

COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA  
AND THE  
GEORGIA URBAN COUNTY CONSORTIUM

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**2011 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN  
DEVELOPMENT

Prepared by:

**W. Frank Newton, Inc.**

for the



Cobb County  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
Cobb County Commission



# 2011 Program Year Action Plan Narrative Responses

## GENERAL

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Cobb County and the Georgia Urban County Consortium [GUCC] are required to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] an Annual Action Plan for Program Year [PY] 2011 [year one of five for the PY 2011-2015 Consolidated Plan]. The PY 2011 Annual Action Plan is submitted as a prerequisite to receiving funds for the following programs: Community Development Block Grant [CDBG], Home Investment Partnerships Act [HOME], and the Emergency Shelter Grant [ESG] Program.

The Plan must be submitted to HUD by November 15, 2010 and will provide a snapshot for program activities funded during PY 2011. The plan is developed and administered by the Cobb County CDBG Program Office in conjunction with Cobb County's Office of Economic Development and under the approval and direction of the County Manager and the Cobb County Board of Commissioners.

The Annual Action Plan describes specific projects in which these funds will be utilized to carry out previously identified priorities established in Cobb County's PY 2011-2015 Consolidated Plan. These priority needs were established through a collaborative process with citizens, public interest groups, and other stakeholders in Cobb County, the City of Marietta and Cherokee County. The proposed activities seek to address certain significant housing and community development needs for low and moderate income residents.

Project applications for the CDBG Program for PY 2011 were accepted from Monday, February 1, 2010 through Thursday, April 1, 2010. Each year, as a part of its Citizen Participation Plan, the Cobb County CDBG Program Office holds Public Hearings to receive comments on applications received. Comments received during the hearings are documented in this Plan. CDBG staff then evaluates and makes recommendations for funding to the Cobb County Board of Commissioners. Final approval of allocation of funds was made by the Cobb County BOC at its November 9, 2010 meeting.

Because the exact budget amount for these programs has not been approved by Congress, the 2011 budget is based on 90% of the funding received in PY 2010 for CDBG [\$3,857,766], HOME [\$1,955,086] and ESG [\$129,086]. The CDBG and HOME Programs also expect to receive approximately \$75,000 in program income [\$25,000 for the CDBG Program and \$50,000 for the HOME Program, respectively] bringing the total to \$6,016,938.

Cobb County also serves as the Lead Agency for the HOME Program's GUCC, which consists of Cobb County, the City of Marietta and Cherokee County. ESG funding is provided solely to Cobb County. HOPWA funding is received by the City of Atlanta with Cobb County receiving an annual allocation. As a separate Entitlement Community, the City of Marietta receives its CDBG allocation through Cobb County.

**2011-2015 Consolidated Plan Goals:**

1. **Affordable Housing** - Increase access to affordable housing for low and moderate income persons; and
2. **Neighborhood Revitalization & Redevelopment** - Increase capacity of public facilities and public services to improve the non-housing social, economic, and physical environment of low and moderate income persons; and
3. **Eliminate Homelessness** - Increase housing options and self-sufficiency for the homeless and near homeless individuals and families; and
4. **Increase Public Services** – Increase the capacity of public services to provide services for low and moderate income families and individuals; and
5. **Expand Economic Opportunity** - Increase funding to agencies that provide economic opportunities.

***100% of Cobb County CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding is expended serving low to moderate income residents in Cobb County, the City of Marietta and Cherokee County.***

**GOAL ONE: Increase Access to Affordable Housing for Low and Moderate Income Persons.**

Cobb County increases access to affordable housing by:

- Offering 1<sup>st</sup> Time Homebuyer Down-Payment Assistance [Habitat for Humanity];

- Providing Homebuyer Education to help families learn how to become homeowners;
- Helping developers build affordable housing for homebuyers by providing property and development grant subsidies;
- Promoting the elimination of impediments to fair and affordable housing; and
- Supporting the rehabilitation of existing and development of new affordable rental housing for single family and rental housing in low and moderate income area.

**GOAL TWO: Address the Non-Housing Needs of Low and Moderate Income Residents through Investing in Public Facilities.**

Cobb County addresses these non-housing needs by:

- Renovating and Constructing County, City and Non-Profit Agency Facilities supporting Low and Moderate Income Families;
- Renovating Public Facilities to provide services for the homeless and those with special needs;
- Supporting Nonprofit Organizations and their needs for facilities, operating resources, and equipment; and
- Renovating County-owned Facilities to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] Requirements

**GOAL THREE: Support Increasing Housing Options and Self-Sufficiency for Homeless and Near-Homeless Individuals and Families.**

Cobb County supports increasing housing options and self-sufficiency for the homeless and near-homeless by:

- Providing support for emergency housing and supportive services for homeless families and individuals in Cobb through the ESG Program;
- Providing support for the development of transitional housing throughout Cobb County;
- Providing support for Transitional Housing operations and support services for homeless families and individuals while they work towards self-sufficiency through the Supportive Housing Program;
- Provide support for services that prevent persons released from institutions from entering homeless situation.

**GOAL FOUR: Increase the capacity of public services to provide services for low and moderate income families.**

The County supports increasing the capacity of public services that serve low and moderate income families by:

- Providing funding or technical assistance to assist in the implementation of programs for special population groups such as ethnic minorities, women, elderly and, persons with disabilities; and
- Providing funding or technical assistance to private non-profit and public agencies meeting the public service needs of the County's low and moderate-income population.

**GOAL FIVE: Increase funding to agencies that provide economic opportunities.**

The County supports increasing funding to agencies that provide economic opportunities to low and moderate income residents by:

- Providing funding to organizations that promote businesses creation and expansion for low and moderate-income persons by providing financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, such as the Edge Connection.

**Table I- PY 2011 Proposed HOME Program Projects**

<b>GUCC - HOME Program Recommendations</b>		PY 2010 Grant = \$2,172,318
Program Year (PY) 2011 Projects		90% Estimated PY 2010 Grant = \$1,955,086
<b>Requesting Agency/ Organization</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>90% PY 2010 Preliminary</b>
<b>Cobb County</b>		
Cole Street Development Corp.	CHDO (15%)--Project Cobb	\$ 195,431
Cole Street Development Corp.	CHDO Operating (5%)	\$ 65,144
Cole Street Development Corp.	Acquisition and Rehab- Walton Lakes	\$ 211,872
NW GA Habitat for Humanity	First Time Homebuyer	\$ 100,000
NW GA Habitat for Humanity	New Construction - Infrastructure	\$ 200,000
YWCA of NW Georgia <sup>1</sup>	Transitional Housing - Renovation	\$ 200,136
Cobb County CDBG Program Office	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 200,000
Cobb County CDBG Program Office	Program Administration (10%)	\$ 130,287
<b>Total - Cobb County</b>		<b>\$ 1,302,870</b>
<b>City of Marietta</b>		
CHDO - Uncommitted	CHDO (15%)--Project MINT	\$ 60,617
CHDO - Uncommitted	CHDO Operating (5%)	\$ 20,205
Uncommitted	Acquisition and Development	\$ 282,883
Cobb County CDBG Program Office	Program Administration (10%)	\$ 40,411
<b>Total - City of Marietta</b>		<b>\$ 404,116</b>
<b>Cherokee County</b>		
North Central Georgia Habitat for Humanity	CHDO (20%)--Project Cherokee	\$ 49,620
North Central Georgia Habitat for Humanity	CHDO Operating (5%)	
Cherokee County <sup>2</sup>	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 173,670
Cobb County CDBG Program Office/Cherokee	Program Administration (10%)	\$ 24,810
<b>Total - Cherokee County</b>		<b>\$ 248,100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 1,955,086</b>
Estimated Program Income		\$ 50,000

<sup>1</sup> Pre-Award Amount Year 1 of 5 (\$1,000,000 total over 5 years - Yr 1 - \$100,000; Yr 2 - \$200,000; Yr 3 - \$200,000; Yr 4 - \$250,000; Yr. 5 - \$250,000)

<sup>2</sup> Due to an excessive backlog of HOME Program funds allocated for Cherokee County dating back to PY 2005, Cobb County will not enter into a formalized subrecipient agreement until previous years' funding is expended and performance is improved

**Table 2- PY 2011 Proposed ESG Program Projects**

Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program		PY 2010 Grant = \$143,429
Program Year (PY) 2011 Projects		90% Estimated PY 2010 Grant = \$ 129,086
Requesting Agency/Organization	Project Description	90% PY 2010 Preliminary
The Center for Family Resources	Emergency/Transitional Shelter-Operating and Essential Services	\$ 33,200
MUST Ministries	Emergency/Transitional Shelter-Operating , Essential Services, Homeless Prevention	\$ 35,646
Turner Hill CDC	Emergency/Transitional Shelter- Homeless Prevention	\$ 20,643
The Extension	Men's Recovery Program	\$ 33,143
Cobb County CDBG Program Office	Administration (7%)	\$ 6,454
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 129,086</b>

**Table 3- PY 2011 Proposed CDBG Program Projects**

Cobb County CDBG Program Recommendations -		PY 2010 Grant = \$4,286,408
Program Year (PY) 2011 Projects		90% PY 2010 Grant = \$3,857,767
Requesting Agency/Organization	Project Description	90% PY 2010 Preliminary
<b>Cooperating Cities</b>		
City of Acworth	Infrastructure and Trailway System	\$ 77,726
City of Austell	Legion Park Renovations	\$ 31,034
City of Kennesaw	Woodland Acres Storm Water System Upgrade	\$ 125,519
City of Powder Springs *	Reallocation to Cobb Project	\$ -
City of Smyrna	Sewer System Renovations	\$ 237,424
City of Marietta	YWCA Renovation/Expansion	\$ 250,000
City of Marietta	Franklin Road Y.E.L.L.S Program	\$ 60,000
City of Marietta	Weed and Seed	\$ 32,780
City of Marietta	Omosaze	\$ 11,000
City of Marietta	Marietta Redevelopment Corporation	\$ 130,000
City of Marietta	Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 59,724
City of Marietta	The Edge Connection - Microenterprise Technical Assistance	\$ 20,000
City of Marietta	Administration and Planning	\$ 115,000
<b>Total-Cooperating Cities</b>		<b>\$ 1,150,207</b>
<b>County Agencies</b>		
Cobb County Property Management	ADA	\$ 335,383
Cobb County**	Austell Neighborhood Senior Center	\$ 72,277
Cobb County	Austell Neighborhood Senior Center	\$ 351,047
<b>Total-County Agencies</b>		<b>\$ 758,707</b>
* City of Powder Springs will allocate its full Fair Share allocation to Cobb County as reimbursement from PY 2004 through 2013.		
* Cobb County will allocate funds received to the Austell Neighborhood Senior Center.		