

Community Development 2012-2013 FY Significant Activities and Accomplishments

- Completed and closed \$3.8 million in grant funded projects in the areas of housing and social services, emergency shelter programs, capital improvements, community infrastructure improvements, and arts and culture.
- Actively managed \$12 million in grant funding for housing rehabilitation, housing counseling services, social service programs, community infrastructure improvements, fire and police assistance, capital improvements, disaster recovery, arts and culture, and external agency activities.
- Received notification of award of over \$4 million in grant funds for housing rehabilitation services, housing counseling services, social service programs, emergency shelter programs, infrastructure and capital improvement projects, hazard mitigation projects, fire assistance, and arts and culture programs.
- Submitted applications for nine (9) grants to fund community housing and social service programs, housing foreclosure mitigation counseling, drug related wellness education programs and in-car camera units for police vehicles, community infrastructure projects, fire equipment and hiring of additional firefighters, and disaster recovery projects.
- Completed major rehabilitation of seven (7) owner-occupied homes meeting the primary objective of addressing the availability and accessibility of decent housing for low- and moderate-income households.
- Provided paint and painting services to 15 income eligible homeowners in addition to replacing storm doors and window screens, installing fire safety devices, replacing deadbolt locks and installing handrails on homes for low- and moderate-income households.
- Demolished nine (9) vacant dilapidated structures and housing units that had been deemed unsuitable for human habitation and condemned.
- Closed 57 First Time Homebuyer Down Payment and Closing Costs loans, 29 through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and 28 through the Lafayette Public Trust Financing Authority (LPTFA) Program.
- Closed three (3) CDBG new construction loans for First Time Homebuyers through the Greater Acadiana Community Housing Development Organization.
- Conducted regular monthly activities for an average of 3,100 participants per month at the Senior Centers, Greenhouse and Rosehouse.
- Provided one-on-one housing and homeownership counseling and educational workshops to over 1,000 clients through the Neighborhood Counseling Services program.
- Provided information, referrals and supportive services to 4,754 families on housing related issues.
- Assisted 19 families in overcoming credit and economic barriers to achieve home ownership.
- Graduated 27 individuals in the 15th Judicial District Court Drug Court program.
- Completed significant renovations to the Heymann Performing Arts and Convention Center to improve the quality of services to patrons.
- Increased the number of visitors at the Lafayette Science Museum by increasing programming and activities available to the public.
- Created four (4) miles of new trails on new property at the Acadiana Park Nature Station.
- Celebrated seven (7) years of success with youth reaching their goals in achieving education and workforce training through the Keeping Youth Trained and Educated (KYTE) program. Assisted approximately 400 students to increase their functioning education level, attain a GED and/or enter employment or post-secondary education.
- Contributed to Lafayette's consistently low unemployment rate of 4.5% by providing training and supportive services at the Lafayette Business and Career Solutions Center.