

**CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. 10559**

**A RESOLUTION, OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,  
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT  
TO THE FY 2022 CDBG PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania is a recipient of grant funds under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Johnstown had previously approved a budget and Annual Action Plan for the FY 2022 CDBG Program; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD permits grant recipients to revise and amend their previous budgets and Annual Action Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Federal Regulations governing the CDBG Program, certain changes and revisions to an Annual Action Plan may be considered a substantial amendment as outlined in the City of Johnstown's Citizen Participation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that the proposed changes and revisions to the FY 2022 CDBG Program is a substantial amendment in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, which has been followed; and

**WHEREAS**, a draft of the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment No. 1 was on public display from January 31, 2023 through March 1, 2023, and the City held a public hearing on February 28, 2023 concerning said amendment, and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Johnstown, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The Substantial Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan is hereby approved, which includes the following:

- **CD-22-05 Economic Development.** Delete this project in its entirety and reallocate a total of \$600,000 in CDBG funds to previously approved and new projects/activities.

- **CD-22-01 Public Service.** Increase the CDBG budget amount from \$60,000 to \$70,000 for this Public Services project so that the Flood City Youth Mentoring Program activity allocation is increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Additionally, change the scope of the Learning Lamp activity under this Public Services project so that CDBG funds will be used to pay for eligible delivery costs of “The Learning Lamp To Go” Program that will provide science, geography, and math curriculum for low- and moderate income elementary and middle school aged learners in the City through mobile/portable outreach.
- **CD-22-11 Rehabilitation/Delivery Cost.** Create a new project with a budget of \$20,000 to provide CDBG funding for rehabilitation delivery costs, including staff, supplies, equipment, etc., for housing assistance programs.
- **CD-22-12 Sandyvale Recreation Improvements.** Create a new project with a budget of \$100,000 to provide CDBG funding for recreational improvements at the Sandyvale Memorial Gardens and Conservancy located at 80 Hickory Street and along the Stonycreek River that serves a low- to moderate-income area.
- **CD-22-13 Forest Avenue Park/Playground Improvements.** Create a new project with a budget of \$300,000 to provide CDBG funding for recreational improvements at the Forest Avenue Park/Playground facility located at the intersection of Forest Street and Village Street that serves a low- to moderate-income area.
- **CD-22-14 Somerset Street Playground Improvements.** Create a new project with a budget of \$170,000 to provide CDBG funding to install additional playground equipment at the Somerset Street Playground facility located near 615 Somerset Street and along the Stonycreek River that serves a low- to moderate-income area.

**SECTION 2.** The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign and submit the amended FY 2022 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.


**ADOPTED:** March 8, 2023

By the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Capriotti, Ms. Huchel, Mrs. Mock, Mr. Arnone, Mayor Janakovic, Ms. Huchel

Nays:

Abstain: Rev. King



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Frank J. Janakovic, Mayor  
Michael Capriotti, Deputy Mayor

**ATTEST:**

I do hereby certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. **10559** as the same adopted by the City Council of the City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.



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Ethan Imhoff, City Manager

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# CITY OF JOHNSTOWN

*City Hall, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901*

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## **FY 2021 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

*For Submission to HUD for the  
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG),  
HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and HOME  
Investment Partnership - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP)*

**Mayor:**

Frank J. Janakovic



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## Introduction

The City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME).

Congress appropriated \$5 billion in funds under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. These funds are to be used to assist the homeless and those persons and families who are at risk of becoming homeless. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is administering this program and the City of Johnstown was allocated \$881,979 in HOME-ARP funds.

The City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development is the lead entity and the administrator for the HOME-ARP funds.

The City of Johnstown prepared this HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to address its local needs and to establish priorities for the use of HOME-ARP funds. The City must submit its Allocation Plan to HUD by March 31, 2023. In order to determine the City's needs, interviews and video conferences were held with various housing providers, social service agencies, the Continuum of Care members, advocate agencies, etc. Agencies and organizations that serve all the qualifying populations were contacted and interviewed. In addition, the City of Johnstown prepared and distributed a survey for agencies/organizations to fill out if they were not able to participate on the virtual stakeholders' meetings nor telephone interviews.

The City of Johnstown is part of the Pennsylvania Balance of State. This is where rural counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have joined together to advance efforts to end homelessness under what is called the Balance of State. The Balance of State consists of two (2) Continuum of Cares, the Eastern CoC and the Western CoC. These CoC's are comprised of seven (7) Regional Homeless Advisory Boards (RHABs) that identify local homeless issues, coordinate planning for projects, identify needs, and develop strategies and priorities to end homelessness in the local area. The City of Johnstown is part of the Eastern CoC and the South Central RHAB. The Eastern CoC is made up of thirty-three (33) counties, which are the following: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset Lehigh, Northampton, Columbia, Cumberland, Juniata, Lebanon, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Schuylkill, Snyder, Union, Bradford, Clinton, Lycoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming, Carbon, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne counties.

### HOME-ARP Eligible Projects/Activities:

The following projects/activities are eligible with the HOME-ARP funds:

#### 1. Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing

- Acquisition, construction of affordable rental housing for individuals and families that are part of the Qualifying Populations.
- Can include single family or multifamily housing, transitional or permanent housing, group homes, single room occupancy (SRO) units, and manufactured housing.

**2. Tenant Based Rental Assistance**

- Providing payments to a tenant to cover housing and housing-related costs, including rental assistance, security deposit assistance, utility deposits, and utility payments to households that are part of the Qualifying Populations.

**3. Supportive Services**

- Providing supportive services to members of the Qualifying Populations under three categories:
  - McKinney-Vento Supportive Services
  - Homelessness Prevention Services
  - Housing Counseling Services

**4. Purchase and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter**

- Acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of non-congregate shelter units to service individuals and families that are part of the Qualifying populations.

**HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations:**

The HOME-ARP Program has the following four (4) Qualifying Populations for this program:

**1. Homeless****2. At Risk of Homelessness**

- An individual or family who is extremely low income (<30% AMI), does not have support networks, and meets at least one of the conditions for homelessness (24 CFR 91.5).

**3. Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking****4. Other populations who do not qualify under any of the populations above but meet one of the following criteria:**

- Those who are currently housed due to temporary or emergency assistance or need additional assistance or services to avoid a return to homelessness.
- Populations at Greatest Risk of Housing Instability
  - Households whose income is <30% AMI and are experiencing severe cost burden.
  - Households whose income is <50% AMI and meet one of the criteria for being At Risk of Homelessness.

In compliance with the HUD regulations, the City of Johnstown has prepared a substantial amendment to its FY 2021 Annual Action Plan in order to submit the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD.

A “draft” of the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was placed on public display on the City’s website at <http://cityofjohnstownpa.net>. The display period started on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 through Tuesday, March 7, 2023 for a 15-day display period. A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 to present the proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and

solicit resident comments. Upon completion of the 15-day comment period, the City of Johnstown submitted the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan - Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through IDIS on or before Friday, March 31, 2023.

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## Consultation

### ***Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:***

During the consultation process, the City of Johnstown aimed to meet with many stakeholders, agencies/organizations, and housing providers that are part of the following categories:

- The CoC serving the jurisdiction’s geographic area,
- homeless service providers,
- domestic violence service providers,
- veterans’ groups,
- public housing agencies (PHAs), and
- public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

The HOME-ARP Consultation Milestones are the following:

HOME-ARP Consultation Milestones	
Consultation	November 2022 through March 2023
Newspaper Notice	February 17, 2023
On Display	February 21, 2023
Public Hearing	March 7, 2023
Off Display	March 7, 2023

The City of Johnstown held virtual meetings with stakeholder agencies and organizations between the months of November through December 2022. The City followed up with agencies/organizations through a survey to be able to gather as much additional information as possible.

The City ran a newspaper notice in the “The Tribune-Democrat” on Thursday, February 16, 2023 that the notice of the “Draft” HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was on public display for fifteen (15) days on the City’s website.

The Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 12:00 PM to discuss the proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and solicit resident comments on the Plan.

**List the organizations consulted:**

Agency/Organization Consulted	Type of Agency/Organization	Method of Consultation	Feedback
City of Johnstown	Government	Virtual Meeting	The City of Johnstown was involved in all meetings and was responsible for gathering a list of contacts and participated in asking questions and communicating with local stakeholders.
Women’s Help Center	Homeless and Domestic Violence Service Providers	Virtual Meeting (11/30/2022)	Identified the following needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth aged 18-24 need housing because many are couch surfing.</li> <li>• Large need for affordable housing - market rate is around \$850/month, which is high for the area</li> <li>• Case management services are needed to keep households in their homes</li> <li>• Need low-barrier resources</li> <li>• Currently working on developing transitional housing units</li> <li>• Johnstown area has a large opioid problem and therefore needs more substance abuse prevention/treatment services</li> <li>• Food, financial education, healthcare, behavioral health, opioid/drug addiction services are needed.</li> <li>• Housing stock in the city is low-quality</li> </ul>

Salvation Army	Public Agencies that Address the Needs of the Qualifying Populations, and Public or Private Organizations that Address Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and the Needs of Persons with Disabilities	Virtual Meeting (11/30/2022)	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salvation Army-run shelter closed a few years ago due to accessibility issues</li> <li>• Bad subsidized, expensive rental properties in Johnstown</li> <li>• Cheaper to buy property than to rent</li> <li>• Has seen big increase in soup kitchen attendance recently (went from 35 visitors per night to over 100)</li> <li>• Emergency shelter requests are the most common referral</li> <li>• Many disability issues in area, especially with veterans and elderly</li> <li>• Observed need for low-barrier shelter</li> </ul>
Johnstown Housing Authority	Public Housing Agencies (PHAs)	Virtual Meeting (12/1/2022)	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sees need for emergency housing</li> <li>• Long waiting list for JHA public housing and vouchers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can take between 30 days and 2 years to serve applicants</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Public Housing waiting list: 974 as of 11/1/2022</li> <li>• Section 8 waiting list: 845 as of 11/1/2022</li> <li>• Public housing occupancy is over 97%</li> <li>• Lack of affordable housing, landlords willing to rent to low-income</li> </ul>

			<p>tenants, and proper bedroom sizing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eviction moratorium has led to more people using ERAP and not paying rent</li> <li>• Lots of poor quality, aging housing in the County</li> <li>• Women with children have the most calls they receive. They need help as soon as possible.</li> <li>• Evictions mostly happen due to lack of payment, not using resources, and financial irresponsibility</li> <li>• Many unmet mental health needs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown</b></p>	<p>Homeless and Domestic Violence Service Providers</p>	<p>Virtual Meeting (12/1/2022)</p>	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives 200-250 referrals per quarter</li> <li>• 15 beds in shelter more than meets the need                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recently experienced a 5-day period where there were no homeless in the shelter</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Observes biggest need for transitional shelter (not transitional housing)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Non-congregate, step after emergency shelter, with wraparound services and case management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Northern Cambria Community Development Corporation</b></p>	<p>Public Agencies that Address the Needs of the Qualifying Populations, and</p>	<p>Phone Interview (12/2/2022)</p>	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High need for affordable housing for the elderly</li> <li>• Observes greater need for affordable housing for</li> </ul>

	Public or Private Organizations that Address Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and the Needs of Persons with Disabilities		<p>the working poor (80-100% AMI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has not observed too many homeless on the streets in Johnstown</li> </ul>
Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Aid	Public Agencies that Address the Needs of the Qualifying Populations, and Public or Private Organizations that Address Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and the Needs of Persons with Disabilities	Virtual Meeting (12/8/2022)	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal history is a big issue that prevents people from finding housing</li> <li>• Those with a criminal history are not a protected class but it can be linked to racial discrimination</li> <li>• Sees need for shelters to screen clients for discrimination and offer more fair housing education</li> <li>• Lack of affordable housing in the area</li> <li>• Mental health is the biggest issue in the area that contributes to being at risk of homelessness</li> <li>• Aging population means more people have disabilities</li> <li>• Disability-related removal from lease is necessary but sometimes doesn't happen, leading to Fair Housing violations</li> </ul>
Cambria County Behavioral Health	Public Agencies that Address the Needs of the Qualifying Populations, and Public or Private Organizations	Virtual Meeting (12/9/2022)	<p>Identified the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERAP was controversial and a staff headache for this organization</li> <li>• Believes landlords have been raising rents because of ERAP</li> </ul>

	that Address Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and the Needs of Persons with Disabilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for low-barrier shelter and services</li> <li>• Men are disadvantaged when finding shelter compared to available women's and family shelters</li> </ul>
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***Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:***

The reoccurring needs mentioned by stakeholder agencies during the consultation process were:

- affordable housing
- supportive services and life skills training
- accessible housing
- repair/rehabilitation of existing housing stock
- Treatment and services for mental health and substance abuse
- Low-barrier shelters and services

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## Public Participation

***Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:***

- ***Date(s) of public notice: 2/17/2023***
- ***Public comment period: start date - 2/21/2023 end date - 3/7/2023***
- ***Date(s) of public hearing: 3/7/2023***

***Describe the public participation process:***

The City of Johnstown held one (1) public hearing for consultation with City residents, non-profit agencies and/or organizations, public housing authority, housing providers, Continuum of Care members, etc. on the “Draft” HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. During the public hearing, the City staff and the City consultants discussed the process followed in the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. This includes stakeholders interviews, agency/organization surveys, and public hearing.

The public hearing notice for the City of Johnstown HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was published in the “The Tribune-Democrat” on Friday, February 17, 2023.

The fifteen (15) day public comment period on the “Draft” HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was from Tuesday, February 21, 2023 through Tuesday, March 7, 2023. The City of Johnstown placed the “Draft” HOME-ARP Allocation Plan on the City of Johnstown’s website (<http://cityofjohnstownpa.net>) and at the following locations:

- **City Hall** - 401 Main Street, Room 200, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Cambria County Public Library** - 248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901
- **Johnstown Housing Authority** - 501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

The public was able to provide additional comments, via email at [kpurelliwebb@cojtn.com](mailto:kpurelliwebb@cojtn.com) or via phone at (814) 539-2504, Ext 113. Written comments were addressed to the City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development, Attention Ms. Katherine Purelli-Webb, Community Development Fiscal Officer, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901.

***Describe efforts to broaden public participation:***

To broaden public participation, the City of Johnstown sent out an email blast to all agencies, organizations, and individuals on its email list exchange that the “Draft” HOME-ARP Allocation Plan was on public display and date, time, and place of the public hearing. This list consists of email addresses of names and organizations that have previously submitted funding requests or requested to be added to this list so they can be notified of future emails on funding options, proposed plans, and public hearings.

***Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:***

A summary of comments and recommendations will be included after they are received.

***Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:***

A summary of any comments or recommendations that were not accepted will be included after the comment period is concluded.

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## Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

*In accordance with Section V.C.1 of the Notice (page 14), a PJ must evaluate the size and demographic composition of **all four** of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of each of those populations. If the PJ does not evaluate the needs of one of the qualifying populations, then the PJ has not completed their Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis. In addition, a PJ must identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. A PJ should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.*

**OPTIONAL Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table**

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	30	9	11	1	0								
Transitional Housing	3	1	4	4	0								
Permanent Supportive Housing	12	4	43	43	1								
Other Permanent Housing	3	1	5	5	0								
Sheltered Homeless						4	8	1	7				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	0	0	0				
<b>Current Gap</b>										0	0	0	0

**Suggested Data Sources:** 1. Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation

**OPTIONAL Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table**

	Non-Homeless		
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	4,895		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	2,275		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	1,290		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		1,295	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		740	
<b>Current Gaps</b>			2,035

**Data Sources:** 1. 2015-2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

**Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:**

**Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5**

Based on the 2022 Point In Time Count, there were 16 homeless individuals and 12 households identified in Cambria County. Only 8 households were without children, while 4 households had at least one adult and one child.

Among the population of those experiencing homelessness, there was a large portion that were identified as severely mentally ill (5 individuals, or 31% of the surveyed population). Only one person surveyed in the Point in Time count was identified as having chronic substance abuse issues. 8 people surveyed in the Point in Time count were identified as having a disability.

**At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5**

24 CFR 91.5 defines At Risk of Homelessness as an individual or family that has an annual income below 30% of the HUD area median family income, does not have sufficient resources or support networks and meets one of several other conditions. According to the most recently available CHAS data, 2,995 households (or 31.7% of the total number of households)

live at 30% or below the HUD Area Median Income and of those 2,995 households: 1,765 have one or more housing problems, which includes either incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, or have a cost burden greater than 30%. As of November 2022, there are also 974 households on the public housing waiting list and 845 on the Housing Choice Vouchers waiting list.

According to Catholic Charities, they received between 150 and 250 calls on their helpline for requests for aid from Cambria County residents involving eviction, rent, and housing stability needs.

***Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

During the 2022 Point in Time Count, there were 7 homeless individuals who were identified as victims of domestic violence in Cambria County. Additionally, according to data from Women's Help Center, the primary women's shelter in Cambria County, 34 households were denied shelter between December 1, 2021 and December 1, 2022 because of the Center being at capacity or the persons had prior criminal convictions that did not allow them to be in the shared shelter space.

***Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

Other populations include those with disabilities who are at greatest risk of housing instability. According to the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) data from 2021, there were 5,248 residents (28.2% of the total civilian non-institutionalized population) of the City of Johnstown who have a disability. 1,949 disabled individuals in the City of Johnstown have difficulty living independently. This shows that a significant portion of the City's population is at a high risk of housing instability.

Others that are at greatest risk of housing instability, include those who are at or below 30% of the HUD Area Median Income who, are burdened by their monthly housing costs, and are at a higher risk of becoming homeless. According to the most recent CHAS data, 2,995 (31.7%) households in the City have incomes at or below 30% of the HUD AMI. 3,069 (32.5%) households in the City have a housing cost burden of greater than 30% of their income.

The City of Johnstown also has a significant population of ALICE families. ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed and represents families that are employed and earn more than the Federal Poverty Level but cannot otherwise keep up with the basic

costs of living. According to the most recent ALICE Report data from 2018, 28% of households in Cambria County have incomes that fall below the ALICE threshold but above the Federal Poverty Level.

Community Action Partnership of Cambria County has 8 beds through rapid re-housing assistance. These beds/units are 100% utilized.

In the most recent data available as of November 2022, there were 974 households on the public housing waiting list and 845 households on the Section 8 Voucher waiting list for the Johnstown Housing Authority. 97% of Johnstown Housing Authority public housing units are occupied.

***Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):***

The City of Johnstown has a variety of resources to assist households experiencing homelessness and at-risk of becoming homeless through Federal, State, and local programs. These programs range from emergency shelters for households experiencing homelessness, through the development of affordable rental housing for extremely low-income and low-income households. Below is a summary of the resources available through the City of Johnstown:

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program:**

The City of Johnstown is a federal entitlement grantee and in FY 2022 the City received \$1,275,537 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. These funds are used for public service activities, demolition/clearance, non-profit capital improvements, economic development activities, and administration and planning. During FY 2022 program year the City funded Catholic Charities – Martha & Mary House, which is an emergency shelter.

- **HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program:**

The City of Johnstown as a federal entitlement grantee, received \$274,745 in FY 2022 of HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds. These funds are used for owner occupied housing rehabilitation and for acquisition and rehabilitation of single family homes to be sold to low-income households. Funds support the development of affordable housing to the very low-income to combat those households who are at risk of becoming homeless.

- **Housing Inventory Count (HIC):**

The chart below is the Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC) for 2022.

	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult Only Beds	Child Only Beds	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/ Vouchers	Subset of Total Bed Inventory		
								Chronic Beds	Veteran Beds	Youth Beds
<b>Emergency, Safe Haven and Transitional Housing:</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Emergency Shelter	9	30	11	0	41	0	0	N/A	0	0
Transitional Housing	1	3	4	0	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
<b>Permanent Housing:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Permanent Supportive Housing	4	12	43	0	55	N/A	N/A	42	1	0
Rapid Re-Housing	1	3	3	0	8	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

Cambria County has a total of 10 emergency, safe haven, and transitional housing beds and 5 units of permanent housing. There are 42 permanent supportive housing beds for the chronically homeless.

Based off the 2022 Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC), there are 48 year-round, emergency shelter beds; 7 year-round, transitional housing beds; 63 year-round permanent housing beds; and 8 year-round, rapid re-housing beds. The emergency shelter and transitional housing beds that are available are reserved for families with children and for youth. These resources and supportive services are as follows:

- **Emergency Shelter:**
  - **Catholic Charities - Martha and Mary House - 15 beds**
  - **Women's Help Center Inc. - Women's Help Center (Cambria) - 26 beds**
- **Transitional Housing:**
  - **Cambria County - Cambria County Bridge Housing - 7 beds**
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:**
  - **Blair County PHA - VASH - Cambria (Johnstown) - 1 bed**
  - **County of Cambria - PA0578 Cambria County Comprehensive - 30 beds**
  - **Northern Cambria Community Development - NCCDC Independence Gardens PSH Program - 16 beds**

- **Northern Cambria Community Development - NCCDC Schoolhouse Gardens PSH Program - 8 beds**
- **Rapid Re-Housing:**
  - **Community Action Partnership of Cambria County - Cambria County CAP ESG RR Program - 5 beds**
  - **Community Action Partnership of Cambria County - CAP of Cambria RRH ESG-CV-19 - 3 beds**

***Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:***

***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

Based off the 2022 Point In Time Count there were 12 households that were currently experiencing homelessness, with all of them being sheltered. The unmet housing need for this qualified population is to increase the number of permanent supportive housing units.

The supportive services that are needed, include the following: childcare, educational services, employment assistance and job training, food, housing searches and counseling services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, case management, mediation, credit repair, services for special populations, and financial assistance.

***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The unmet housing needs of the at risk of homeless population is the lack of affordable housing units in the City. This refers to that qualifying population who live at 30% or below the HUD Area Median Income and have one or more housing problems. This qualifying population needs short- and long-term rental and utility assistance, along with affordable permanent housing options.

The supportive services that are needed include the following: childcare, educational services, employment assistance and job training, food, housing searches, counseling services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, case management, mediation, credit repair, landlord/tenant liaison, services for special populations, and financial assistance costs.

***Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

Based off the 2022 Point in Time Count, there were 7 homeless individuals who were identified as being victims of domestic violence.

The supportive services that are needed are the following: child care, education services, employment assistance and job training, food, housing searches, counseling services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, case management, mediation, credit repair, landlord/tenant liaison, services for special populations, and financial assistance costs.

***Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice***

The unmet housing and service needs for other populations who are at greatest risk of housing instability's supportive services to help decrease their risk of housing instability by providing wrap-around services. These individuals may have a substance abuse, mental health issues, and physical disabilities. To prevent housing instability, they need long term permanent housing assistance with case management and wrap-around support services. In addition, another population that is experiencing instability is the physically disabled and the developmentally challenged. There is a need for long-term permanent housing that is accessible for these persons with disabilities.

The supportive services that are needed are the following: childcare, education services, employment assistance and job training, food, housing searches, counseling services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, case management, mediation, credit repair, landlord/tenant liaison, services for special populations, and financial assistance costs.

***Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:***

The City of Johnstown's limited supply of affordable housing is the largest gap in the system. This gap is much larger than the available resources that the City has, but the City will use these funds

to leverage other funds to spread these funds out as much as possible to develop as many affordable housing options as possible.

Based off the 2022 Point In Time Count (PIT), Cambria County has 16 sheltered homeless. In addition, the CoC has its permanent supportive housing beds near a 100% utilization rate.

To assist in meeting the need to provide permanent housing, the CoC works with the Johnstown Housing Authority for housing assistance through either public housing units or through the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. The Johnstown Housing Authority (JHA) has eleven (11) public housing developments in Cambria County consisting of a total of 1,504 public housing assisted units. Nine (9) of these developments are in the City of Johnstown. The JHA has a public housing waiting list of 974 persons. The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list has 845 persons on it and is still open. Public Housing is at over 97% capacity.

The Johnstown Housing Authority Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers applicants have a success rate of 47% finding a housing unit within 60 days. The reason given for such a low success rate is the lack of affordable units that will meet the HQS inspection standards and/or the landlords willingness to accept Section 8 Vouchers.

***Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of "other populations" that are "At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability," as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:***

The City of Johnstown is not providing additional characteristics associated with instability and increase risk of homelessness in the City's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

***Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:***

The reoccurring needs mentioned by stakeholder agencies during the consultation process were:

- affordable housing
- supportive services and life skills training
- accessible housing
- repair/rehabilitation of existing housing stock
- treatment and services for mental health and substance abuse



- low-barrier shelters and services

***Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ's shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:***

The City of Johnstown determined the level of need and gaps in the shelter inventory, housing inventory, and service delivery system from the stakeholders' consultations, agency surveys, the 2022 Point In Time Count (PIT), Housing Inventory Count (HIC), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and additional statistics from the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care. In addition, the City analyzed the 2017-2021 American Community Survey Data (ACS Data) and the 2015-2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS).

Based on the above sources the City of Johnstown determined the level of need and gaps in its shelter inventory, housing inventory, and service delivery systems.

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## HOME-ARP Activities

***Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:***

The City of Johnstown proposes to solicit HOME-ARP applications from non-profits and for-profit agencies, private developers and/or social service providers to undertake eligible HOME-ARP projects/activities. The City's Department of Community and Economic Development will release a Notice of the Funding Available under the HOME-ARP Program in "The Tribune-Democrat." Potential applicants will be forward to the City's Department of Community and Economic Development to contact to obtain an application package. In addition, the City's Department of Community and Economic Development staff will send out an email to its list of agencies/organizations that have previously submitted funding requests and also participated in the HOME-ARP stakeholder consultations. This email will notify agencies, organizations, and interested parties of the availability of the HOME-ARP funds.

The funding request will have the following items: Information on the HOME-ARP Programs and Guidelines, Application Review Process, and instructions on how to complete the Funding Request Application.

The City will review the HOME-ARP Funding Request Applications and rank them to see which applications address the needs identified in the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. A review of how the applicant will help to develop and preserve the affordable housing stock in the City. In addition, the City will examine how the funds will help support the needs of the homeless population by providing funds for supportive services to help provide the wrap around services that are need to help provide stability to the households. The City will evaluate if the applicant will leverage the HOME-ARP funds with private and other public funding sources.

***Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:***

The City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development will manage the HOME-ARP program's administration, monitoring, and planning components. The projects/activities will be carried out by subrecipients which are awarded the HOME-ARP funds.

***If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program:***

Not Applicable. The City of Johnstown has not provided any HOME-ARP funds to subrecipient(s) nor contractors prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

*In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.*

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## Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 50,000.00		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 0.00		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0.00		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 699,683.00		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 0.00	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 0.00	0 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 132,296.00	15 %	15%
<b>Total HOME ARP Allocation:</b>	<b>\$ 881,979.00</b>		

***Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:***

The City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development developed the HOME-ARP Budget based on the identified needs from consultation with community stakeholders, agency/organization surveys, the assessment of the data obtained from the Point In Time Count (PIT), Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC), American Community Survey Data (ACS), HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), and other statistical data provide from the Pennsylvania Eastern CoC.

The City of Johnstown will allocate 6% of the funds for Supportive Services, 79% of the funds for the Development of Affordable Rental Housing, and 15% of the funds for Administration and Planning. Supportive services may include some of the following eligible services: child care, education services, employment assistance and job training, food, housing search and counseling services, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, case management, mediation, credit repair, landlord/tenant liaison, services for special populations, and financial assistance costs. Development of affordable rental housing is for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, development costs, relocation, and operating cost assistance/reserves. Administration and planning will set aside 15% of the allocation to cover the cost to administer the HOME-ARP program by the City of Johnstown, Department of Community and Economic Development.

These allocations were derived from the data analysis and the key points that were articulated in the community stakeholders' meetings and interviews. It was overwhelmingly mentioned at the stakeholder meetings and interviews that there is a need for new development and

preservation of affordable housing stock in the City. Followed by the needs for supportive services.

The City of Johnstown is not allocating HOME-ARP funds to Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters, Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), Non-Profit Operating, and Non-Profit Capacity Building based on the analysis of the needs for the City.

***Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:***

The 2022 Point in Time Count has 9 persons or 7 households in Emergency Shelters. There were no unsheltered homeless recorded in the 2022 Point in Time count. The City of Johnstown's housing market is seeing housing options being reduce because of the increase in housing sales prices, increase in monthly rents, low vacancy rates, and increases in utility costs. These trends are leading to the lack of affordable housing options and the increase of households becoming cost overburden. Based on the statistics and the community consultation, the number one point that everyone mentioned was the need for more affordable housing in the City. The second item that was continually mentioned was the need to provide supportive services. These funds will be used to help the homeless and the persons at-risk of homelessness be able to stay in housing. The HOME-ARP funds will be used to assist the extremely low-income City residents.

## HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

***Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:***

The City of Johnstown estimates it will assist the development of four (4) supportive affordable housing units using the HOME-ARP funds. This number of units was based off other projects that have been developed in the City over the past couple of years. The City is estimating a cost of \$175,000 per unit, which would cover the acquisition costs, architectural/engineering fees, permits, construction costs, and operating cost assistance/reserves. In addition, the City is budgeting funds to provide supportive services to these units along with supporting the current programs. These new affordable units will be available to all four (4) HOME-ARP qualifying populations.

***Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:***

The City of Johnstown is looking to leverage the HOME-ARP funds with other Federal, State, local, Foundation, private, etc. funding sources. The goal is to use these other funding sources to develop at least four (4) affordable housing units or more. If other leveraged funds are not available, the City will look to just fund projects with HOME-ARP funds only.

## Preferences

***Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:***

The City of Johnstown does not intend to give preference to one qualifying population versus another because there is a need to assist all four (4) qualifying populations. The needs for all four (4) qualifying populations is greater than the amount of HOME-ARP funds the City of Johnstown has been allocated. Not Applicable.

***If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:***

Not Applicable.

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## Referral Methods

***Identify the referral methods that the PJ intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. PJ's may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):***

The City of Johnstown intends to use the Coordinated Entry System (CE) for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. Coordinated Entry System is a consistent, streamlined process for accessing the resources available from the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care to ensure that the highest need, most vulnerable households in the community are prioritized for services and that the housing and supportive services in the system are used as efficiently and effectively as possible. The Coordinated Entry System of Eastern Pennsylvania coordinates and manages access, assessment, prioritization, referral to emergency services, and enrollment into permanent housing from the "By Name List" in the Pennsylvania Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Five (5) dedicated Regional Managers, a 211 Call Center Manager, and a Domestic Violence Coordinated Entry Specialist provide support and guidance to the CES across the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care's regions (RHABs).

***If the PJ intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):***

All four (4) qualifying populations that are eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CoC Coordinated Entry (CE) process. All households seeking service are provided fair and equal access regardless of their location or method by which they access the system.

***If the PJ intends to use both a CE process established by the CoC and another referral method for a project or activity, describe any method of prioritization between the two referral methods, if any. (Optional):***

Not Applicable. The City of Johnstown intends to only use the Coordinated Entry System (CE) Process for the HOME-ARP funded projects.



## Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project

***Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:***

The City of Johnstown is not intending to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing projects to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation. The need for affordable rental housing affects all qualifying populations. The City of Johnstown Department of Community and Economic Development will solicit proposals for rental housing projects in general. Evaluations of applications will be made, and selection will be based on the best proposal submitted.

***If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:***

Not Applicable. The City of Johnstown does not intend to implement a limitation on the HOME-ARP Program.

***If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):***

Not Applicable.

## HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

The City of Johnstown does not intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds. Not Applicable.

- ***Establish a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing to demonstrate that rehabilitation of HOME-ARP rental housing is the primary eligible activity***

Not Applicable.

- ***Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving qualified populations for the minimum compliance period can be demonstrated.***

Not Applicable.

- ***State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.***

Not Applicable.

- ***Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.***

Not Applicable.

- ***State that HOME-ARP funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.***

Not Applicable.

- ***Other requirements in the PJ's guidelines, if applicable:***

Not Applicable.

## **Appendix**

Attached are the following items:

- Citizen Participation Documentation

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## Citizen Participation Documentation

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**CITY OF JOHNSTOWN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
THE HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN  
FOR HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PROGRAM  
FY 2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN – SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

This notice is hereby given by the City of Johnstown, Cambria County, PA that it will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 12:00 PM**, prevailing time, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA. Persons requiring assistance due to hearing, speech, vision impairments, or limited English proficiency should contact the City's Community and Economic Development Department, Ms. Katherine Purelli-Webb, Community Development Fiscal Officer at: [kpurelliwebb@cojtwm.com](mailto:kpurelliwebb@cojtwm.com) or via phone at (814) 539-2504 Ext. 113 or 711 (TDD). Persons with hearing and/or speech impediments may contact the City through the "Pennsylvania Relay Service" by dialing "711" or going online to [www.parelay.net](http://www.parelay.net).

The propose of the public hearing is to present the City of Johnstown's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan for the HOME-American Rescue Plan funds. The City intends to submit its HOME-ARP Allocation Plan in the amount of \$881,979 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before Friday, March 31, 2023.

The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is required by HUD in order for the City of Johnstown to receive federal HOME-ARP grant funds. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is a strategic plan detailing the process the City will use to allocate funds to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of becoming homeless, and other vulnerable populations, by providing affordable housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability.

In order to obtain the views of residents, public agencies, and other interested parties, the City of Johnstown has placed its FY 2021 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan on public display starting Tuesday, February 21, 2023 and ending on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at which time the Substantial Amendment will be presented to the Johnstown City Council for approval at its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. The Draft FY 2021 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan may be examined at the City's website [www.cityofjohnstownpa.net](http://www.cityofjohnstownpa.net) and at the following locations:

**City Hall**

401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

**Cambria County Public Library**

248 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

**The Johnstown Housing Authority**

501 Chestnut Street, Johnstown, PA 15906

All interested residents are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the draft FY 2021 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment - HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Written comments may be addressed to the attention of Ms. Katherine Purelli-Webb, Community Development Fiscal Officer, City Hall, 401 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901 or via email at: [kpurelliwebb@cojtn.com](mailto:kpurelliwebb@cojtn.com) or via phone at (814) 539-2504 Ext. 113 or 711 (TDD) by Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

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