

**GREATER ATTLEBORO/TAUNTON HOME CONSORTIUM**  
**HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

**Guidance**

- To receive its HOME-ARP allocation, a PJ must:
  - Engage in consultation with at least the required organizations;
  - Provide for public participation including a 15-day public comment period and one public hearing, at a minimum; and,
  - Develop a plan that meets the requirements in the HOME-ARP Notice.
- To submit: a PJ must upload a Microsoft Word or PDF version of the plan in IDIS as an attachment next to the “HOME-ARP allocation plan” option on either the AD-26 screen (for PJs whose FY 2021 annual action plan is a Year 2-5 annual action plan) or the AD-25 screen (for PJs whose FY 2021 annual action plan is a Year 1 annual action plan that is part of the 2021 consolidated plan).
- PJs must also submit an SF-424, SF-424B, and SF-424D, and the following certifications as an attachment on either the AD-26 or AD-25 screen, as applicable:
  - Affirmatively Further Fair Housing;
  - Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan;
  - Anti-Lobbying
  - Authority of Jurisdiction;
  - Section 3; and,
  - HOME-ARP specific certification

**Participating Jurisdiction:** Taunton, MA (lead), Attleboro, Berkley, Carver, Dighton, Freetown, Lakeville, Mansfield, Middleboro, North Attleboro, Norton, Plainville, Raynham, Seekonk  
**Date:** 01/31/2023

**Consultation**

*Before developing its plan, a PJ must consult with the CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction’s geographic area, homeless and domestic violence service providers, veterans’ groups, public housing agencies (PHAs), public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities, at a minimum. State PJs are not required to consult with every PHA or CoC within the state’s boundaries; however, local PJs must consult with all PHAs (including statewide or regional PHAs) and CoCs serving the jurisdiction.*

***Summarize the consultation process:***

Groups active in areas that use or could potentially use HOME-ARP funds were notified of the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and encouraged to participate in public meetings. OECD also conducted consultation meetings with stakeholders for input including: Continuum of Care organizations (CoC's), homeless and elderly advocates, human service agencies, veteran advocates, civils rights and fair housing advocates, and Public Housing Authorities (PHA's). Those activities, in conjunction with public hearings, were conducted to provide a forum for the public to learn about the HOME-ARP Program, to ask questions, and to provide input on how the awarded HOME-ARP funds should be spent. Official notices of the public hearings were advertised in local community newspapers. Local agencies who deal with specific housing related issues were also invited to attend and participate in this process.

At the December 17, 2021 meeting of the Greater Bristol County Attleboro Taunton Coalition to end Homelessness (GBCATCH), Janine Peccini of OECD announced the availability of \$2.6 million in HOME ARPA funding for the Consortium. She explained the eligible populations and the need for the Consortium to determine which group(s) will be focused on. This meeting had 21 attendees from organizations including Community Counseling of Bristol County, Manet Community Health Center, Tufts Health, Catholic Social Services, Our Daily Bread, Congressional and state representative offices, and various other housing and social service organizations and providers.

On January 25, 2022, two publicly posted outreach meetings, one at 9:30 am and the other at 6 pm, were held by the Consortium for comment on both the PY 2022 HOME Program and the PY 2021 HOME-ARP. These meetings had 8 attendees including organizations such as New Hope, NeighborWorks, Catholic Social Services, and the South Coast Coalition to End Homelessness.

On December 19, 2022, a publicly posted public hearing was held at Taunton City Hall for comments on the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The Notice was also sent to all consortium members for posting at their respective City/Town Halls. The Notice also included the 15 day comment period notice. No one from the public showed up for the hearing.

***List the organizations consulted, and summarize the feedback received from these entities.***

<b>Agency/Org Consulted</b>	<b>Type of Agency/Org</b>	<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Feedback</b>
Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)	Regional Organization Civic Leaders	Zoom Meeting	Need for affordable and permanent supportive housing for homeless and near homeless.
Greater Bristol County/Attleboro/Taunton Coalition to End Homelessness CoC	Services-homeless Regional organization	Zoom Meeting	Need for affordable and permanent supportive housing for homeless and near homeless. Also additional supportive services.
Father Bill's & Mainspring	Housing Services-homeless	Phone Consultation	Need for affordable and permanent supportive housing for homeless and near homeless. Also additional supportive services.

Housing Authorities in the Consortium	PHA	Phone Consultation	Need for additional affordable housing, primarily rental units.
Veteran Service Organizations	Services-Housing Services-homeless	Phone Consultation	Need for additional housing and supportive services. Specifically addressing mental health.
Community Counseling of Bristol County	Housing and Health Services-Children Elderly, Persons with Disabilities Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health	Zoom Meeting	Need for new affordable housing especially for elderly. Need for permanent supportive housing for homeless and near homeless. Also additional supportive services. CCBC, is also the lead agency for the local CoC.
City of Taunton – Human Services	Services-Elderly Persons	Phone Consultation	Affordable housing and additional services for elderly in Taunton.
South Coastal Counties Legal Services	Fair Housing, Housing Discrimination Laws, Counseling	Phone Consultation	Need for additional affordable housing units and specifically units with supportive services.
New Hope	Services-Victims of Domestic and Dating Violence	Zoom Meeting	Need for additional emergency housing/shelters and services for victims of domestic violence. Needs are for families as well as women and men.

## Public Participation

*PJs must provide for and encourage citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan. Before submission of the plan, PJs must provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of **no less than 15 calendar days**. The PJ must follow its adopted requirements for “reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment” for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan. In addition, PJs must hold **at least one public hearing** during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan and prior to submission.*

*For the purpose of HOME-ARP, PJs are required to make the following information available to the public:*

- *The amount of HOME-ARP the PJ will receive,*
- *The range of activities the PJ may undertake.*

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

- ***Public comment period: start date - 12/6/2022 end date – 12/21/2022***
- ***Public hearing: 12/19/2022***

The City of Taunton’s approach to Citizen Participation was to build upon its extensive process used to create prior plans. Groups active in areas that could use resources were notified of the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and were invited to submit suggestions, ideas and requests for support.

Two public outreach meetings were conducted on 01/25/2022 via Zoom at the beginning of the process to provide a forum for the public to learn about the HOME-ARP Program, to ask questions, and to provide input on how funds should be spent. Official notices of the public outreach meetings were advertised in two local community newspapers, posted on the City of Taunton website, and at the OECD office. The public outreach meetings notice was advertised on 01/21/2022 & 01/22/2022. Consortium communities were also asked to post public hearing notices in their individual City/Town Halls. Local agencies who deal with specific housing related issues were also invited to attend and participate in this process. During the public outreach meetings and prior to the plan being developed, the City received comments which are summarized in the Citizen Participation section of this report and the minutes of the meetings are attached in the appendix.

Once there was a draft plan a public hearing was held on December 19, 2022. It was advertised in two local community newspapers, posted on the City of Taunton website, and at the OECD office. The public hearing notice was advertised on 12/6/2022 with the 15-day comment period ending on 12/21/2022. Consortium members were also asked to post these public hearing notices with their respective towns. Please note that no one showed up for the public hearing and no comments were received.

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

The Public Hearing was combined with a regular meeting of the GATHC in order to ensure all towns in the PJ had advance notice and the opportunity to attend, ask questions, provide feedback, and extend the announcement to their residents. During the process, public hearings were held in person and via electronic media. Those public hearings and public comment period were advertised on the City's website. Additionally, various public service agencies and public service providers were specifically contacted for their input with regards to the HOME-ARP plan and draft plan content.

*The PJ must consider any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at a public hearing, when preparing the HOME-ARP allocation plan.*

***Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process:***

As a result of outreach efforts with human service organizations, homeless advocacy groups, housing providers, legal advocates, and the general public, it was determined that overall priorities that should be considered by the Consortium for HOME ARP funds should include:

- More affordable rental housing and affordable housing that provides supportive services for homeless and near homeless individuals and families.
- Additional available units including family units with supportive services for those escaping domestic violence.
- Additional affordable units for seniors and those being pushed from traditional housing do to the increase in rents and expenses.
- Additional affordable units for veterans with supportive services.

These organizations stated that homelessness and near homelessness is an issue especially with elderly, veterans, families, substance abused, and the LBGTQ population. It was noted that veterans and families have some additional resources available to them that the other populations do not qualify for.

Comments from the public outreach meetings also concluded: The elderly population is growing and they are affected frequently because of housing costs and maintenance expenses. Also, the high cost of housing, while not the only reason, is seen as the major cause of homelessness.

There were questions regarding the limitations of funding specific types of projects, such as homeless and Domestic Violence Shelters.

See the attached public hearing minutes.

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

All input was considered in the development of this ARP Allocation Plan and priorities were established that would best serve the population as indicated during the public outreach sessions. However, the GATHC has continued to take comments, suggestions and further discussions with human service agencies and other concerned entities up until the publication of this report.

Some specific comments and ideas that have been received in regards to the HOME-ARP funding have included providing funding for those delinquent in their rent or mortgage payments, and for programs that would be similar to TBRA. These types of programs were considered but determined to be infeasible with the use of ARP funding. TBRA programs would be allowable under the regulations, however, the Consortium believes that the benefit provided would be limited to only a few clients; and further that it would place a high burden of fiscal

management and oversight that the Consortium does not have the capacity to provide. Similarly, any program which would provide individual households with payments to assist with rent or mortgage delinquency would only benefit a few. The consortium would prefer to use the available ARP funding to create new housing units that can provide long term benefit to the Consortium region and constituents.

## Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

*PJs must evaluate the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of those populations. In addition, a PJ must identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. A PJ should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.*

*The PJ may use the optional tables provided below and/or attach additional data tables to this template.*

### OPTIONAL Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	223	50	18	#	0								
Transitional Housing	30	10	12	#	0								
Permanent Supportive Housing	24	7	50	#	33								
Other Permanent Housing						#	#	#	#				
Sheltered Homeless						58	29	11	8				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	28	4	0				
<b>Current Gap</b>										84	9	23	#

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

## OPTIONAL Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Non-Homeless			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	#		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	#		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	#		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		#	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		#	
Current Gaps			,

**Suggested Data Sources:** 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

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

According to the 2022 Point-in Time (PIT) for MA-519 Attleboro, Taunton/Bristol County CoC, there are approximately 250 homeless persons comprising about 115 households. More than half of the homeless households have at least one child, of those households with children, 49 are in emergency shelters while only 9 are in transitional housing. Children under 18 make up 46% of the total homeless population. 23% of homeless persons in this CoC are Hispanic/Latino. The percentage of Hispanic/Latino homeless in emergency shelters (81%) is noticeably higher than Non-Hispanic/Latino, which is only 73%.

The consortiums at-risk of homelessness population is very difficult to assess. This is because the Consortium is made up of 14 communities that range from rural towns with populations of just over 6,000 residents to the two Cities, Taunton and Attleboro, with populations of 59,600 and 46,580 respectively.

Massachusetts has distributed over \$411 million dollars in rental assistance to more than 55,000 households since March 2020. The poverty rate in the two Cities in the Consortium; Taunton, and Attleboro are 13.9% and 9.2% respectively. The poverty rate for all of Massachusetts is 11.1%, meaning the two Consortium cities average is higher than average percentage of residents below the poverty line when compared to the rest of the state.

***Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations, including but not limited to:***

- *Sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations;*
- *Those currently housed populations at risk of homelessness;*
- *Other families requiring services or housing assistance or to prevent homelessness;*  
*and,*
- *Those at greatest risk of housing instability or in unstable housing situations:*

The unsheltered population through our Continuum has doubled over the past 2 years. The unmet need for our homeless population is the lack of shelter beds and permanent supportive housing units. Therefore, there is a need for additional emergency shelter capabilities but more so, the issue is the bottleneck of housing. Housing costs have risen and the number of low income units do not currently meet the needs of the community. This creates a bottleneck for the shelter; in that those currently in emergency shelter are unable to secure affordable, safe and sanitary permanent housing. Low and moderate income households are at significant risk of a housing crisis as the cost of rental units continues to rise.

*Other Families Requiring Services or Housing Assistance or to Prevent Homelessness & Those at Greatest Risk of Housing Instability or in Unstable Housing Situation:* Consortium residents have experienced the rising cost of rent and are paying more than they can afford for housing. Therefore, many of Consortium residents are only a paycheck away from being homeless.

*Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking or Human Trafficking:* The consortium region is serviced by New Hope, Inc, a non-profit domestic violence service provider. New Hope has a capacity of 13 beds (between two separate facilities) for victims for a population of over 291,000 people. The number of domestic violence calls for service increased from 2020 to 2021 by 2.37%. The Covid-19 pandemic has led to a shortage of beds and has made operation of the congregate style shelter very challenging. New Hope is currently pursuing the development of a new 14 bed non-congregate facility. The City and Consortium will reach out to the service provider to determine the ability to increase the number of available shelter space even further. Human trafficking research shows us that those at greater risk for a need of shelter are those who have language barriers and those of the LGBTQ.

*Veterans and Families that Include a Veteran Family Member that Meet One of the Preceding Criteria:* The Consortium region has 15 known veterans either living in shelters or unsheltered on the street. The 8 known veterans were all male with two (2) being African/American and the rest being white. Four of these veterans are chronically homeless and have refused services in the past. Our veteran population does not only have housing needs but also needs a wide range of supportive services. Most of our homeless veteran population has substance abuse and mental health challenges that make sustainability of housing nearly impossible.

The above qualifying populations need to have supportive services to decrease their risk of housing inability. These populations have substance abuse, mental health issues and lack basic life skills. Without long term housing assistance and supportive services, many households will not be able to obtain and sustain their housing. Supportive services needs consist of case management, child care, educational services, employment assistance, food, legal services, housing services, life skills, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services and transportation.



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

The use of Emergency Housing Vouchers has helped to open up supportive housing units for those most vulnerable in the community. Additionally, the Flexible Services Program supported by MassHealth has provided tremendous services to those in a housing crisis. Through case management specifically geared toward housing, many households have been able to obtain either market rate or subsidized units. Those in crisis have had an advocate to help navigate the eviction process and gain access to assistance with rental arrears, etc. Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA): Currently the Consortium does not have a TBRA program.

*Services:* The City has a number of non-profit agencies that provide supportive services to assist the qualifying populations within the consortium region. The supportive services offered include: case management, childcare, educational services, employment assistance, food, life skills, legal services, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation, moving cost assistance and utility deposits.

*Permanent Supportive Rental Housing:* The City recently assisted with the development of 10 new housing units to be managed by a local non-profit that provides mental health, and recovery supportive services. The City will continue to reach out to these types of organizations to continue its development of new supportive services units.

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

The Consortium's housing and shelter needs are greater than the available resources. As we move into the next few years this gap is going to continually grow.

Based on the 2022 PIT, the City has 28 unsheltered homeless and 125 sheltered homeless all looking to obtain affordable permanent housing. With shelter beds at capacity, 28 individuals were living on the street waiting to access a shelter bed.

There are significant gaps in emergency shelter opportunities for individuals, and no shelter allows for couples to remain together. Additionally the number of subsidized units does not currently meet the need of the consortium.

***Identify the characteristics of housing associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness if the PJ will include such conditions in its definitions of "other populations" as established in the HOME-ARP Notice:***

The concern for the areas are households that are housing cost-burdened. Those paying upwards of 50+% of income toward rent, are no longer able to sustain units as the prices for apartments in the area have increased substantially. One bedroom units previously renting for \$850 a month are

now being rented for \$1,300-1,400 a month. Many are households with children, which continue to struggle with childcare challenges and school attendance due to ongoing issues with Covid-19. This prevents many parents from the ability to work full time.

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

A large number of households in the Consortium are cost burdened and severely cost burdened when it comes to how much of their income is being paid towards housing. If you are cost burdened or severely cost burdened you are at a greater risk of becoming homeless. Market constraints and rising rental costs, have made the ability of qualifying populations to obtain safe affordable housing almost impossible. A large majority of our homeless individuals also suffer from various forms on mental illness or addiction. As such, it is very difficult for them to sustain that housing while dealing with their disability.

As illustrated above, the need of the consortium's qualifying populations is increasing the number of housing units that are affordable. The qualifying populations also need supportive services to sustain their housing and growing needs on a long-term basis. The consortium needs to increase the supply of permanent supportive housing units to promote housing stability among its qualifying populations.

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

To determine the level of need and gaps in its shelter, housing inventory and service delivery systems, the Consortium used its annual Point-In-Time Count, and Housing Inventory Chart. The programs allowed for the Consortium to analyze what the current needs are and what services are available to meet those needs.

In preparation of this amendment the Consortium initiated discussions and meetings with service providers throughout the Consortium, and reached out to the consortium members as well. The goal of this outreach was to work closely with service providers to determine the needs of our communities and what obstacles service providers are facing when trying to meet those needs.

## **HOME-ARP Activities**

***Describe the method for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors and whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:***

GATHC goal is to leverage HOME-ARP funding with other Federal, State or local funding sources for the development of affordable housing.

Acquisition and Development of Non Congregate Shelters:

Funding will be allocated by a request for proposal (RFP) process. Emphasis will be placed on projects that are leveraging other funding sources.

Affordable Housing Development:

Funding will be allocated by a request for proposal (RFP) process. Emphasis will be placed on projects that are leveraging other funding sources.

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

N/A

PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits. The following table may be used to meet this requirement.

**Use of HOME-ARP Funding**

	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Percent of the Grant</b>	<b>Statutory Limit</b>
Supportive Services	\$ #		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 1,500,000		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ #		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 720,182		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ #	0%	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ #	0%	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 391,797	15%	15%
<b>Total HOME ARP Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 2,611,979</b>		

*Additional narrative, if applicable:*

GATHC will allocate \$2,220,182 of HOME-ARP funding for the purchase and rehabilitation of affordable housing units and the Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters.

These funds will also cover soft costs and a developer fee on each project. GATHC is also setting aside \$391,797 for administration and planning of the HOME-ARP Program.

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

The Consortium is actively in discussions with various non-for-profit and human service providers to develop new non-congregate housing units. These units would be available to both homeless and at-risk of homelessness individuals, provide counseling and provide supportive services for the residents.

Additionally, the Consortium, upon approval of this plan, will solicit proposals from human service agencies that specialize in housing, care and counseling of those fleeing abuse, violence and assault, to develop new housing units.

The Consortium works with several human service providers that address transitional housing for families and veterans. Applications received by these agencies will be considered for funding based on the cost of the requested funding and the merit of the request.

## **HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals**

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

GATHC estimates that the HOME-ARP grant could create 10 new affordable housing units. GATHC will also use, when available, leveraging from other federal, state and local funding sources. If other funding sources are not available, housing projects will be evaluated or completion using HOME-ARP funding only. GATHC estimates that the HOME-ARP grant can assist in the creation of 15 non-congregate shelter units. GATHC will also emphasize the use, when available, leveraging from other federal, state and local funding sources.

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

GATHC estimates that the HOME-ARP grant could create 5 new affordable housing units. GATHC will also use, when available, leveraging from other federal, state and local funding sources. If other funding sources are not available, housing projects will be completed using HOME-ARP funding. GATHC estimates the HOME-ARP grant can assist in the creation of 15 non-congregate shelter units. GATHC will also emphasize the use, when available, leveraging from other federal, state and local funding sources.

## Preferences

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

- Preferences cannot violate any applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a).
- PJs are not required to describe specific projects to which the preferences will apply.

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

GATHC is not applying preferences to any qualifying populations.

*If a preference was identified, describe how the PJ will use HOME-ARP funds to address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the preference:*

N/A

## HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

If the PJ intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, the PJ must state its HOME-ARP refinancing guidelines in accordance with 24 CFR 92.206(b). The guidelines must describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt for a HOME-ARP rental project, including:

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

## **Appendix A:**

### **HOME-ARP Public Outreach 1/25/22 meetings Notices & Minutes**

**LEGALS**

**North Attleboro Electric  
Vehicle Diesel Fuel Tank Replacement RFP**

North Attleboro Electric is requesting proposals to furnish and install a New 1000 Gallon above ground concrete encased diesel fuel tank, also remove and dispose our old tank at our Operations Center which is located at 275 Landry Avenue.

A full scope of the work will be available January 26th on our website (naelectric.com), or by contacting John McGuire at [jmcguire@naelectric.com](mailto:jmcguire@naelectric.com).

All proposals are due by February 9th at 12:00pm. 1/22/2022

**AUTO WANTED**

WANTED Junk or Unwanted Cars or Trucks. Will pick up & pay \$\$\$ FOGERTY'S TOWING & AUTO SALVAGE. IORTON. Call 508-285-7440.

WANTED JUNK CARS & TRUCKS - \$\$ CASH PAID Same Day Pickup. 7 days/wk --- 508-212-0586 ---

**BUSINESS SERVICES**

Four Seasons Carpentry New Construction, Additions, Home Improvement. Lic./Ins. 08-455-1455

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Big Blue Removal Trash & Junk Removal Attic-Cellar-Garage We Take Everything •Furn. Appl Yard Waste •Construction Debris Brush DEMOLITION Sheds •Decks Pools Fences• •Best Prices Free Est. • Call Tony 508-226-1295 [bigbluejunkremovals.com](http://bigbluejunkremovals.com)

MJC PLASTERING, INC. Plaster & blue board installation. Rehab & new onst. Ins. Mike 508-838-6272

North East Pellet Stoves Cleaning and repair Cleanings include: inspection, cleaning of liner, fans, etc. Located in Woonsocket serving many areas in Mass, and Rhode Island. appointments available (401) 379-0110 [northeastpelletstoves.com](http://northeastpelletstoves.com)

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**GENERAL HELP WANTED**

**Sales & Estimating Position**

BAU/HOPKINS is seeking a candidate to fill an inside sales & estimating position. We are seeking a self-motivated individual who has the ability to work independently & has experience reviewing bid specification & contract drawings.

Role Includes:  
- Generating priced proposals in a timely manner  
- Generating submittal documentation  
- Supporting the outside sales force  
- Responding to request from customers for product information & pricing  
Computer skills a must - MS Office: Word, Excel, Outlook.

Please email resumes [admin@bauhopkins.com](mailto:admin@bauhopkins.com)

**SUBCONTRACTOR CREW**

We are a home improvement company in North Attleboro that is seeking an exp'd. crew for vinyl siding work as well as INSTALLERS for windows & doors in North Attleboro & surrounding areas. Must have all tools & your own equipment. The ability to use a metal break for exterior aluminum wrap is a must! Own truck is also req'd. This is a 1099 Job. ----- Apply:

**BRUIN CORP.**

479 Mt. Hope St. 508.695.8222 or copy & paste: <https://www.indeed.com/job?q=window%20installer%20Bruin&l=North%20Attleboro%2C%20MA&vjk=9151c31ce7754c17>

**FUEL/FIREWOOD**



**GREATER ATTLEBORO/TAUNTON HOME CONSORTIUM HOME PROGRAM PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS**

Please join us to discuss how the Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC) should spend the federal funding that it will be awarded as a Participating Jurisdiction in Program Year 2022 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and Program Year 2021 HOME American Recovery Plan (ARP) Funds.

Taunton's Office of Economic and Community Development (OECD), as the lead agency for the GATHC, will host these meetings and briefly explain the guidelines of the HOME Programs. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss ideas and proposals, as well as make suggestions on how those federal funds can most effectively be used to serve the housing needs of the region's low and moderate income residents, including homeless and near homeless individuals and families. Notice of Intent Applications for HOME and HOME-ARP funding proposals will be available through the OECD.

**ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION**  
January 25, 2022

**9:30 A.M.**  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81520492186?pwd=cUppQjZ3TVZYbVdRbVZXM2tER2Vmdz09>

Meeting ID: 815 2049 2186  
Passcode: 520711  
Phone in: (929)205-6099

**6:00 P.M.**  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85014742121?pwd=RkFbnA4V1VScdERNOOR0R2w5aktQOT09>

Meeting ID: 850 1474 2121  
Passcode: 478758  
Phone in: (929)205-6099

For additional information, please contact:  
Janine Peccini, Program Manager,  
Office of Economic & Community Development  
at 508-821-1030

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**LOCAL INTERESTING. APPEALING**



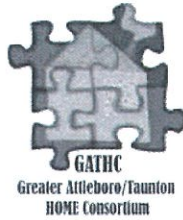
ices Fiscal Year 2022 Fire-  
 ty Equipment Grant Pro-  
 Timothy S. Faulstich, Daily  
 a press release.  
 000 grant will be used to  
 vo Blowhard battery-pow-

powered 16-inch chain saws; six Stihl  
 Quick cut battery-powered saws with  
 diamond wheel blades; and one Holma-  
 tro battery-powered combo quick extri-  
 cation tool.

variety of equipment that will make  
 firefighters' jobs safer. This is the sec-  
 ond year that funding has been awarded  
 as part of a \$25 million bond bill filed by  
 the Baker-Polito administration.

## Southcoast no charges

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### GREATER ATTLEBORO/TAUNTON HOME CONSORTIUM

### HOME PROGRAM PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

Please join us to discuss how the Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC) should spend the federal funding that it will be awarded as a Participating Jurisdiction in Program Year 2022 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)** and Program Year 2021 **HOME American Recovery Plan (ARP) Funds**.

Taunton's Office of Economic and Community Development (OECD), as the lead agency for the GATHC, will host these meetings and briefly explain the guidelines of the HOME Programs. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss ideas and proposals, as well as make suggestions on how those federal funds can most effectively be used to serve the housing needs of the region's low and moderate income residents, including homeless and near homeless individuals and families. Notice of Intent Applications for HOME and HOME-ARP funding proposals will be available through the OECD.

#### ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION

January 25, 2022

#### 9:30 A.M.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81520492186?pwd=cUppQjZ3TVZYbVdRbVZXM2tER2Vmdz09>

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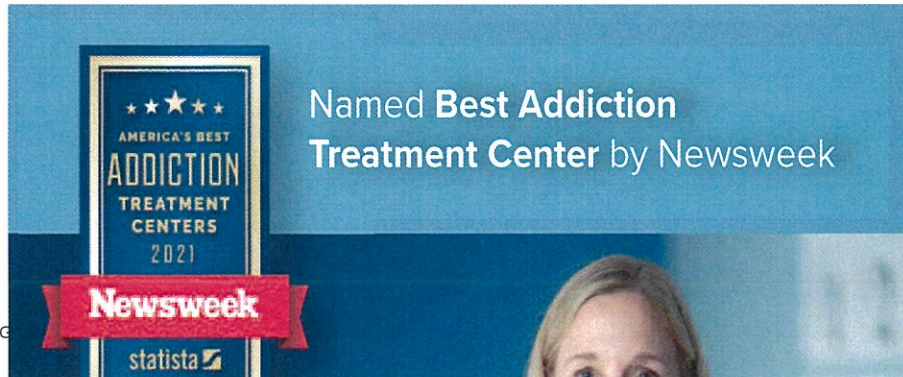
For additional information, please contact:

Janine Peccini, Program Manager,

Office of Economic & Community Development at

508-821-1030

HW:CN14008216



## **GBCATCH Meeting Minutes**

**December 17, 2021**

### **Attendance: 21 Total Attendees**

1. Olivia Behrens, Acting Chair - Eliot CHS
2. Janelle Miller - Eliot CHS
3. Ellen Bruder-Moore Abramowitz - CCBC/Pro-Homes
4. Janet Richardi - SoCo
5. Janine Paccini - City of Taunton
6. Martha Reed - Catholic Social Services
7. Maureen Medeiros - Catholic Social Services
8. Shonda DeMello - CCBC
9. Sandra McGunigle - Manet Community Health Center
10. Jim Hawkins - State Representative
11. Carol Doherty - State Representative
12. Julio Carrasquillo - Catholic Social Services
13. Dennis Wong - CCBC
14. Glen Whittaker - Our Daily Bread
15. Sheila Chasse - Catholic Social Services
16. Zara Brockman - Vets Inc.
17. Pamela Bastis - Tufts Health
18. Mary Beth Forshaw - City of Taunton
19. Jen Valle - Vets Inc.
20. Tara Major - Rep. Hawkins Office
21. Paul Chasse - Pro-Homes

### **Introductory Remarks:**

Olivia Behrens, Elliot Community Services, Co-Chair of GBCATCH, called the meeting to order at 10:33 am and welcomed everyone to the GBCATCH meeting. Olivia announced that the first order of business would be to vote to approve the meeting minutes from the previous month.

### **December 2021 GBCATCH Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve last month's GBCATCH meeting minutes by Olivia Behrens, Elliot Community Services and this motion was seconded by Glen Whittaker, Our Daily Bread Food and Resource Center. The motion to approve last month's meeting minutes passed unopposed with a unanimous vote. Olivia introduced Janine Paccini, City of Taunton to speak about ARPA funding from OECD and a brief update

### **ARPA from OECD Funding Update:**

**Janine Paccini, City of Taunton**

There is 2.6 million ARPA homes funds available from OECD, eligible population is homeless and near homelessness, discussed at risk population of elders, mental health, substance abuse, veterans, and a need for additional female shelter beds, and LGBTQ population.

Janine shared we need determine what groups we want to focus on. Shared we are seeing a rise in medically fragile clients which changes how the shelter staff and operations work. Discussed different types of usages on how the money will be applied to domestic violence, shelters, housing vouchers.

Ellen Abramowitz, CCBC shared that this continuum supports the need for additional shelters.

### **Cold Weather Shelter in Attleboro:**

**Janet Richardi, SoCo**

Janet talked about what Attleboro churches are doing for their homeless community during these cold weather days. Community churches have been doing their best to find and provide shelter for their homeless people in Attleboro. In some cases, they have put people up in the Pineapple in in North Attleboro

### **Carol Doherty, State Representative:**

Carol asked what is the status of the Samaritan House and were they open. Maureen Medeiros, Catholic Social Services stated that the Samaritan House was not closed, did not close and has remained opened, for COVID safety reasons they moved to a different location.

### **GBCATCH Cold Weather Shelter:**

**Ellen Abramowitz, CCBC**

Ellen shared that Taunton will be opening a cold weather shelter starting in December at the Holiday Inn located in the Taunton Industrial Park. This location was chosen do to easy bus route access. Ellen also stressed that this needs to be a Bristol County community initiative, not just Taunton and to bring in other towns we need their supportive efforts, volunteerisms, and financial support.

Glen Whittaker, Our Daily Bread Food and Resource Center, who will be managing day to day operations of the shelter gave an overview of the shelter program. Main points were the shelter will open when temperatures are at 22 degrees or below or a

significant snow storm. The Cold Weather Shelter Hot Line is (508) 233-2447. Glen also added currently this is for Taunton homeless residents only, but we are hoping to open it up to our Bristol County Community with their help

Ellen mentioned that she will reach out to Attleboro Mayor Paul Heroux to see if he will participate in this program

**Point In Time Count:**

**Ellen Abramowitz, CCBC**

Ellen reminded the group of the importance of the group participating during the PIT count that is scheduled for the last Wednesday of January.

**Project Attleboro Shelter:**

**Janet Richardi, SOCO Network to End Homelessness,**

Janet communicated their project remains on track and is scheduled to meet the timeline discussed.

**Closing Remarks:**

**Oliva Behrans**

Olivia wished everyone a Happy Holidays

The next meeting is on January 21, 2022,

**Motion to Close Meeting:**

A motion was made by Glen Whittaker, Our Daily Bread food and Resource Center to close the meeting and it was seconded by Maureen Medeiros, Catholic Social Services. There were no oppositions and the meeting ended at approximately 11:28 am.

**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON January 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 at 10:30 am**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Glen Whittaker, Our Daily Bread Food and Resource Center

**Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)  
PY 2022 HOME PROGRAM and PY2021 HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

**Public Outreach Meeting  
Via Zoom  
1/25/22  
9:30 A.M.**

Attendees:

Marcia Szymanski, New Hope  
Emily Rothschild, NeighborWorks/Housing Solutions  
Susan Mazzarella, Catholic Social Services  
Janet Richardi, South Coast Network to End Homelessness  
Nancy Goulart, GATHC, Dighton  
Janine Peccini, OECD, Taunton  
William Roth, Ex. Dir. OECD, Taunton  
Jim Howland, OECD, Taunton

***MINUTES:***

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 A.M.

Janine Peccini welcomed the attendees and provided an introduction. Attendees also introduced themselves.

Overview and HOME Program Activities

Ms. Peccini explained the purpose of public hearing process and the following topics to be discussed including: an overview of the HOME Program, goals and requirements, a summary of PY 2021 activities, funding, the need for input on how funds should be spent during the upcoming year, and the PY 2021 Action Plan.

Ms. Peccini provided an overview of the HOME program including a discussion of types of housing development projects and the first-time home buyer program that are undertaken and funded through HOME funds.

The funding process, expenditure of funds and general information regarding the Annual Action Plan was also explained.

Questions and Comments on the HOME Program

Ms. Peccini asked the participants if they had any questions regarding the HOME program or if they would like to offer any input on the needs that exist or any recommendations on how they would like to see future funding spent.

Ms. Szymanski asked about income eligibility for the HOME program. She was interested in actual numbers used for families. While we gave her an idea of a couple of family sizes in the City of Taunton, we reminded her that the numbers were based on not only family household size but the income limits depended on which Consortium community you lived in.

Ms. Rothschild said that she would like to see some of the programs streamlined. The larger type of development projects that she often works on often have many funding sources and it can get very complicated. She also felt that there were not enough HOME funds available.

Ms. Goulart asked if the Down Payment and Closing cost assistance program was still capped at up to \$25,000. Mr. Howland stated that yes, that cap has not changed.

Ms. Peccini explained that we have HOME Program applications available to those interested in applying for funds. OECD likes to meet with applicant to be sure their proposed projects are an eligible use of HOME funds before they complete an application.

#### Overview of HOME-ARP Program

Ms. Peccini explained that Consortium would be receiving \$2,611,979 in HOME-ARP funds to be used to address homeless and near homeless needs. Before funds can be used, HUD requires that a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan be developed that includes a housing and needs analysis and extensive community input. Funds must be spent by September 30, 2030.

The funds can be used for: creating affordable housing for qualified populations, non-congregate shelter units, tenant- based rental assistance; or supportive services.

#### Questions and Comments on the HOME-ARP Funds

Ms. Peccini asked the participants if they had any questions or if they would like to offer any input on the needs that exist or provide any recommendations on how they would like to see HOME-ARP funds spent.

Ms. Szymanski stated that New Hope is providing supportive housing for victims of domestic violence. She said that there is a need to provide more housing and support service for these victims, both women, men and families.

Ms. Rothschild asked Ms. Mazzarella to discuss the population that Catholic Social Services is seeing with the most severe needs. She stated that the chronically homeless are in need of emergency beds and permanent supportive housing. She stated that a proposed project in Attleboro that will have 22 units of permanent supportive housing and 18 shelter beds. The project will use coordinated entry through the Continuum of Care in the region. Ms. Mazzarella explained that this type of housing is used as a path toward people having their own dwelling.

Ms. Rothschild identified that many people living in temporary shelters can get comfortable with nearby services and the permanent supportive housing keeps the support nearby.

Ms. Szymanski reiterated that there is a real need for affordable housing in the area. She sees that as a real bottleneck. New Hope received two or three calls a day with people asking about affordable unit they can move in to.

Ms. Goulart asked if people can stay in a shelter until housing is found. Ms. Szymanski said yes but the homeless individuals must show self-responsibility. She said that most homeless are in extreme poverty and an estimated 75% have mental health, substance abuse and/or medical issues. She said each individual path will be different.

Ms. Richardi said that "Housing First" is very important as people can never get better if they are living in tents. She would like to see additional supportive services to homeless and near homeless individuals.

Ms. Goulart asked if people were coming to the area from outside of the region to use the shelters. The consensus was most are not. People from small surrounding towns do go to cities like Taunton and Attleboro for services but most people are from this area in general.

Ms. Szymanski mentioned that she sees about ½ single people and ½ families.

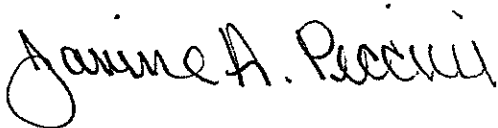
There was a general discussion that single people and people with immigration issues stay in shelter longer because families have more options available to them.

There were no additional questions. Ms. Peccini thanked participants for attending.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janine A. Peccini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janine Peccini, Program Manager  
Taunton Office of Economic and Community Development

**Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)  
PY 2022 HOME PROGRAM and PY2021 HOME-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

**Public Outreach Meeting  
Via Zoom  
1/25/22  
6:00 P.M.**

Attendees:

Ellen Bruder-Moore Abramowitz, Community Counseling of Bristol County (CCBG)  
Janine Peccini, OECD, Taunton  
William Roth, Ex. Dir. OECD, Taunton

***MINUTES:***

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 P.M.

Janine Peccini welcomed the attendee and provided an introduction. Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz also introduced herself.

Overview and HOME Program Activities

Ms. Peccini explained the purpose of public hearing process and the following topics to be discussed including: an overview of the HOME Program, goals and requirements, a summary of PY 2021 activities, funding, the need for input on how funds should be spent during the upcoming year, and the PY 2021 Action Plan.

Ms. Peccini provided an overview of the HOME program including a discussion of types of housing development projects and the first-time home buyer program that are undertaken and funded through HOME funds.

The funding process, expenditure of funds and general information regarding the Annual Action Plan was also explained.

Questions and Comments on the HOME Program

Ms. Peccini asked the participants if they had any questions regarding the HOME program or if they would like to offer any input on the needs that exist or any recommendations on how they would like to see future funding spent.

Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz, serving as Vice President of Housing initiatives at CCBC, sees many people in need of human services. She explained that she is seeing real increase in the elderly population that is in need of assistance. Many elderly, especially single elderly, are in need of affordable housing. This increase is likely due to Taunton's aging population and the cost of housing.



Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz stated that more affordable housing is needed.

CCBC, a non-profit, and once a CHDO, is interested in partnering with private developers to provide affordable supporting housing for low and moderate income residents. These developments would be on the smaller side, maybe ten units each. Ms. Bruder-Moore expressed that some of it would likely be elderly housing.

#### Overview of HOME-ARP Program

Ms. Peccini explained that Consortium would be receiving \$2,611,979 in HOME-ARP funds to be used to address homeless and near homeless needs. Before funds can be used, HUD requires that a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan be developed that includes a housing and needs analysis and extensive community input. Funds must be spent by September 30, 2030.

The funds can be used for: creating affordable housing for qualified populations, non-congregate shelter units, tenant-based rental assistance; or supportive services.

#### Questions and Comments on the HOME-ARP Funds

Ms. Peccini asked the participants if they had any questions or if they would like to offer any input on the needs that exist or provide any recommendations on how they would like to see HOME-ARP funds spent.

Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz recommended that additional safe affordable housing is developed for homeless and near homeless people. She shared that providing stable housing to people who are homeless and near homeless (many with substance abuse issues) is so important. Affordable housing improves the entire community. By providing supportive services along with the affordable housing helps people become more self-sufficient and good tenants in the future.

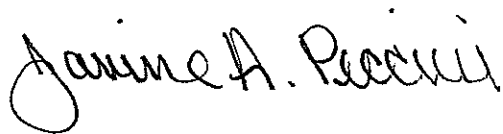
Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz strongly supports the proposed combined regional homeless shelter and permanent supportive housing project planned in Attleboro.

There were no additional questions. Ms. Peccini thanked Ms. Bruder-Moore Abramowitz for attending.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Janine Peccini, Program Manager  
Taunton Office of Economic and Community Development

**Appendix B:  
HOME-ARP Public Hearing & 15 Day comment period –  
Notices & Minutes**



**Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)  
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME  
HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

**Public Hearing – December 19, 2022 at 5pm  
Taunton City Hall, Municipal Chambers**

**Fifteen Day Public Comment Period  
December 6, 2022 to December 21, 2022**

RECEIVED  
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2022 DEC -2 A 11: 07  
TAUNTON, MA  
CITY CLERK

The City of Taunton, lead city for the Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC), has issued the draft FY2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan on the Consortium's anticipated use of HOME-ARP funds. The Consortium includes the communities of Attleboro, Berkley, Carver, Dighton, Freetown, Lakeville, Mansfield, Middleboro, North Attleboro, Norton, Plainville, Raynham, Seekonk and Taunton have been awarded \$2,611,979 of HOME-ARP funds.

A Public Hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2022, at 5:00 PM at Taunton City Hall, Municipal Council Chambers, 15 Summer Street, Taunton MA. The purpose of the hearing is to review and take public comment on the draft Allocation Plan.

HOME-ARP funds may be used benefit qualifying populations through:

1. Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA);
2. Development and support of affordable housing;
3. Provision of supportive services;
4. Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter;
5. Nonprofit capacity building and operating assistance; and
6. Funds for the planning and administration of the HOME-ARP Program.

For the purposes of HOME-ARP, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) defines qualifying individuals or families, including Veterans that are:

1. Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
2. At risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
3. Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as defined by HUD in 24 CFR 5.2003) or human trafficking (as outlined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as amended [22 USC 7102]); and

4. Part of other populations, where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the National Affordable Housing Act 42 USC 12472(a) would: a. Prevent a family's homelessness; b. Serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

The draft FY2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is available for a fifteen-day public comment period starting on December 6, 2022. Comments should be submitted to the Office of Economic and Community Development at 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780: in person by appointment, by mail, email at [oced@taunton-ma.gov](mailto:oced@taunton-ma.gov), hand delivery or by calling until 4:00 p.m. EST on December 21, 2022. The FY2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be submitted to HUD after a review of public comments, on or about December 23, 2022. For further information, please contact William Roth, Jr., Executive Director, Office of Economic and Community Development, at (508) 821-1030.

The draft plan can be viewed at the following:

- **Office of Economic and Community Development** - 15 Summer Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Taunton, MA
- **Taunton City Clerk's Office** - 15 Summer Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Taunton, MA
- **City of Taunton Website:** <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/188/Economic-Community-Development>

Persons requesting accessibility or translation services for this document are asked to call the City of Taunton, Office of Economic and Community Development at 508-821-1030 by December 12, 2022.



## ORPHANS: Ukrainians work to save children

FROM PAGE A1

the children at any cost.” Throughout the war Russians have been accused of deporting Ukrainian children to Russia or Russian-held territories to raise them as their own. At least 1,000 children were seized from schools and orphanages in the Kherson region during Russia’s eight-month occupation of the area, say local authorities. Their whereabouts are still unknown.

But residents say even more children would have gone missing had it not been for the efforts of some in the community who risked their lives to hide as many children as they could.

At the hospital in Kherson, staff invented diseases for 11 abandoned babies under their care, so they wouldn’t have to give them to the orphanage where they knew they’d be given Russian documents and potentially taken away. One baby had “pulmonary bleeding,” another “uncontrollable convulsions” and another needed “artificial ventilation,” said Pilyarska of the fake records.

On the outskirts of Kherson in the village of Stepanivka, Volodymyr Sahaidak the director of a center for social and psychological rehabilitation, was also falsifying paperwork to hide 52 orphaned and vulnerable children. The 61-year-old placed some of the children with seven of his staff, others were taken to distant relatives and some of the older ones remained with him, he said. “It seemed that if I did not hide my children they would simply be taken away from me,” he said.

But moving them around wasn’t easy. After



BERNAT ARMANQUE / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orphans sleep inside cribs at the children’s regional hospital maternity ward in Kherson, southern Ukraine. At least 1,000 children were seized from schools and orphanages in the Kherson region during Russia’s eight-month occupation of the area. Their whereabouts are still unknown.

Russia occupied Kherson and much of the region in March, they started separating orphans at checkpoints, forcing Sahaidak to get creative about how to transport them. In one instance he faked records saying that a group of kids had received treatment in the hospital and were being taken by their aunt to be reunited with their mother who was nine months pregnant and waiting for them on the other side of the river, he said.

While Sahaidak managed to save of the Russians, not all children were as lucky. In the orphanage in Kherson — where the hospital would have sent the 11 babies — some 50 children were evacuated in October and allegedly taken to Crimea, which Russia illegally annexed in 2014, a security guard at the institution and neighbors told The Associated Press.

“A bus came with the inscription Z (a symbol paint-

ed on Russian vehicles) and they were taken away,” said Anastasia Kovalevko, who lives nearby.

At the start of the invasion, a local aid group tried to hide the children in a church but the Russians found them several months later, returned them to the orphanage and then evacuated them, said locals.

Earlier this year, The Associated Press reported that Russia is trying to give thousands of Ukrainian children to Russian families for foster care or adoption. The AP found that officials have deported Ukrainian children to Russia or Russian-held territories without consent, lied to them that they weren’t wanted by their parents, used them for propaganda, and given them Russian families and citizenship.

The Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based think tank, says Russian officials are conducting a deliberate

depopulation campaign in occupied parts of Ukraine and deporting children under the guise of medical rehabilitation schemes and adoption programs.

Russian authorities have repeatedly said that moving children to Russia is intended to protect them from hostilities. The Russian Foreign Ministry has rejected the claims that the country is seizing and deporting the children.

It has noted that the authorities are searching for relatives of parentless children left in Ukraine to find opportunities to send them home when possible.

Russian children’s rights ombudswoman Maria Lvova-Belova personally oversaw moving hundreds of orphans from Russian-controlled regions of Ukraine for adoption by Russian families. She has claimed that some of the children were offered an opportunity to return to Ukraine but refused to do so.

## SUPREME: Religion, gay rights clash anew

FROM PAGE A1

Justices repeatedly tested out what ruling for the designer could mean, using detailed and sometimes colorful hypothetical scenarios. Those included a Black Santa asked to take a picture with a child dressed in a Ku Klux Klan outfit, a photographer asked to take pictures for the marital infidelity website Ashley Madison, and an invented food business called “Grandma Helen’s Protestant Provisions.”

The case comes at a time when the court is dominated 6-3 by conservatives and follows a series of cases in which the justices have sided with religious plaintiffs. Across the street from the court, meanwhile, lawmakers in Congress are finalizing what would be a landmark bill protecting same-sex marriage, legislation prompted by a different high court case from earlier this year.

During arguments Monday the court’s three liberal justices expressed concerns about ruling for website designer and graphic artist Lorrie Smith while conservatives suggested support for her. Justice Neil Gorsuch, one of three high court appointees of former President Donald Trump, described Smith as “an individual who says she will sell and does sell to everyone, all manner of websites, (but) that she won’t sell a website that requires her to express a view about marriage that she finds offensive.”

Smith, who is based in Colorado, doesn’t cur-

rently create wedding websites. She wants to but says her Christian faith prevents her from creating websites celebrating same-sex marriages.

Colorado, like most other states, has what’s called a public accommodation law that says if Smith offers wedding websites to the public, she must provide them to all customers. Businesses that violate the law can be fined, among other things.

Smith says the law violates her First Amendment rights. The state disagrees.

A looming question during Monday’s arguments: At what point does an objection to serving someone cross the legal line?

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, one of the court’s three liberals, asked whether a photography store in a shopping mall could refuse to take pictures of Black people on Santa’s lap.

“Their policy is that only white children can be photographed with Santa in this way, because that’s how they view the scenes with Santa that they’re trying to depict,” said Jackson, one of the court’s two Black justices.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor said if the court rules for Smith, it would be the first time the justices would say that a “commercial business open to the public, serving the public, that it could refuse to serve a customer based on race, sex, religion or sexual orientation.”

Sotomayor repeatedly pressed Smith’s lawyer on what business owners could refuse to do.

**Crafts Faire**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 11 • 10am-4pm**

**ENVISSION HOTEL FORMERLY THE MANSFIELD HOLIDAY INN**  
31 HAMPSHIRE STREET, MANSFIELD

From Rte. I-495 - North or South, Take Exit 12 (Mansfield - Rte. 140)  
From Rte. I-95 - North or South, Take Exit 7A (Mansfield - Rte. 140)

**978-602-3887**      **ADMISSION \$2.50 Adults**  
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## NASA: City native helps with food-growing terrarium

FROM PAGE A1

earned Shramko and some of her classmates a spot on the top 25 U.S. submissions competing in NASA’s international Deep Space Food Challenge.

“We’re very excited,” said Shramko, who is the CEO of a startup company she and her classmates formed called the Auto Terra Project.

NASA is giving prizes ranging from \$10,000 to

\$150,000 to contestants in the challenge and Shramko is also hoping the company will be offered a contract with the space agency.

Currently, NASA has plans to land astronauts on the moon by 2025, over 50 years after the Apollo missions, and eventually send them to Mars.

The Orion space capsule of the Artemis 1 test mission is on its way back to Earth after orbiting the moon and flying farther in space than any vehicle built to carry humans.

The capsule, with only test dummies onboard, is due to return to Earth on Dec. 11 after a 25-day mission.

NASA officials will be meeting with Shramko and her team soon to discuss their latest prototype for possible use as a food production system for up to four astronauts. It would be designed to last for three years as they travel to Mars and back.

Shramko says the self-contained, self-regulating terrariums are compact and portable enough for space travel. The team has also built a version to help people in urban areas experiencing food insecurity.

The terrariums can grow fresh, organic produce such as tomatoes, celery, spinach, green beans, mushrooms and potatoes — requiring no maintenance.

Shramko said the system built for use on Earth is designed to grow food using natural lighting systems and non-powered forms of humidity reduction, reducing the need to be connected to a power grid.

The terrariums were built by Shramko and her team: mechanical engineering graduate Eliot Pirone, electrical engineering and physics double major senior Michelle Connolly and computer engineering graduate student Gitesh Shekhar.

Before entering the Deep Space Food Challenge, they won several awards and \$7,500 in prize money after entering the project in



Attleboro native Ariel Shramko and fellow UMass Lowell colleagues stand in front of a terrarium prototype they built. From left are Gitesh Shekhar, Michelle Connolly, Shramko and Eliot Pirone.

the DifferenceMaker Idea Challenge, UMass Lowell’s annual student entrepreneurship competition.

“Honestly, without that we would not have been able to enter (the Deep Space Food Challenge) competition,” Shramko said.

While aiming for the stars, she said her company also wants to fight world food insecurity by teaming up with food banks and non-profits using a terrarium built for use on Earth.

“We have two goals. One is to feed astronauts in space and the other is to help people here on Earth,” Shramko said.

The challenge may be just as daunting. There are about 1.9 billion people suffering from moderate to severe food insecurity, she said, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports there are 38.3 million people in the United States who are food insecure.

Shramko said food insecurity due to environmental causes or supply chain or other issues can cause irreparable harm to children. “It can affect how children do in school. It can cause a lot of anxiety and emotional issues,” she said. “It’s difficult to do well in school and it just perpetuates poverty.”

Shramko is an Attleboro native and was home schooled. Her father is a mechanical engineer and her mother was a chemical engineer before she retired. While always fascinated with nature as a young

**Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)**  
**HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)**  
**HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

Public Hearing – December 19, 2022 at 5pm  
Taunton City Hall, Municipal Chambers

Fifteen Day Public Comment Period  
December 9, 2022 to December 21, 2022

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A Public Hearing has been scheduled for December 19, 2022, at 5:00 PM at Taunton City Hall, Municipal Council Chambers, 15 Summer Street, Taunton MA. The purpose of the hearing is to review and take public comment on the draft Allocation Plan.

HOME-ARP funds may be used benefit qualifying populations through:

1. Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA);
2. Development and support of affordable housing;
3. Provision of supportive services;
4. Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter;
5. Nonprofit capacity building and operating assistance; and
6. Funds for the planning and administration of the HOME-ARP Program.

For the purposes of HOME-ARP, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) defines qualifying individuals or families, including Veterans that are:

1. Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
2. At risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
3. Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as defined by HUD in 24 CFR 5.2003) or human trafficking (as outlined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as amended [22 USC 7102]); and
4. Part of other populations, where supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the National Affordable Housing Act 42 USC 12472(a) would: a. Prevent a family’s homelessness; b. Serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

The draft FY2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is available for a fifteen-day public comment period starting on December 6, 2022. Comments should be submitted to the Office of Economic and Community Development at 15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780; in person by appointment, by mail, email at [oced@taunton-ma.gov](mailto:oced@taunton-ma.gov), hand delivery or by calling until 4:00 p.m. EST on December 21, 2022. The FY2021 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be submitted to HUD after a review of public comments, on or about December 23, 2022. For further information, please contact William Roth, Jr., Executive Director, Office of Economic and Community Development, at (508) 821-1030.

The draft plan can be viewed at the following:

- Office of Economic and Community Development - 15 Summer Street, 3rd Floor, Taunton, MA
- Taunton City Clerk’s Office - 15 Summer Street, 1st Floor, Taunton, MA
- City of Taunton Website: <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/188/Economic-Community-Development>

Persons requesting accessibility or translation services for this document are asked to call the City of Taunton, Office of Economic and Community Development at 508-821-1030 by December 12, 2022.

child, Shramko said she became interested in ecosystems and how they worked.

When she was about 14 she knew she wanted to be an environmental engineer.

“I was real interested in that field of study and looked into it more,” Shramko said.

Last year, she worked as an undergraduate research assistant with Distinguished University Professor Pradeep Kurup of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering to test drinking water for lead and other heavy metals, as well as PFAS and other contaminants.

She also attended National Science Foundation conferences and gave presentations to high school students.

**THE SUN CHRONICLE**  
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**The Audit Bureau**

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# China eases COVID-19 controls

Beijing not saying when strict policy will end

Joe McDonald  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — China is easing some of the world's most stringent anti-virus controls and authorities say new variants are weaker. But they have yet to say when they might end a "zero-COVID" strategy that confines millions of people to their homes and set off protests and demands for President Xi Jinping to resign.

On Monday, commuters in Beijing and at least 16 other cities were allowed to board buses and subways without a virus test in the previous 48 hours for the first time in months. Industrial centers including Guangzhou near Hong Kong have reopened markets and businesses and lifted most curbs on movement while keeping restrictions on neighborhoods with infections.

The government announced plans last week to vaccinate millions of people in their 70s and 80s, a condition for ending "zero-COVID" restrictions that keep most visitors out of China and have disrupted manufacturing and global trading.

That spurred hopes for a quick end to "zero COVID." But health experts and economists warn it will be mid-2023 and possibly 2024 before vaccination rates are high enough and hospitals are prepared to handle a possible rash of infections.

"China is not ready for a fast reopening yet," Morgan Stanley economists said in a report Monday. "We expect lingering containment measures. ... Restrictions could still tighten dynamically in lower-tier cities should hospitalizations surge."

The changes follow protests demanding an end to "zero COVID" but are in line with Communist Party promises earlier to reduce disruption by easing quarantine and other restrictions. The changes have been highly publicized in a possible effort to mollify public anger, but there is no indication whether any might have been made in response to protests in Shanghai and other cities.

China is the only major country still trying to stamp out transmission, while the United States and others relax restrictions and try to live with the virus that has killed at least 6.5 million people and infected almost 650 million.



Residents line up for COVID-19 tests along a wall displaying the words "Xi Jinping rule of law ideology learning ground" in Beijing on Monday. ANDY WONG/AP

VID" less costly and disruptive but said it was sticking to the overall containment strategy.

The party earlier announced updates to the strategy to make it more focused. Authorities began suspending access to buildings or neighborhoods with an infection instead of whole cities.

But a spike in cases starting in October prompted cities across China to close schools and confine families to cramped apartments for weeks at a time.

Authorities say they are "further optimizing" controls and warn the country needs to stay alert.

China faces "new situations and tasks" due to the "weakening of the pathogenicity" of the latest omicron variant, a deputy premier in charge of the anti-virus campaign, Sun Chunlan, said last week. She said China has "effective diagnosis and treatment" and has vaccinated more than 90% of its people.

The government of Shanghai, the country's financial capital, announced that visitors to most sites will require only a negative virus test in the past week, instead of the previous two days. Schools, hospitals and bars still will require a test within the past 48 hours.

still face additional curbs. A negative virus test within the past 72 hours still is required to enter public buildings in vast metropolises of Chengqing in the southwest, a hot spot in the latest infection spike. Dining in restaurants in some parts of Beijing still is prohibited.

A newspaper reported last week that some Beijing residents who have mild or asymptomatic COVID-19 cases would be allowed for the first time to isolate themselves at home instead of going to one of China's sprawling quarantine centers. The government has yet to confirm that.

Forecasters say the struggling economy, already under pressure from weak demand for Chinese exports and a government crackdown on debt in the real estate industry, might be contracting this quarter.

Regulators have responded by freeing up more money for lending and are trying to encourage private investment in infrastructure projects.

They have eased some financial controls on real estate developers to reverse a slump in one of China's biggest indus-

tries. "Policymakers are focusing their efforts on spurring growth," Eurasia Group analyst said in a report. "However, even if China's transition away from a strict zero-COVID policy is more decisive and accelerated, meeting public health milestones like increasing elderly vaccination will take months."

On Monday, the government reported 30,014 new cases, including 25,696 without symptoms. That was down from last week's daily peak above 40,000 but still close to record daily highs for China.

Xi's government has held up "zero COVID" as proof of the superiority of China's system compared with the United States and Western countries. China's official death toll stands at 5,235 since the start of the pandemic versus a U.S. count of 1.1 million.

China also has suffered a possible rise in fatalities among people with cancer, heart disease and other conditions who struggled to get care while hospitals focused on treating virus cases. Data on those deaths haven't been reported.

## Frustration began with fire

The protests began Nov. 25 after at least 10 people died in a fire in an apartment building in Urumqi in the northwest. Authorities denied suggestions that firefighters or victims were blocked by locked doors or other anti-virus controls. But the disaster became a focus for public frustration.

Ahead of the protests, the Communist Party promised to make "zero CO-

## Some must still stay home

Despite the changes, Beijing and other cities are telling some residents to stay home or enforcing other restrictions on neighborhoods with infections.

Travelers at the Chinese capital's train stations and three airports are required to show a negative virus test within the previous 48 hours. Elsewhere, Guangzhou and other cities said areas deemed at high-risk for infection

# Arizona certifies election despite GOP complaints

Jonathan J. Cooper  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — Arizona's top officials certified the midterm election results Monday, formalizing victories for Democrats over Republicans who falsely claimed the 2020 election was rigged. The certification opens a 15-day window for formal election challenges. Republican Karl Lake, who lost the race for governor, is expected to file a lawsuit after weeks of criticizing the administration of the election.

Election results have largely been certified without issue around the country, but Arizona was an exception. Several Republican-controlled counties delayed their certification despite no evidence of problems with the vote count. Cochise County in southeastern Arizona blew past the deadline last week, causing a judge to intervene on Friday and order the county supervisors to certify the election by the end of the day.

"Arizona had a successful election," Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, a Democrat, said before signing the certification. "But too often throughout the process, powerful voices proliferated misinformation that threatened to disenfranchise voters."

The statewide certification, known as a canvass, was signed by Republican Gov. Doug Ducey, Republican Attorney General Mark Brnovich and Chief Justice Robert Brutinel, a Ducey appointee.

When the same group certified the 2020 election, Ducey silenced a call from then-President Donald Trump, who was at the time in a frenetic push to persuade Republican allies to go along with his attempts to overturn the election he lost.



Republicans have complained about the role of Gov.-elect Katie Hobbs, center, in certifying her own win over Karl Lake. ROSS B. FRANKLIN/AP

tabulated on site and had to be counted at the elections department headquarters.

Lines backed up in some polling places, fueling Republican suspicions that some supporters were unable to cast a ballot, though there's no evidence it affected the outcome. County officials say everyone was able to vote and all legal ballots were counted.

Hobbs planned to immediately petition the Maricopa County Superior Court to begin an automatic statewide recount required by law in three races decided by less than half a percentage point. The race for attorney general was one of the closest contests in state history, with Democrat Kris Mayes leading Republican Abe Hamadach by just 510 votes out of 2.5 million cast.

The races for superintendent of public instruction and a state legislative seat in the Phoenix suburbs will also be recounted, but the margins are much larger.

Once a Republican stronghold, Arizona's top races went resoundingly for Democrats after Republicans nominated a slate of candidates backed by Trump who focused on supporting his false claims about the 2020 election. In addition to Hobbs and Mayes, Democratic Sen. Mark Kelly was reelected and Democrat Adrian Fontes won the race for secretary of state.

**Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC)  
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME  
HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

**Public Hearing — December 19, 2022 at 5pm**  
Taunton City Hall, Municipal Chambers  
**Fifteen Day Public Comment Period**  
December 6, 2022 to December 21, 2022

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1. Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA);
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5. Nonprofit capacity building and operating assistance; and
6. Funds for the planning and administration of the HOME-ARP program.

For the purposes of HOME-ARP, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) defines qualifying individuals or families, including Veterans that are:

1. Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
2. At risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
3. Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as defined by HUD 24 CFR 5.2003) or human trafficking (as outlined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as amended [22 USC 7102]); and
4. Part of other populations, where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(b) of the National Affordable Housing Act 42 USC 12472(a) would: a. Prevent a family's homelessness; b. Serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

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HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME  
HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

**Public Hearing – December 19, 2022 at 5pm  
Taunton City Hall, Municipal Chambers**

Attendees:

William Roth, Ex. Dir. OECD, Taunton

***MINUTES:***

Call to Order

The hearing started at 5 pm.

William Roth was in attendance to review the allocation plan and discuss the proposal. Mr. Roth waited until 6pm, no one showed up for the public hearing. Therefore, at 6pm Mr. Roth closed the meeting room and left.



William D. Roth, Jr.  
Ex. Dir. OECD, Taunton

## **Appendix C:**

**Certifications, SF-424, SF-424B & SF-424D**



## HOME-ARP CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the participating jurisdiction certifies that:

**Affirmatively Further Fair Housing** --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing pursuant to 24 CFR 5.151 and 5.152.

**Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan** --It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements contained in the HOME-ARP Notice, including the revised one-for-one replacement requirements. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42, which incorporates the requirements of the HOME-ARP Notice. It will follow its residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the HOME-ARP program.

**Anti-Lobbying** --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

**Authority of Jurisdiction** --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and program requirements.

**Section 3** --It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

**HOME-ARP Certification** --It will use HOME-ARP funds consistent with Section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) and the CPD Notice: *Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program*, as may be amended by HUD, for eligible activities and costs, including the HOME-ARP Notice requirements that activities are consistent with its accepted HOME-ARP allocation plan and that HOME-ARP funds will not be used for prohibited activities or costs, as described in the HOME-ARP Notice.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

12.22.22  
Date

MAYOR  
Title

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text"/>	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text" value="MA 252418"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text" value="M21-DP250218"/>	
<b>State Use Only:</b>		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
<b>8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium City of Taunton"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="04-6001320"/>	* c. UEI: <input type="text" value="P5L1DJ4N4QE5"/>	
<b>d. Address:</b>		
* Street1: <input type="text" value="15 Summer Street"/>	Street2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: <input type="text" value="Taunton"/>	County/Parish: <input type="text"/>	
* State: <input type="text" value="MA: Massachusetts"/>	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: <input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>	* Zip / Postal Code: <input type="text" value="02780-3558"/>	
<b>e. Organizational Unit:</b>		
Department Name: <input type="text" value="Econ. and Community Dev."/>	Division Name: <input type="text"/>	
<b>f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</b>		
Prefix: <input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="William"/>	
Middle Name: <input type="text" value="D."/>		
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Roth"/>		
Suffix: <input type="text" value="Jr."/>		
Title: <input type="text" value="Executive Director, OECD"/>		
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text" value="City of Taunton"/>		
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="(508) 821-1030"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text"/>	
* Email: <input type="text" value="wroth@taunton-ma.gov"/>		

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**\* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

**\* 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

**11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:**

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME-ARP

**\* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

14.239

\* Title:

HOME-ARP

**13. Competition Identification Number:**

Title:

HOME-ARP

**14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):**

GATHC Map.pdf

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**\* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

Greater Attleboro/Taunton HOME Consortium  
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters, Development of Affordable Rental Housing

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments



**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**16. Congressional Districts Of:**  
\* a. Applicant  \* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

**17. Proposed Project:**  
\* a. Start Date:  \* b. End Date:

**18. Estimated Funding (\$):**


* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="2,611,979.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="2,611,979.00"/>

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**  
 a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .  
 b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.  
 c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**  
 Yes  No  
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

**21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**  
 \*\* I AGREE  
\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

**Authorized Representative:**  
Prefix:  \* First Name:   
Middle Name:   
\* Last Name:   
Suffix:   
\* Title:   
\* Telephone Number:  Fax Number:   
\* Email:

\* Signature of Authorized Representative:  \* Date Signed:

### ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**


**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.



9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Taunton	DATE SUBMITTED 12-22-22

## ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**


**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

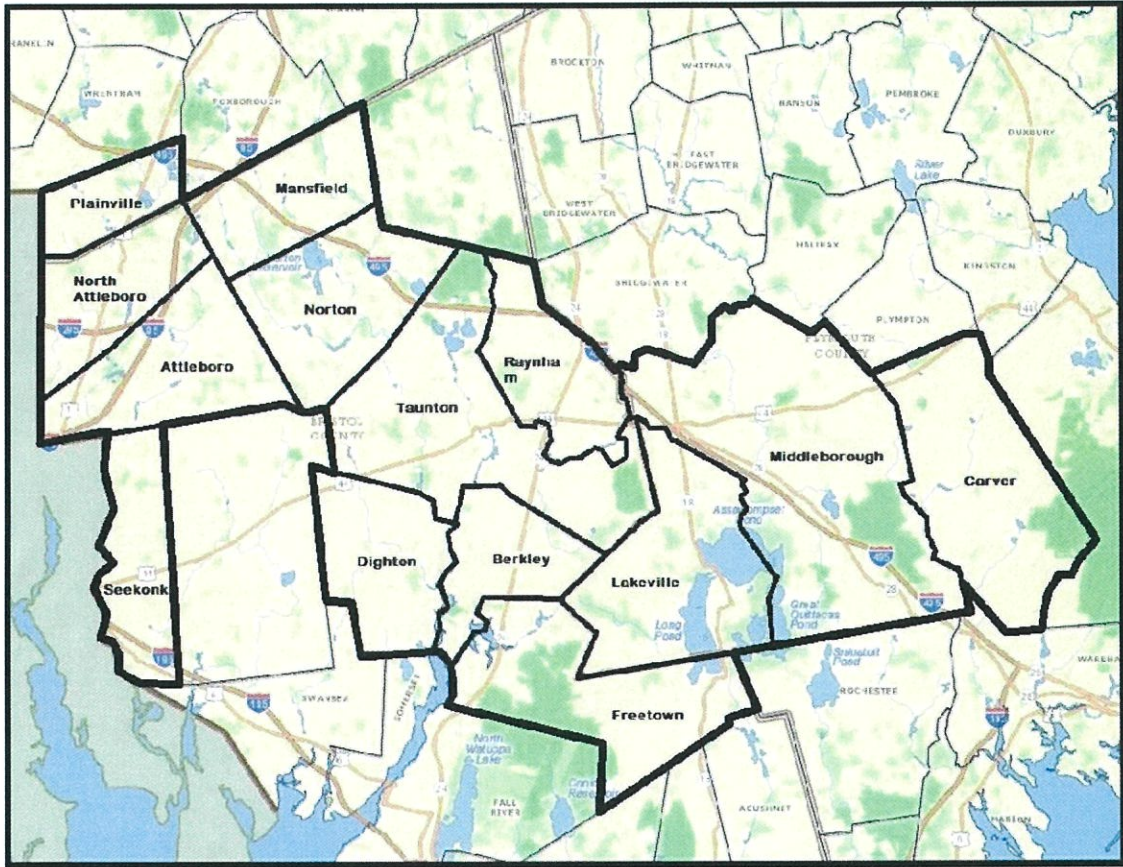
As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
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SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Taunton	DATE SUBMITTED 12-22-22



**Greater Attleboro Taunton HOME Consortium**