WAKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization

# DRAFT 2025-2026 CAPER

## Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report



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## Introduction

This Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) summarizes Wake County's accomplishments and progress toward meeting the goals and objectives established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan and the 2025 Annual Action Plan. The CAPER fulfills the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual reporting requirements by evaluating the County's use of federal entitlement funds and the outcomes achieved in addressing priority community development and housing needs.

The Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization Department (Housing) administers four HUD entitlement programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). These programs support activities that benefit low- and moderate-income households, with a focus on households earning 80 percent or less of Area Median Income (AMI), while many activities prioritize households earning 50 percent or less of AMI and individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

## CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

**Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)**

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

During Program Year (PY) 2025, Wake County made meaningful progress toward achieving the goals and priorities established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan and the 2025 Annual Action Plan. Through strategic investments of HUD entitlement funds, the County expanded access to affordable housing, strengthened homelessness response efforts, improved housing stability for households in need, and supported community development initiatives benefiting low- and moderate-income residents.

Working in partnership with nonprofit organizations, local governments, housing providers, and community agencies, Wake County leveraged additional federal, state, local, and private resources to maximize the impact of HUD funding. These collaborative investments increased the availability of affordable housing, expanded supportive services, and improved access to safe and stable housing for households with the greatest needs.

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Key accomplishments during PY 2025 include:

CDBG & HOME-funded completed projects

- Affordable Housing Development Program – 259 units created and preserved of which 31 units are HOME-assisted
- Affordable Housing Development Program – Affordable rehabilitation project Biltmore Hills is currently under construction and will preserve 50 affordable units, of which 8 units will be HOME-assisted
- Affordable Homeownership Program - 26 households assisted with first-time homebuyer principal reduction loans
- Elderly & Disabled Home Rehab Program – 20 households completed home repairs

HOPWA – assisted households

- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) - 80 households, including 11 new leases
- Short-Term Rental, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance (STRMU) - 87 households
- All HOPWA clients receive case management and supportive services

ESG & CDBG – assisted households

- South Wilmington Center Shelter – served 1,323 men experiencing homelessness through emergency shelter. 242 clients were successfully moved into permanent housing.
- 26 individuals were supported with job training opportunities

CDBG-CV

- Bridge to Home Program – 2,754 individuals and families received housing stabilization and supportive services through Wake County's coordinated homelessness response system.

These accomplishments demonstrate Wake County's continued commitment to advancing the priorities identified in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan by expanding affordable housing opportunities, preventing and reducing homelessness, preserving existing housing, and strengthening partnerships throughout the community. By strategically investing HUD entitlement funds alongside local, state, and private resources, the County maximizes the impact of federal investments and increases the availability of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households.

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**Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)** Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

| Goal | Category | Indicator | Unit of Measure | Expected – Strategic Plan | Actual – Strategic Plan | Percent Complete | Expected – Program Year | Actual – Program Year | Percent Complete |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Increase and preserve affordable housing | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | Rental units constructed | Household Housing Unit | 250 | 259 | 104% | 50 | 259 | 518% |
| Increase and preserve affordable housing | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | Rental units rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 50 | 0% | 0 | 50 | 0% |
| Increase and preserve affordable housing | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 175 | 20 | 11% | 35 | 20 | 57% |
| Increase and preserve affordable housing | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers | Households Assisted | 75 | 26 | 35% | 15 | 26 | 173% |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reduce barriers to housing affordability | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs | Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Households Assisted | 50 | 26 | 52% | 10 | 26 | 260% |
| Support for vulnerable populations and communities | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 200 | 198 | 99% | 40 | 198 | 495% |
| Support for vulnerable populations and communities | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing | Households Assisted | 375 | 2962 | 790% | 75 | 2962 | 3949 % |
| Support for vulnerable populations and communities | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Homeless Person Overnight Shelter | Persons Assisted | 3,500 | 1,323 | 38% | 700 | 1,323 | 189% |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Support for vulnerable populations and communities | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | Homelessness Prevention | Persons Assisted | 300 | 88 | 29% | 60 | 88 | 147% |

**Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date**

**Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.**

Wake County implemented the first year of the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan, advancing the County's 2025 Annual Action Plan strategy to address affordable housing, homelessness, and community development needs. The priorities outlined in the Plan were established through a comprehensive needs assessment, analysis of local housing and demographic data, extensive stakeholder consultation, and robust citizen participation, including public hearings, community meetings, and stakeholder engagement.

The 2025 Annual Action Plan included three strategic goals identified in the Consolidated Plan:

1. Increase and preserve affordable housing
2. Reduce obstacles to housing affordability
3. Support low-to-moderate income communities in need

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HUD provides Wake County with entitlement funding resources that support a broad range of affordable housing and community development activities serving households earning up to 80 percent of Area Median Income. This 2025 CAPER demonstrates how HUD entitlement and other leveraged resources were used during Program Year 2025. Below is high level description of the use of the four funding sources:

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):** Supported homeowner and rental rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, acquisition activities, and public services that benefit low- and moderate-income residents.
- **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME):** Supported the development and preservation of affordable rental housing for income-eligible households.
- **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):** Assisted households experiencing or at risk of homelessness through rapid rehousing and related support services.
- **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA):** Provided tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA), short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance (STRMU), supportive services, permanent housing placement, and housing information services for eligible individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS in Wake, Johnston, and Franklin counties.

In addition, Wake County serves as the lead agency for the NC-507 Continuum of Care and receives funding through HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) to provide permanent supportive housing. The County further leverages local General Fund, Capital Improvement Program (CIP), state, and private resources to maximize the impact of federal investments and address priority housing needs throughout the community. Together, these federal, local, state, and private investments advanced Wake County's strategic priorities by increasing access to affordable housing, preserving existing housing opportunities, reducing challenges to housing stability, strengthening the homelessness response system, and improving outcomes for low- and moderate-income households and populations in need across the county.

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## CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

### Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted). 91.520(a)

Wake County continues to be one of the fastest-growing counties in North Carolina and the nation. Between 2015 and 2025, the County's population increased by 22.8 percent, adding 233,615 residents to reach a total population of 1,257,235. During the same period, North Carolina's population grew by 12.4 percent, highlighting Wake County's exceptional rate of growth. With the addition of more than 150,000 jobs over the past decade, this rapid growth has intensified demand for affordable housing, supportive services, and community infrastructure. As housing costs continue to outpace income growth, federal investments remain critical to expanding housing opportunities, preventing homelessness, and improving housing stability for low- and moderate-income households.

During Program Year 2025, Wake County leveraged funding through the CDBG, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, ESG, and HOPWA programs to address these growing needs. These investments supported affordable housing development and preservation, homeowner rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, rental assistance, and supportive services.

Consistent with the priorities established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan, the majority of households served were extremely low- and very low-income residents with the greatest housing needs. Black or African American households represented the largest racial group served across Wake County's HUD-funded programs, followed by White households, with assistance also provided to residents identifying with other racial and ethnic groups. Detailed demographic information by program is provided in Attachment 2.

| | CDBG | HOME | HOPWA |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Race:** | | | |
| White | 1,154 | 2 | 15 |
| Black or African American | 2,926 | 10 | 149 |
| Asian | 31 | 0 | 0 |
| American Indian or American Native | 44 | 0 | 0 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 234 | 19 | 3 |
| **Total** | **4,398** | **31** | **167** |
| **Ethnicity:** | | | |
| Hispanic | 193 | 0 | 7 |
| Not Hispanic | 4,205 | 31 | 160 |

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**Describe the clients assisted (including the racial and/or ethnicity of clients assisted with ESG)**

| | HESG |
|---|---|
| American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous | 0 |
| Asian or Asian American | 0 |
| Black, African American, or African | 119 |
| Hispanic/Latina/e/o | 0 |
| Middle Eastern or North African | 0 |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 0 |
| White | 8 |
| Multiracial | 2 |
| Client doesn't know | 0 |
| Client prefers not to answer | 0 |
| Data not collected | 0 |
| **Total** | **129** |

**Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds**

## Narrative

During PY 2025, 128 individuals were assisted with ESG rapid rehousing support who were experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The partner agency, Families Together, provided rapid rehousing services by combining direct financial assistance with housing stabilization and case management. ESG and matching funds were used to help households facing imminent homelessness remain safely housed or secure immediate alternative housing, reducing the likelihood of eviction and entry into the emergency shelter system. Black, African American, or African clients represented the majority of those served (118 individuals, or 92.2%), followed by White clients (8 individuals, 6.2%) and 2 individuals identified as Multiracial. 1 client was served through the ESG Homeless Prevention. These demographics reflect the impact of housing instability on households in Wake County and reinforce the need for homelessness prevention and housing stabilization services.

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## CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

### Identify the resources made available

| Source of Funds | Source | Resources Made Available | Amount Expended During Program Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| CDBG | public - federal | 2,492,530 | $2,963,181.63 |
| HOME | public - federal | 1,187,368 | $1,971,248.97 |
| HOPWA | public - federal | 1,716,493 | $1,944,962.53 |
| ESG | public - federal | 190,540 | $120,250.42 |

**Table 3 - Resources Made Available**

### Narrative

HUD entitlement funding remains a critical resource for Wake County's efforts to expand affordable housing, prevent homelessness, and support low- and moderate-income residents. The County's rapid population growth and increasing housing demand have required a broader, more diversified investment strategy. To address these challenges, Wake County aligned more than $30 million in annual local funding with HUD entitlement grants and Continuum of Care (CoC) resources to expand and preserve affordable housing, strengthen the homelessness response system, and meet the community's evolving housing needs.

Although these combined investments have produced significant progress, federal entitlement funding has not kept pace with rising construction costs, labor expenses, and material prices. With one-time federal funding sources, including the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) programs coming to an end, Wake County shifted its focus toward sustainable local funding strategies that can continue addressing housing affordability amid ongoing population growth and market pressures.

Complementing federal resources, the County established innovative local funding initiatives that address critical gaps across the housing continuum. The Municipal Impact Fund provides financial assistance to municipalities for technical assistance, land use planning support, and capital projects that will further the development and preservation of affordable housing. The Wake Affordable Housing Preservation Fund (WAHPF), a public-private partnership provides financial loans for acquisition and/or permanent financing to help preserve affordable rental housing, preventing the displacement of residents in a rapidly appreciating housing market.

Together, these local initiatives, combined with HUD entitlement funding, have strengthened Wake County's ability to expand housing opportunities, preserve existing affordable housing, and support residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness. As housing demand, development costs, and operating expenses continue to increase, sustained investment from federal, state, local, and private partners will remain essential to achieving the County's long-term housing and community development goals.

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## Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

| Target Area | Planned Percentage of Allocation | Actual Percentage of Allocation | Narrative Description |
|---|---|---|---|
| Countywide Target | 100 | 100 | Entitlement Jurisdiction |

**Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**

## Narrative

Grant funds supported activities throughout Wake County's entitlement jurisdiction during Program Year (PY) 2025. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds benefited households in municipalities outside the cities of Raleigh and Cary, which receive separate CDBG entitlement allocations, through homeowner rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, public services, and affordable housing activities. HOME funds supported the development and preservation of affordable housing across Wake County, with investments strategically located to expand housing choice, increase access to areas of economic opportunity, and affirmatively further fair housing. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds provided homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing services to households experiencing or facing imminent homelessness throughout the County. Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds served eligible individuals and families residing in the regional HOPWA service area, including Wake, Johnston, and Franklin counties. Recognizing the need for connection and collaboration with rural, underserved Johnston and Franklin counties, HOPWA TBRA team has linked with Johnston County Health Department. Collaborations are in the works with Franklin County Communicable Diseases Clinic and STD/STI Clinic, UNC Specialty Care at Smithfield, Smithfield Rescue Mission, Street Reach of Johnston County, and Safe Space, Inc of Franklin County.

Consistent with the priorities established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan, Wake County continued to direct investments that promote long-term housing stability and economic mobility for low- and moderate-income households. Affordable housing investments were prioritized in locations with access to employment centers, public transportation, schools, healthcare, and other community amenities. The County also continued to leverage Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and housing market data to guide investment decisions, ensuring resources were directed to areas where they could maximize housing opportunities, preserve affordability, and reduce the possibility of displacement.

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## Leveraging

**Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.**

Wake County continues to maximize the impact of HUD entitlement funding by leveraging federal, state, local, and private resources to expand and preserve affordable housing. HOME and CDBG funds are strategically combined with the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and other financing sources to support the development and preservation of affordable rental housing, attracting private investment and increasing the supply of long-term affordable housing throughout the County. For multifamily development projects completed within the reporting period, Wake County committed $4,993,394.40, and funds leveraged from other funding sources represented $68,125,390. See Attachment 3 for reference.

Wake County met its HOME matching requirement through continued local investment in affordable housing and reported an excess HOME match of $14,370,582.24, which will be carried forward to the next federal fiscal year. Additional information is provided in Attachment 3 – HOME Match Report.

The County also satisfied the ESG matching requirement through local funding that supported critical homelessness response activities, including operations at the South Wilmington Street Center and the Wake Prevent! program, which provides emergency shelter and homelessness prevention services. Additional information is provided in Attachment 5 – ESG CAPER.

By combining HUD entitlement funding with local investments, LIHTC equity, municipal partner investments, and private capital, Wake County continues to maximize the impact of public resources, strengthen partnerships, and expand affordable housing and supportive services for residents across the community.

| Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match | |
|---|---|
| 1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year | $9,404,416.72 |
| 2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year | $5,535,901.27 |
| 3.Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2) | $14,940,317.99 |
| 4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year | $569,735.75 |
| 5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4) | $14,370,582.24 |

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

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| Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Project No. or Other ID** | **Date of Contribution** | **Cash (non-Federal sources)** | **Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges** | **Appraised Land/Real Property** | **Required Infrastructure** | **Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor** | **Bond Financing** | **Total Match** |
| Barton Oaks | 9/18/2025 | $1,125,325 | | | | | | $1,125,325 |
| CASA - King's Ridge | 10/8/2025 | $453,576 | | | | | | $453,576 |
| Grosvenor Gardens | 10/2/2025 | $2,385,000 | | | | | | $2,385,000 |
| Grosvenor Gardens | 10/21/2025 | $265,000 | | | | | | $265,000 |
| Habitat-Friendship Station | 11/12/2025 | $432,000 | | | | | | $432,000 |
| Rose Park Manor | 9/18/2025 | $36,000 | | | | | | $36,000 |
| Rose Park Manor | 2/12/2026 | $264,000 | | | | | | $264,000 |
| Wake Union Villas Apartments | 7/28/2026 | $575,000 | | | | | | $575,000 |

**Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year**

## HOME MBE/WBE report

| **Program Income** – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period $** | **Amount received during reporting period $** | **Total amount expended during reporting period $** | **Amount expended for TBRA $** | **Balance on hand at end of reporting period $** |
| $576,742 | $373,574 | 597,732 | | $352,584 |

**Table 7 – Program Income**

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| **Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises –** Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period |
|---|

**Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises**

| **Minority Owners of Rental Property** – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Total** | **Minority Property Owners** | | | | **White Non-Hispanic** |
| | | **Alaskan Native or American Indian** | **Asian or Pacific Islander** | **Black Non-Hispanic** | **Hispanic** | |
| Number | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| Dollar Amount | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |

**Table 8 – Minority Owners of Rental Property**

| **Relocation and Real Property Acquisition –** Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition | | |
|---|---|---|
| Parcels Acquired | | |
| Businesses Displaced | | |
| Nonprofit Organizations Displaced | | |
| Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced | **50** | **$74,300** |

| **Households Displaced** | **Total** | **Minority Property Enterprises** | | | | **White Non-Hispanic** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Alaskan Native or American Indian** | **Asian or Pacific Islander** | **Black Non-Hispanic** | **Hispanic** | |
| Number | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| Cost | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |

**Table 9 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition**

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## CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

**Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.**

| | One-Year Goal | Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 955 | 1,547 |
| Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 1,255 | 3,177 |
| Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units | 115 | 187 |
| **Total** | **2,325** | **4,911** |

**Table 10 – Number of Households**

| | One-Year Goal | Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Number of households supported through Rental Assistance | 215 | 3,067 |
| Number of households supported through The Production of New Units | 60 | 259 |
| Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units | 35 | 70 |
| Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units | 15 | 26 |
| **Total** | **325** | **3,422** |

**Table 11 – Number of Households Supported**

**Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.**

Wake County exceeded its one-year goals across all affordable housing categories during Program Year 2025, demonstrating strong performance in addressing housing instability and expanding access to affordable housing. The County assisted 4,911 households, more than double the one-year goal of 2,325 households. This included 1,547 homeless households, 3,177 non-homeless households, and 187 special-needs households. A significant contributor to the County's performance was the Bridge to Home Program, which utilized CDBG-CV funding to provide flexible housing and homelessness prevention assistance to 2,754 individuals and families experiencing housing instability.

These accomplishments were made possible through flexible program implementation, strong partnerships with nonprofit and municipal partners, and the strategic coordination of federal, local, and

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private resources. Together, these efforts advanced the goals by expanding housing stability, preventing homelessness, and increasing access to affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents.

Although HOME funding has remained relatively flat despite increasing development costs and housing demand, Wake County continued to leverage federal, local, and private investments to create and preserve 259 rental housing units during the program year. Affordable housing developments completed in PY2025 included:

- **Terrace at Rock Quarry** – 132-unit affordable senior apartment community (HOME and CDBG funded)
- **Hope Village** – 9-unit housing development for youth aging out of foster care (HOME CHDO funded)
- **Hampton Springs** – 56-unit affordable senior apartment community (HOME and HOME Match funded)
- **Grosvenor Gardens** – 62-unit affordable senior apartment community of which 4 units were market-rate units (County CIP funded)

In addition, several affordable housing developments advanced through financing, environmental review, permitting, and construction is underway. At the close of the program year, 1,561 rental units and 77 homeownership units were under construction, with an additional 1,422 units awarded funding and in pre-development. These projects are expected to contribute significantly toward future housing production goals.

Despite these successes, affordable housing development continues to face challenges, including escalating construction and labor costs, extended development timelines, and the complexity of layering multiple funding sources. Federal requirements, such as the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act, have further increased project costs, often requiring additional gap financing to maintain project feasibility. Even with these challenges, Wake County continues to leverage innovative funding strategies and strong public-private partnerships to advance affordable housing development and preservation across the community.

**Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.**

The outcomes achieved during Program Year 2025 will help inform and identify areas of continued demand and guide the strategic allocation of federal, local, and private resources. The strong utilization of homelessness prevention, rental assistance, and supportive services programs demonstrates the ongoing need for investments that stabilize households and preserve affordable housing.

The continued shortage of affordable housing, coupled with rising development costs and extended project timelines, reinforces the importance of leveraging multiple funding sources, including local housing investments, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), and private capital, to maximize the impact of HUD entitlement funds. Future Annual Action Plans will continue to advance the goals of the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan by increasing and preserving affordable housing, reducing obstacles to

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housing affordability, and supporting low- and moderate-income households through coordinated, data-driven investments and community partnerships.

**Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.**

| Number of Households Served | CDBG Actual | HOME Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Extremely Low-income | 4,321 | 17 |
| Low-income | 0 | 14 |
| Moderate-income | 26 | 38 |
| **Total** | **4,347** | **69** |

**Table 12 – Number of Households Served**

## Narrative Information

During Program Year (PY) 2025, Wake County made significant progress toward the goals established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan by increasing housing stability, preserving affordable housing, and expanding access to housing and supportive services for low- and moderate-income (LMI) households. The majority of assistance was provided to extremely low-income households, reflecting the County's continued commitment to serving residents with the greatest housing needs.

During the program year, 4,321 extremely low-income households received assistance through CDBG-funded activities, including rental assistance, public services, homeless shelter operations, and workforce development programs. An additional 26 moderate-income households achieved homeownership through CDBG-funded first-time homebuyer assistance. HOME-funds supported the creation of 197 affordable rental units which included 31 HOME-assisted units, while complementary local, federal, and private investments expanded the County's affordable housing efforts, resulting in the production of 259 affordable housing units during PY 2025. In addition, HOME and CDBG funds were allocated to the Biltmore Hills affordable housing rehabilitation project which is currently under construction and will preserve 50 rental units of which 8 will be HOME-assisted.

Wake County continued implementing a coordinated approach to housing stability and homelessness prevention through programs such as WakePrevent!, Bridge to Home, and the South Wilmington Street Center, which integrated financial assistance, housing navigation, landlord engagement, case management, and supportive services to help households achieve and maintain stable housing while reducing returns to homelessness. During PY 2025, the County also invested one-time CDBG-CV funds in the Bridge to Home program, providing flexible financial assistance through community partners to address challenges to housing stability and prevent homelessness. CDBG-CV-funded activities served 2,754 persons during the program year.

These accomplishments reflect Wake County's commitment to addressing immediate housing needs while advancing long-term strategies to increase and preserve affordable housing, reduce challenges to housing access, and support low- and moderate-income communities. The outcomes achieved during

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Program Year 2025 will continue to inform future planning and investment decisions as the County responds to sustained population growth, rising housing costs, and the evolving needs of its residents.

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## CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

**Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:**

**Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs**

Wake County strengthened its coordinated homeless response system by expanding outreach to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, improving system coordination, and increasing access to emergency shelter, permanent housing, and supportive services. In partnership with the City of Raleigh, the County continued its joint administration of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding through a coordinated Request for Proposals (RFP), creating a more efficient and integrated approach to funding street outreach, rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, and shelter services across the community.

Street outreach remained a critical component of the County's homelessness response. In partnership with Triangle Family Services, 181 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness were engaged through outreach and connected to housing resources and supportive services. The City of Raleigh's ACORNS program engaged individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness through outreach and connections to emergency shelter, healthcare, behavioral health services, and permanent housing resources. Wake County's ANCHOR Team (formerly the McKinney Team) complemented these efforts by providing intensive case management and supportive services for individuals experiencing homelessness with significant behavioral health needs. Through individualized assessments, housing navigation, and ongoing case management, the ANCHOR Team helped connect 51 clients to permanent housing opportunities and essential supportive services.

Emergency shelter continued to serve as a vital entry point into the homeless response system. The South Wilmington Street Center, the region's largest emergency shelter for single men, maintained a nightly capacity of 195 beds and served 1,323 individuals during the program year. The County also continued supporting the Coordinated Entry System through investments in key access points, including Oak City Cares, a multiservice campus where more than 20 partner agencies provide coordinated access to housing, healthcare, employment, and other critical services.

Wake County's Veterans Services Division further advanced housing stability by assisting 151 veterans through housing assistance and referrals to address social determinants of health, including financial assistance, behavioral health, food security, and case management. Veterans received coordinated services through partnerships with the Durham VA Medical Center, The Joel Fund, Veterans Bridge Home, and Veterans Services of the Carolinas, all connected through the NC Serves statewide referral network.

Collectively, these efforts strengthened Wake County's coordinated homeless response system by improving outreach to unsheltered individuals, enhancing coordinated entry, expanding access to

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emergency shelter and permanent housing, and connecting residents to the services needed to achieve long-term housing stability.

**Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

Wake County strengthened its emergency shelter and transitional housing system through strategic investments in emergency shelter, bridge housing, rapid re-housing, and coordinated supportive services designed to reduce the length of homelessness and increase permanent housing outcomes.

The South Wilmington Street Center (SWSC) remained the County's primary emergency shelter for single men, shifting its service toward individualized, housing-focused interventions to accelerate exits to permanent housing. During PY 2025, SWSC served 1,323 individuals, provided 69,326 bed stays and 97,884 meals, and transitioned 242 individuals into permanent housing. To expand emergency shelter capacity, Wake County acquired Second Street Place, which is currently undergoing renovations to become a permanent drop-in shelter facility.

The County also continued funding a network of emergency shelters serving individuals, families, and survivors of domestic violence through partnerships with Families Together, The Women's Center, Healing Transitions, InterAct, The Salvation Army, and Urban Ministries. In collaboration with the City of Raleigh, Wake County awarded $190,060 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to 1 agency supporting rapid re-housing through a coordinated funding process.

Wake County invested in transitional and bridge housing for individuals with the greatest service needs. The Cornerstone Bridge Housing Program provides 20 furnished bridge housing units for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and significant physical or behavioral health challenges; pairing temporary housing with intensive case management, clinical and peer support, behavioral healthcare, and housing stabilization services to facilitate successful transitions to permanent housing. Through its partnership with CASA, Wake County also continued subsidizing 10 permanent supportive housing units within the 100-unit King's Ridge Apartments supportive housing development, as well as 40 units at New Bern Crossing, where individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness receive comprehensive wraparound services, including medical care, case management, and behavioral health support, to promote long-term housing stability.

Wake County also continued supporting coordinated interventions through the Bridge to Home program through a significant CDBG-CV investment. The program provided flexible financial assistance, diversion resources, emergency rental assistance, healthcare supports, technical assistance, and housing navigation to community partners, enabling households to quickly exit homelessness or avoid entering shelter altogether. During PY 2025,  9 partner agencies participated in the program, providing services to more than 2,500 households this program year.

Collectively, these efforts expanded access to emergency shelter, bridge housing, and transitional housing while strengthening supportive services and creating pathways to permanent housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

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**Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs**

Wake County implemented a coordinated, prevention-focused strategy to help individuals and families avoid homelessness through early intervention, financial assistance, coordinated case management, and permanent supportive housing. The County worked to stabilize households before a housing crisis results in homelessness.

The Housing Resource Team remained focused on homelessness prevention, providing financial assistance, housing stabilization, and case management to households at or below 50 percent of Area Median Income (AMI) who were within 30 days of becoming homeless. Funding sources included HOPWA Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) assistance, Permanent Housing Placement (PHP), ESG, CDBG/CDBG-CV, and County funds. During PY 2025, 2,986 households received financial assistance and stabilization services that enabled them to remain housed.

Wake County's Permanent Housing and Supportive Services Division continued transitioning individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness into permanent supportive housing through comprehensive, multidisciplinary services. The Rental Assistance Housing Program (RAHP) provided 208 housing vouchers and served 283 residents, many of whom had experienced chronic homelessness and significant behavioral health challenges. Participants received individualized support through the Cornerstone Community Support Program, including nursing, housing navigation, vocational rehabilitation, disability benefits assistance, and ongoing case management to promote long-term housing stability.

Wake County also strengthened housing stability for individuals exiting publicly funded institutions and systems of care through coordinated partnerships. Housing programs are aligning with health and supportive services through coordination with the County’s Public Health Department and referrals to UNC REACH Enhanced Primary Care for behavioral health, intellectual and developmental challenges, and substance use services. Collectively, these efforts strengthen cross-sector collaboration and support a holistic approach to housing stability and long-term well-being for low- and moderate-income residents.

The County's Landlord Engagement Unit further expanded housing opportunities by partnering with property owners, providing incentives and risk mitigation funding, and placing 251 households into housing during the program year. Since its inception, the program has partnered with 1,481 housing providers and enrolled 674 rental units, while County-funded affordable housing developments continue reserving at least 10 percent of units for RAHP participants and encouraging second-chance leasing practices.

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Recognizing that housing stability depends on more than housing alone, Wake County integrated employment, healthcare, behavioral health, and supportive services into its homelessness prevention strategy. The Homeless Employment Initiative provided job training and employment assistance to 26 participants, while the Capital Area Workforce Development's Local Reentry Council coordinated services to reduce challenges to housing and employment for justice-involved individuals. Building on this foundation, Wake County has expanded these efforts into a pilot with the Cornerstone Bridge Housing Program, offering transitional housing paired with wraparound supports for referred participants from the Local Reentry Council.

Partnerships with organizations such as DHIC provided on-site housing social workers to support residents in affordable housing communities, including individuals participating in second-chance housing initiatives. HOPWA TBRA has connected with community partners based on social determinants of health and needs of the client population: Medical: WakeMed Community Case Management, UNC REACH Enhanced Primary Care, Clinic 9 (HIV care in the Wake County Public Health Department), Under One Roof (HIV Medical Case Management), and Johnston County Health Department; Food Security/Support Resources: Alliance of AIDS Services, Catholic Parishes, Urban Ministries, SHIP Outreach, and Wake Relief; Unsheltered Services Programs: Oak City Cares, S. Wilmington Street Men's Shelter, Helen Wright Center – Women's emergency shelter, The Women's Center of Wake County, and Healing Transitions; Supportive Community Resource Agencies: Triangle Family Services, Promise Resource Network; and Financial Support Agencies: Wake County (Raleigh, Cary and Garner) churches/parishes and Region 6 Network of Care and Prevention. The TBRA team continues to pursue opportunities to build relationships within the community.

Wake County also directed prevention efforts for youth and veterans. In partnership with Haven House, the County provided outreach and stabilization services for youth and young adults experiencing housing instability. The Hope Village at Method Apartments, a HOME-funded CHDO development with CASA, added nine supportive housing units for youth transitioning from foster care, accompanied by services provided through the Hope Center at Pullen. For veterans, the County's Veteran Services Division coordinated housing assistance and supportive services through partnerships with Veterans Bridge Home, Veterans Services of the Carolinas, the Durham VA Medical Center, and other community providers. During the program year 2025, 151 veterans received housing assistance and referrals addressing financial stability, behavioral health, food security, and other social services. Through the Unite Us platform, Wake County Veteran Services provided assistance to more than 365 unique clients across 922 cases, with housing, employment, and benefits navigation identified as the three most prevalent service needs.

Through these coordinated prevention, housing, employment, healthcare, and supportive service strategies, Wake County continued to reduce homelessness, strengthen housing stability, and improve long-term outcomes for low-moderate income individuals and families throughout the community.

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**Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again**

Wake County implemented a coordinated approach to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness transition to permanent housing and achieve long-term stability. Working closely with the Continuum of Care (CoC), housing providers, and community partners, the County serves chronically homeless individuals, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth through coordinated entry, permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, bridge housing, and intensive case management designed to shorten the duration of homelessness and prevent returns to homelessness.

The County's Rental Assistance Housing Program (RAHP) provides vouchers, along with permanent supportive housing paired with individualized wraparound services, including housing navigation, behavioral healthcare, medical coordination, vocational rehabilitation, disability benefits assistance, and ongoing case management. The County's ANCHOR Team provides intensive case management and crisis intervention for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness with significant behavioral health needs. Wake County continues to provide permanent supportive housing opportunities through King's Ridge Apartments and New Bern Crossing Apartments, which together provide 50 project-based RAHP vouchers—including 10 units at King's Ridge and 40 units at New Bern Crossing. Residents receive comprehensive onsite services, including medical care, behavioral health support, and intensive case management, to promote long-term housing stability and independent living.

Emergency shelter and bridge housing continued to serve as critical pathways to permanent housing. The South Wilmington Street Center (SWSC) provides housing-focused shelter services, diversion assistance, emergency rental assistance, and healthcare supports through the Bridge to Home model. During PY 2025, SWSC helped 242 individuals transition into permanent housing. The County also expanded system capacity through the acquisition of Second Street Place, Wake County's first permanent drop-in shelter, improving access to emergency shelter and housing services for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Wake County further expanded access to affordable housing through its Landlord Engagement Unit (LEU), which partners with private property owners by offering incentives and crisis mitigation funding to increase housing opportunities for individuals exiting homelessness. Housing staff also continued collaborating with the CoC Lead Agency to strengthen coordinated entry, HMIS integration, and system-wide coordination, ensuring households are connected quickly to housing resources and supportive services.

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## CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

### Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of the County of Wake (HACW) currently manages 345 conventional public housing units, 595 Housing Choice Vouchers and 340 Portability Housing Choice Vouchers. Public housing is offered in six municipalities: Apex, Garner, Fuquay Varina, Wake Forest, Wendell, and Zebulon. The Raleigh Housing Authority also operates within Wake County's jurisdiction with more than 15 communities and 4,350 vouchers.

HACW oversees the management of ten one-bedroom Supportive Housing units through its subsidiary, Wake Initiatives Supporting Housing, LLC (WISH). These units were established with financial assistance from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA) and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta (FHLB). The housing units are designed to accommodate both homeless and non-homeless households with special needs, including:

- People experiencing homelessness or imminently facing homelessness.
- People with mental, physical or developmental disabilities.
- People with substance use disorders.
- Children in foster care and youth aging out of foster care.
- Victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

These units are designed to serve individuals and families who earn below 50% of area median income. Rent and utilities cannot exceed 30% of the gross household income.

HACW operates the following special purpose voucher programs:

- Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) program enables non-elderly persons or families with disabilities to access affordable housing in the private rental market; and
- Family Unification Program (FUP) to provide housing assistance to families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the separation, or the threat of imminent separation of children from their families; and
- Mainstream vouchers serve households that include a non-elderly person(s) with disabilities, defined as any family that includes a person with disabilities who is at least 18 years old and not yet 62 years old; and
- Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program which combines HUD HCV rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by Veterans Affairs at its medical centers and in the community.

HACW receives a distinct formula grant through the Capital Fund program aimed at facilitating capital improvements for existing public housing properties. These funds are allocated primarily for the modernization and enhancement of current units and sites.

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HACW has initiated a Strategic Planning process aimed at articulating its strategic objectives for the forthcoming three to five years. This planning endeavor is centered on exploring collaborative opportunities between HACW, the Wake County Housing Department, and other developmental entities to revitalize the existing HACW public housing stock and enhance affordable housing options within Wake County. The resultant plan will serve as a framework for guiding the HACW Board of Commissioners and staff in their resource allocation decisions to realize these objectives successfully. Furthermore, the 20-year Affordable Housing Plan, along with the Consolidated Plan (2021-2025) encouraged the redevelopment of public housing with the intent of fostering mixed-income communities. The Wake County Housing Department is committed to collaborating with HACW to achieve this vision.

The Housing Department has also partnered with the Raleigh Housing Authority as it undertakes repositioning and redevelopment of its public housing portfolio. The County has committed gap funding to two phases in the redevelopment of Heritage Park, an aging public housing development located in downtown Raleigh. Wake County has also positioned itself as a strategic partner for the Raleigh Housing Authority to facilitate efficient use and distribution of rental assistance and other resources, particularly leveraging rental assistance supports to create permanent supportive housing for households experiencing homelessness.

**Actions taken to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership**

HACW administers a Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program designed for participants in both public housing and the housing choice voucher system. This program aims to empower assisted families to enhance their earned income while decreasing their reliance on rental subsidies. HACW collaborates with a Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) to secure both public and private resources essential for the effective operation of the FSS program. Together, they develop the HACW FSS Action Plan and oversee its implementation. Participants engage in a five-year Individual Training and Services Plan (ITSP) that enables them to establish intermediate and long-term goals, as well as outline the necessary steps and resources required to achieve these objectives.

HACW is actively pursuing grants to equip residents with the necessary resources to enhance their quality of life. Furthermore, HACW offers homeownership opportunities through the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program. In addition, we provide referrals to agencies that facilitate homeownership opportunities and assist residents in preparing for the purchase of a home.

**Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The Housing Authority of the County of Wake (HACW) is currently undertaking a comprehensive review and restructuring of its programs to identify and rectify shortcomings. Wake County is steadfast in its

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commitment to supporting the Housing Authority by providing necessary resources and expertise, contingent upon request. Members of the County Housing Department and County Manager's Office are in regular communication with HACW staff and board leadership. This collaborative effort aims to improve operational efficiency to enable residents in need to access the full portfolio of rental supports, public housing units, and services to improve their quality of life.

Wake County remains committed to supporting the Housing Authority by providing resources, technical assistance, and expertise as needed. The County's Housing Department and County Manager's Office leadership continue to work closely with Housing Authority leadership and Board members to provide technical support. Wake County is able to connect the Housing Authority with community partners who can support efforts to strengthen operations, maintain a high-quality public housing portfolio, and ensure community access to rental assistance. Wake County may contemplate direct financial contributions if requested by the Housing Authority and if sufficient resources are available.

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## CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

**Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)**

Wake County addressed challenges to affordable housing through coordinated planning, municipal partnerships, strategic investment, and policy engagement. Recognizing that land use controls, zoning, and development standards are primarily governed by municipalities in North Carolina, the County focused on collaboration, technical assistance, and targeted investments to expand affordable housing opportunities across the region.

During PY 2025, Housing staff continued working closely with Wake County Planning and municipal partners to align County housing priorities with local housing plans, and other planning initiatives. The County provided technical assistance and shared data and best practices to encourage land use and zoning strategies that support housing affordability, including higher-density development, reduced parking requirements, streamlined permitting processes, and other development incentives.

To further address financing barriers, Wake County continued providing gap financing through the Affordable Housing Development Program (AHDP) for affordable housing developments. Projects receiving AHDP assistance are required to reserve at least 10 percent of units for households participating in the County's Rental Assistance Housing Program (RAHP). During PY 2025, this policy resulted in 28 RAHP units from projects that completed construction during the reporting period.

The County also continued advancing innovative financing and preservation strategies to offset market pressures and preserve existing affordable housing. Through its partnership with Self-Help Ventures Fund, Wake County continued implementation of the Wake Affordable Housing Preservation Fund, leveraging more than $61.6 million in private capital to preserve affordable rental housing. In program year 2025, developers used the WAHPF to preserve 62 rental units in Grosvenor Gardens of which 58 units were affordable and 4 units were market-rate, bringing the total units preserved since the WAHPF's inception to 225 units. The County also partnered with CAHEC Capital to develop an Opportunity Fund that will support future affordable housing development in high-opportunity areas, leveraging a $10 million County investment to generate private investment.

Wake County further collaborated with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency and municipal partners to promote policies that support mixed-income and supportive housing while monitoring legislative and regulatory changes affecting affordable housing development. To improve transparency and public awareness, the County continued utilizing its Housing Impact Tracker, allowing residents to monitor affordable housing investments and outcomes across Wake County.

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Through coordinated planning, strategic investments, and strong public-private partnerships, Wake County continued to reduce barriers to affordable housing, preserve existing affordable units, and expand housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income households throughout the community.

**Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Wake County continued to address underserved housing and community development needs by leveraging federal, state, local, and private resources to expand affordable housing, prevent homelessness, improve access to supportive services, and strengthen community partnerships. As housing needs continued to outpace available resources, the County strategically prioritized investments that maximized funding, enhanced service coordination, and directed assistance to households with the greatest needs.

During PY 2025, Wake County invested CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and local funds to support affordable housing development and preservation, homeownership, homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and public services. The County continued providing gap financing through the Affordable Housing Development Program (AHDP) while leveraging Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), private financing, and other public resources to maximize the impact of federal investments. Through the Wake Affordable Housing Preservation Fund and the newly established Opportunity Fund, the County also expanded financing tools to preserve existing affordable housing and support future development in high-opportunity areas.

To preserve existing affordable housing, the Housing Rehabilitation Program completed 20 owner-occupied home repairs, owned by low- and very low-income households, to improve housing quality and safety. In addition, through AHDP, HOME and CDBG funds were allocated to the Biltmore Hills affordable housing rehabilitation project, which is currently under construction and will preserve 50 rental units, of which 8 will be HOME-assisted.

To improve access to housing and supportive services, Wake County strengthened partnerships with municipalities, nonprofit organizations, developers, healthcare providers, and the Continuum of Care (CoC). Coordinated initiatives such as Bridge to Home, WakePrevent!, the Landlord Engagement Unit, and the Rental Assistance Housing Program (RAHP) helped underserved households overcome challenges to housing through financial assistance, housing navigation, landlord engagement, case management, and wraparound supportive services. The County also continued coordinating with veteran-serving organizations, youth service providers, and community-based agencies to better serve individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, youth transitioning from foster care, persons with disabilities, and households facing imminent homelessness.

During PY 2025, Wake County continued strengthening its coordinated homeless response system through expanded shelter capacity, enhanced housing navigation, and increased access to permanent housing. The County is renovating the Second Street shelter, the facility will provide 98 permanent shelter beds, expanding access to drop-in shelter. The South Wilmington Street Center (SWSC) continued providing housing-focused emergency shelter, diversion, and individualized case

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management designed to shorten episodes of homelessness and increase exits to permanent housing. The County also expanded shelter and supportive services for women experiencing homelessness through its investment in the Bramer Street Shelter, operated by The Women's Center, which provides emergency shelter, day services, and connections to housing and supportive resources.

Veteran homelessness remained a priority throughout the program year. The Veterans Services Division coordinated housing assistance and supportive services with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, local housing authorities, and nonprofit partners, including participation in the HUD-VASH program. During the reporting period, the Division assisted 151 veterans with housing stabilization and coordinated referrals for financial assistance, behavioral health services, case management, and food assistance.

Despite these efforts, housing affordability continues to be challenged by rapid population growth, rising construction costs, limited housing inventory, and constrained federal resources. Wake County remains committed to addressing these underserved needs through strategic investments, innovative financing, policy coordination, and strong public-private partnerships that expand housing opportunities and improve quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents.

**Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Wake County continues to address lead-based paint hazards in federally assisted housing rehabilitation projects by complying with HUD's Lead Safe Housing Rule (24 CFR Part 35). For all pre-1978 single-family homes receiving rehabilitation assistance, certified lead risk assessors conducted inspections and hazard assessments prior to construction to identify lead-based paint hazards and determine the appropriate hazard reduction strategy, including interim controls or abatement.

All lead hazard reduction activities were completed by certified contractors using lead-safe work practices. Upon completion of rehabilitation, certified clearance testing was performed to verify that lead hazards had been successfully addressed and that homes were safe for re-occupancy.

Through the Elderly and Disabled Housing Rehabilitation Program, Wake County continued reserving up to $10,000 per project for lead hazard testing, remediation, and clearance activities. During PY 2025, Wake County provided lead-based paint assessments to 10 households. All assessments returned negative results; no lead hazard abatement activities were required. In addition to rehabilitation projects, the County provided lead hazard education to households receiving housing assistance, conducted visual assessments during housing inspections, and ensured staff remained current on HUD lead-based paint requirements through ongoing training and professional development.

**Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Wake County makes great effort to improve the economic state of low-income clients by connecting individuals and families to stable housing, employment, education, and supportive services that promote long-term economic self-sufficiency. Through partnerships with community organizations and

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County agencies, the County invested in programs that address both the immediate needs of households and the underlying factors contributing to poverty.

Recognizing the strong connection between housing stability and economic mobility, Wake County integrated workforce development into its housing and homelessness initiatives. CDBG-funded job training and coordinated partnerships with Carolina Trucking provided job training to 26 men through the South Wilmington Street Center. Capital Area Workforce Development helped individuals experiencing homelessness, justice-involved individuals, and low-income residents improve employability, increase earned income, and achieve greater housing stability. The County also continued supporting veterans through the Veterans Services Division, connecting veterans and their families to VA benefits, employment resources, and housing programs.

As a recipient of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding, Passage Home continued providing employment services, financial capability coaching, housing stabilization, and family support programs designed to break the cycle of poverty and promote multi-generational self-sufficiency. Employment services included career assessments, job readiness training, goal setting, workforce development, job placement assistance, and specialized programs for youth and justice-involved individuals.

Wake County also supported workforce development through programs such as Work First, which provides temporary financial assistance and supportive services including childcare, transportation, education and training, Medicaid, and housing assistance to help families achieve economic independence. Additional supportive employment programs offered vocational assessments, career counseling, skills development, and job retention services for individuals facing barriers to employment.

Through these coordinated housing, employment, and supportive service initiatives, Wake County continued helping low-income households improve economic stability, increase self-sufficiency, and reduce the risk of long-term poverty.

**Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Cross-departmental collaboration remained central to Wake County's efforts to strengthen its institutional framework for delivering housing and community development programs. The Housing Department worked closely with Public Health, Behavioral Health, Social Services, Facilities, Design and Construction, Environmental Services, and other County partners to align housing initiatives with healthcare, behavioral health, infrastructure, and human services. This integrated approach improved coordination and enhanced the County's ability to address the complex factors that influence housing stability.

Strong partnership with the Continuum of Care (CoC) Lead Agency has further strengthened the County's homeless response system by supporting coordinated entry, HMIS administration, system performance, and provider collaboration. These efforts enhanced data sharing, strengthened performance measurement, and improved access to housing and supportive services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

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Regional collaboration also expanded through partnerships with municipalities, nonprofit organizations, healthcare systems, housing authorities, financial institutions, and affordable housing developers. Housing staff provided technical assistance, shared best practices, and promoted data-driven planning to strengthen local capacity and advance affordable housing initiatives across Wake County.

Institutional capacity was further enhanced through behavioral health partnerships supported by Opioid Settlement funds, expanding access to treatment, crisis intervention, counseling, and case management for individuals with complex behavioral health needs. Community outreach and stakeholder engagement also remained a priority, fostering stronger partnerships and increasing awareness of affordable housing resources.

Together, these collaborative efforts strengthened Wake County's institutional capacity by improving coordination, leveraging community expertise, and creating a more integrated and responsive system for delivering housing and supportive services to low- and moderate-income residents.

**Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)**

Collaboration among public agencies, housing providers, nonprofit organizations, healthcare systems, and community partners remain central to Wake County's efforts to expand housing opportunities and strengthen the delivery of supportive services. Through coordinated planning, shared resources, and integrated service delivery, the County continued improving access to housing and promoting long-term housing stability for low- and moderate-income residents.

Wake County Housing strengthened coordination among more than 30 public and private housing and social service organizations to improve system performance and housing placement. The County worked closely with CoC partners to enhance data sharing, streamline referrals, and align housing and supportive services to better serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Oak City Cares remained a cornerstone of this coordinated system, serving as a centralized public-private-nonprofit partnership and one of the CoC's primary coordinated entry access sites. Through co-located services and coordinated case management, Oak City Cares connects individuals and families to housing, supportive services, and other critical community resources.

Partnerships with the Housing Authority of the County of Wake, the Raleigh Housing Authority, municipalities, affordable housing developers, and nonprofit housing providers continued to expand and preserve affordable housing opportunities throughout the County. The County encourages developments that integrate affordable housing with coordination with municipalities, supporting local planning efforts and strategies to improve housing affordability.

Cross-sector collaboration also extended to healthcare, workforce development, and veteran services. Housing staff coordinated closely with Public Health, Behavioral Health, Social Services, Capital Area Workforce Development, and community-based organizations to connect residents with employment

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services, behavioral healthcare, physical and preventive care, benefits assistance, and case management. Through the Veterans Services Division, Wake County partners with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Bridge Home, Volunteers of America, and other providers to connect veterans experiencing or facing imminent homelessness with housing assistance, including HUD-VASH, and other supportive services.

These collaborative efforts strengthened coordination across systems, reduced duplication of services, improved access to housing and supportive resources, and enhanced the County's ability to respond to the diverse needs of residents experiencing housing instability.

**Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)**

Wake County remains committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing in accordance with the Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.). Fair housing principles are integrated throughout the County's housing and community development activities by ensuring that investments made through the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan promote equitable access to housing, expand housing choice, and comply with all applicable federal requirements. These principles guide program planning, housing development, public engagement, and resource allocation to increase housing opportunities for all residents.

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## CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

**Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements**

Wake County implements a comprehensive monitoring and compliance framework to ensure that activities funded through HUD entitlement funds and local sources are carried out in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements. All funding recipients are subject to compliance requirements established through written agreements, program policies, and federal regulations. County staff conduct risk-based monitoring through a combination of desk reviews and on-site visits, with monitoring frequency informed by factors such as funding amount, organizational capacity, prior performance, and program complexity. Reviews include financial management, beneficiary eligibility, performance outcomes, procurement, recordkeeping, and compliance with applicable federal requirements. When deficiencies are identified, staff provide technical assistance, issue written findings, and monitor corrective actions until all issues are resolved.

Housing development, rehabilitation, and public facility projects are monitored throughout project implementation and, where applicable, throughout the required affordability period. Monitoring activities include environmental review compliance, Davis-Bacon labor standards, Section 3 requirements, income eligibility verification, physical inspections, rent and occupancy reviews, and affordability monitoring. Property owners and subrecipients are required to maintain compliance with affordability, occupancy, and reporting requirements, while County staff provide ongoing oversight through annual reporting, file reviews, and site inspections.

Wake County also continues to update policies and procedures to reflect evolving federal requirements and strengthen long-term compliance. During Program Year 2025, staff implemented HOTMA requirements, prepared for HUD's transition to the NSPIRE, and incorporated HOME Final Rule updates into program implementation and monitoring activities.

Wake County ensures that all funded projects advance comprehensive planning goals and contribute to fair housing laws, as required under Affirmatively Further Fair Housing, the Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.). County Housing Staff monitor and maintain compliance with Section 3 and MWBE of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, found at 12 U.S.C. 1701u and codified in 24 CFR Part 75. Outreach is conducted through engagement during procurement, marketing, and contractor orientation sessions. Staff also provide technical assistance and outreach to municipalities, nonprofit organizations, developers, and contractors to promote equitable access to funding opportunities.

Wake County maintains strong financial stewardship, regulatory compliance, and program accountability while supporting continuous improvement and ensuring that federal and local investments achieve the intended housing and community development outcomes.

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**Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)**

**Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports**.

In accordance with Wake County's Citizen Participation Plan, the County provided residents with reasonable notice and meaningful opportunities to review and comment on the 2025 CAPER and HOPWA CAPER through a comprehensive public participation process.

A 15-day public comment period is held from September 1, 2026 to September 15, 2026, during which the draft reports were made available for public review at the Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization Department, County Human Services Centers, homeless shelters, Oak City Cares Multi-Service Center, and on the Wake County website.

A public hearing will be held on September 22, 2026, before the Wake County Board of Commissioners to present the accomplishments documented in the CAPERs and provide residents with an opportunity to offer comments and feedback prior to submission.

To encourage broad community participation, public notices announcing both the public hearing and public comment period were published in The News & Observer, Qué Pasa, and The Carolinian, reaching the general public, Spanish-speaking residents, and the African American community, respectively. The notices were also posted on the Wake County website and included a direct link to an online comment form to facilitate electronic submission of public comments. In addition, the opportunity to review and comment on the draft reports was promoted through Wake County's social media platforms and shared with municipal partners, community organizations, and housing and service providers to encourage broad community awareness and participation.

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## CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

**Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.**

During Program Year 2025, Wake County's overall program objectives remained consistent with the priorities established in the 2025–2030 Consolidated Plan, including expanding affordable housing, preventing and reducing homelessness, preserving existing affordable housing, supporting homeownership, and improving housing stability for low- and moderate-income residents. While the County's strategic priorities did not change, program implementation continued to evolve in response to local housing market conditions, stakeholder feedback, and emerging funding opportunities.

Experiences during the program year reinforced the importance of leveraging federal resources with local, state, and private investments to maximize housing production and preservation. As a result, the County continued strengthening financing strategies through the Affordable Housing Development Program, the Wake Affordable Housing Preservation Fund, and the Opportunity Fund while expanding partnerships with municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and private developers to increase affordable housing opportunities.

Looking ahead, Wake County will continue evaluating its housing strategies as federal housing policies evolve. In particular, the County anticipates reassessing its affordable housing investment approach in response to new provisions under the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, including expanded flexibility for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support affordable housing development. If implemented, these changes could provide an additional financing tool to complement HOME, local, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credit investments, increasing the County's ability to support affordable housing production and address financing gaps. Wake County will evaluate these opportunities and adjust program implementation, as appropriate, to maximize housing production while remaining responsive to community needs, market conditions, and HUD guidance.

**Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?**

**NO**

**[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.**

**N/A**

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## CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d) - EHCD

**Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations**

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

See Attachment #1 for a list of projects monitored during PY 2025.

**Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)**

Wake County is committed to affirmatively marketing all HOME-assisted housing in accordance with 24 CFR 92.351(a) and its adopted Affirmative Marketing Policy. The policy is designed to ensure that housing opportunities financed with HOME funds are marketed in a manner that promotes fair housing choice and reaches all segments of the community, particularly populations least likely to apply for the available housing.

As a condition of receiving HOME funds, developers are required to implement an affirmative marketing plan that includes the use of the Equal Housing Opportunity logo and fair housing language in all advertising and outreach materials, display the HUD Fair Housing Poster at leasing and sales offices, advertise through media outlets that reach diverse audiences, and conduct targeted outreach to populations least likely to apply for the housing based on the project's market area and demographics.

Wake County monitors compliance with these requirements through desk reviews and on-site monitoring of HOME-assisted projects. Developers are required to maintain and provide documentation of their affirmative marketing activities, including outreach efforts, advertising materials, and tenant selection practices, to demonstrate compliance with HOME regulations and the County's Affirmative Marketing Policy. Staff review these materials to verify that marketing efforts are inclusive, nondiscriminatory, and consistent with federal fair housing requirements.

**Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics**

HOME program income is used to support additional development of affordable housing throughout Wake County. This past year, program income supported the following projects.

The Villas at White Oak development was supported with $312,333 in program income. This project will consist of 64 affordable rental units for seniors earning at or below 60%, 50%, 40%, and 30% of the area median income. The development will also include 14 units set-aside for the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency’s permanent supportive housing program and Wake County’s permanent supportive

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housing program.The development of Biltmore Hills Apartments was supported with $285,399 of program income. Biltmore Hills Apartments will serve qualified tenants earning 60%, 50%, 30%, and 20% of the area median income and below with 50 affordable rental units. The development will also include eight units set-aside for the County's permanent supportive housing voucher program in addition to 10 units set-aside for the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency's permanent supportive housing program and Wake County's permanent supportive housing program.

**Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)**

Expanding and preserving affordable housing remained a central priority for Wake County throughout Program Year 2025. The County continued leveraging federal, local, state, and private investments to increase housing production, preserve existing affordable units, and promote long-term affordability throughout the community. The County invests approximately $14.275 million annually to supplement federal funds and consistently exceeds the required 25% HOME match under 24 CFR 92.219(b)(2).

The County's local housing investments served as the catalyst for larger public-private partnerships, allowing Wake County to maximize the impact of federal HOME funds while leveraging Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), private financing, and other state and local resources. This coordinated financing approach supported a diverse portfolio of affordable rental and homeownership developments serving households across a range of income levels, including extremely low-income residents and individuals requiring permanent supportive housing.

Affordable housing preservation remained equally important as new construction. Through the Wake Affordable Housing Preservation Fund, a public-private partnership with Self-Help Ventures Fund, Wake County continued preserving existing affordable rental housing threatened by rising market pressures and redevelopment. During the program year, developers used the fund to preserve 62 rental units for the Grosvenor Gardens rehabilitation project of which 58 units are affordable and 4 units are market-rate, bringing the total preserved since inception to 225 units.

To expand housing opportunities for households with the greatest needs, County-funded developments continue to reserve at least 10 percent of units for participants in the Rental Assistance Housing Program (RAHP), ensuring that permanent supportive housing is integrated into new affordable housing developments. During the fiscal year, County investments contributed to the creation or preservation of 259 completed affordable rental housing units through AHDP projects, while additional gap financing approved by the Board of Commissioners will support future affordable housing production across Wake County. The County's Affordable Housing Development Program incentivizes projects that offer housing options for households earning 50% of the AMI and below. Of the 259 units completed during the program year, 90 units or approximately 35% were reserved for households at this income level.

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Wake County also reinforced its commitment to long-term affordability by securing affordability periods well beyond federal minimum requirements. While HOME-assisted developments are required to maintain affordability for at least 30 years, funding awards included negotiated affordability periods ranging from 30 to 99 years, preserving affordable housing opportunities into the foreseeable future. Ongoing compliance monitoring ensures these affordability commitments are maintained throughout the life of each project.

These investments were complemented by innovative financing initiatives designed to address emerging housing needs. During the program year, Wake County partnered with CAHEC Capital to establish a $10 million Opportunity Fund that will provide flexible capital for site acquisition and predevelopment activities in high-opportunity areas, helping secure sites for future affordable housing before escalating land costs limit development opportunities.

Through strategic investment, innovative financing, long-term affordability commitments, and strong public-private partnerships, Wake County continued strengthening a sustainable affordable housing pipeline that expands housing choice, preserves existing affordability, and creates lasting housing opportunities for residents with the greatest needs.

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## CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

### Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing through the use of HOPWA activities for: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

| Number of Households Served Through: | One-year Goal | Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments | 60 | 87 |
| Tenant-based rental assistance | 75 | 80 |
| Units provided in transitional housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds | 0 | 0 |
| Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds | 0 | 0 |
| **Total** | 135 | 167 |

**Table 13 – HOPWA Number of Households Served**

### Narrative

During Program Year 2025, Wake County exceeded its HOPWA housing assistance goals, serving 167 households compared to the annual goal of 135 households. Through the Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) program, 87 households received temporary financial assistance to prevent homelessness and maintain housing stability, exceeding the goal of 60 households. The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program assisted 80 households, surpassing the goal of 75 households by providing ongoing rental assistance that enabled eligible households to obtain and maintain permanent housing.

Consistent with the Annual Action Plan, no HOPWA-funded transitional or permanent housing facility units were planned or operated during the program year. Instead, Wake County focused HOPWA resources on direct housing assistance through STRMU and TBRA, maximizing the number of households served while helping individuals and families living with HIV remain safely and stably housed.

All HOPWA households also received case management, including housing stability planning. For additional information on supportive services, permanent housing placement assistance, and housing information and resource identification, reference program accomplishment in the Wake County HOPWA CAPER.

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## CR-58 – Section 3

### Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

| Total Labor Hours | CDBG | HOME | ESG | HOPWA | HTF |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Number of Activities | | 2 | | 0 | 0 |
| Total Labor Hours | | 44,340 | | | |
| Total Section 3 Worker Hours | | 11,012 | | | |
| Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours | | 0 | | | |

**Table 14 – Total Labor Hours**

| Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program | CDBG | HOME | ESG | HOPWA | HTF |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers | | 1 | | | |
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers. | | 2 | | | |
| Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships). | | | | | |
| Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training. | | | | | |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching). | | | | | |
| Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns. | | 2 | | | |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts. | | 1 | | | |
| Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes,preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services. | | | | | |
| Held one or more job fairs. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents with finding child care. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching. | | | | | |
| Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies. | | | | | |
| Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses. | | 1 | | | |
| Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. | | | | | |
| Other. | | 2 | | | |

**Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program**

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**Narrative**

Wake County leveraged multiple funding sources to advance affordable housing development, using HOME funds to support Hampton Spring Apartments in Raleigh which will provide 56 affordable rental units for seniors, HOME and CDBG funds to support Terrace at Rock Quarry Apartments in Raleigh which will provide 132 affordable rental units for seniors and HOME CHDO funds to support Hope Village in Raleigh which will provide 9 affordable rental units for youth aging out of foster care.

Evergreen Construction Company, the developer and general contractor for Hampton Spring Apartments, conducted Section 3 outreach through community organizations, job postings, and by soliciting bids from Section 3-qualified subcontractors. Section 3 workers were hired for Hampton Spring Apartments, and the project exceeded HUD's 25% goal for labor hours performed by Section 3 workers but did not meet the 5% target for hours worked by targeted Section 3 workers. Under HUD's Section 3 Final Rule, recipients must demonstrate best efforts to expand training and employment opportunities for Section 3 workers.

NorSouth Constructs, general contractor for The Terrace at Rock Quarry Apartments conducted Section 3 outreach through community organizations, job postings, and by soliciting bids from Section 3-qualified subcontractors. Section 3 workers were hired for Terrace at Rock Quarry Apartment and the project exceeded HUD's 25% goal for labor hours performed by Section 3 workers but did not meet the 5% target for hours worked by targeted Section 3 workers. Under HUD's Section 3 Final Rule, recipients must demonstrate best efforts to expand training and employment opportunities for Section 3 workers.

G&G Builders of Wendell, Inc., general contractor for Hope Village conducted Section 3 outreach through community organizations, job postings, and by soliciting bids from Section 3-qualified subcontractors. Despite efforts, no Section 3 workers were hired for Hope Village and the project did not meet HUD's 25% goal for labor hours performed by Section 3 workers nor did they meet the 5% target for hours worked by targeted Section 3 workers. Under HUD's Section 3 Final Rule, recipients must demonstrate best efforts to expand training and employment opportunities for Section 3 workers.

Wake County works with developers, municipalities, and nonprofits receiving federal funds to promote awareness of Section 3, MBE/WBE, and Davis-Bacon requirements. This includes pre-construction meetings with contractors to review compliance expectations. While the County remains committed to these goals, current policies do not allow it to mandate specific Section 3 or MBE/WBE actions from contractors without direct contractual agreements.

To expand opportunities, the Housing Department actively recruits new contractors for homeowner rehabilitation programs and encourages participation from Section 3 and MBE/WBE qualified businesses, while recognizing such participation is voluntary. The County is also building partnerships with local housing authorities to strengthen outreach, training, and employment pathways for Section 3 workers. Though implementation requires time and coordination, advancing opportunity remains a core value guiding Wake County's mission and commitment to sustainable progress.

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