG, ADDI, SHIP, or HOPWA funding.

Needs of Public Housing

The Housing Authority operating in Homestead serves all of South Dade and is not confined to the City of Homestead. However, the Housing Authority is undertaking a major, \$12 million renovation of its farmworker housing.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City will continue to work with for-profit and non-profit developers and builders to break through barriers to affordable housing. In addition, Homestead's allocation of NSP funding will provide significant assistance toward the goal of greater housing affordability.

HOME/American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)

The City of Homestead does not receive a direct allocation of HOME or ADDI funds.

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

The City of Homestead is part of the Miami-Dade Continuum of Care. The City supports the efforts of the Continuum of Care. However, the CDBG funds for FY 2009-2010 do not contain specific funds for the prevention of homelessness.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

All ESG funds are distributed through Miami-Dade County.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The majority of funds in the FY 2009-2010 Action Plan are allocated to community develop activities. Specifically, these activities will implement Strategies 1 and 2 of the Consolidated Plan, which are intended to enhance the quality of life for Homestead's most vulnerable residents and to enhance public infrastructure throughout the City's LMI neighborhoods.

The proposed projects are described in more detail as follows:

Wittkop Park, 505 NW 9th Street, Homestead, Florida:

\$612,781 Proposed CDBG Funding from FY 2009-2010

\$600,000 Proposed CDBG Funding from Amended FY 2008-2009

\$1,212,781 TOTAL

Wittkop Park is a neighborhood park surrounding a municipal water tower. In its current state, the park is essentially open space and has few facilities. The overall condition of the park is average with few amenities. The park is located within an older, existing neighborhood within the City of Homestead. The surrounding area is characterized by single family homes and duplexes. Wittkop Park is located in Census Tract 011202, Block Group 2. This area is entirely within the City of Homestead and is 75 percent LMI.

The proposed improvements will redevelop the park to create amenities for the surrounding neighborhood. This park is not envisioned as an intensive-use facility because of its relatively small size, location within an existing, dense neighborhood, and its primary use as a water utility site. On June 24, 2009, a neighborhood meeting was held to discuss park uses. The overall response was enthusiastic and area residents are pleased with the prospect of an improved local park.

GALATA, Inc.:

\$25,125 Proposed CDBG Funding from FY 2009-2010

GALATA's mission is to provide socially and culturally competent programs and health services to the disadvantaged population of the City of Homestead by promoting

economic self-sufficiency. GALATA operates Multi-Generational Center in the City of Homestead that targets LMI elderly. The organization is requesting funds to renovate the community center, including new ceiling tiles, drywall, paint, and new floor tiles.

South Dade Weed and Seed, Inc., 90 SE 1st Street, Homestead, Florida:

\$14,875 Proposed CDBG Funding from FY 2009-2010

\$10,250 Proposed CDBG Funding from Amended FY 2008-2009

\$25,125 TOTAL

Weed and Seed, Inc. is a non-profit organization that focuses on serving LMI communities within the City of Homestead. Their primary target is at-risk youth. The mission of the organization is based on a two-pronged approach: Homestead Police and other agencies cooperate with local residents to “weed out” criminal activity, and social service providers are introduced to “seed” the area with positive programs and educational information. They have provided services to the City since 1999.

Weed and Seed, Inc. has requested funding through the CDBG program to renovate their offices in order to accommodate additional programming. The building requires work to plumbing, HVAC, windows, painting, flooring, and other capital improvements.

Anti-Poverty Strategy

The proposed projects contained in this Action Plan will play a role in the City’s anti-poverty strategy. First, Wittkop Park is designed to be a neighborhood-based park in a census tract that is 75 percent LMI. While the park itself will not affect poverty, it will enhance the neighborhood and create a safe and accessible environment for local residents.

The Weed and Seed and GALATA projects will help reduce poverty by reducing crime and criminal behavior, and by providing essential services to the LMI elderly.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-Homeless Special Needs

The City continues to support the efforts of Miami-Dade County and the activities funded through the SHIP, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs. However, at this time, these activities are not directly funded through the City’s CDBG allocation.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS and Specific HOPWA Objectives

The City of Homestead does not administer HOPWA funds directly. All HOPWA funds in the County are administered by Miami-Dade County. The City fully supports the efforts of Miami-Dade County.