

# Prepared By Tennessee Housing Development Agency On Behalf of The State of Tennessee's Consolidated Planning Partners

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA), the lead agency for the State of Tennessee Consolidated Plan and annual reporting requirements, has completed this initial summary of program performance for the State's Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015. Instructions and the deadline on how to comment are presented at the end of this summary. The purpose of this summary is to provide information to citizens of Tennessee regarding the amount of funding received by the four programs listed below, which provide funds to local governments, nonprofits and other service providers for housing, community and economic development activities. Each year the State of Tennessee receives funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These funds are administered through two departments and one agency of state government. The administering entities and the programs they administer are as follows:

# Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD)

Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program (CDBG)

## **Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA)**

Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG)
HOME Investment Partnership (HOME)

### **Tennessee Department of Health (DOH)**

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

The overall goals of the four programs include: to preserve and develop affordable housing, to provide essential community services and infrastructure, to stimulate job creation, and to provide emergency shelter and services to persons threatened with homelessness. Each program is administered in a specific geographic area and is noted in the following summaries of program accomplishments.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SMALL CITIES PROGRAM (CDBG)

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Cities program. All cities and counties *except* for large cities designated as *entitlements* are eligible to apply for CDBG funds. CDBG funds must be used to meet one of three statutory requirements: benefit low and moderate income people, address imminent threats, or eliminate slums and blight. Each year, ECD has an annual grant competition to award funds to local governments for essential public facility improvements, housing rehabilitation programs, or development or rehabilitation of critical community services. ECD also has an economic development component with an open application process. During Fiscal Year 2014-15, 82 awards were contracted to new subrecipients or city and county governments totaling \$29,369,086 though the CDBG Program.

### **EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAM (ESG)**

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program provides funding to local governments and non-profit service providers to assist individuals and families quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness. The Community Programs Division of THDA administers the program on behalf of the State of Tennessee to increase the number and quality of emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities for homeless individuals and families; to operate these facilities; to provide essential social services; to provide street outreach services; to provide rapid rehousing assistance; and to provide Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). The ESG Program received an allocation of \$2,734,930 from HUD for FY 2014-15.

#### **HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP**

The Community Programs Division of THDA administers the HOME Program for the State of Tennessee. THDA administers the HOME Program for those jurisdictions not designated by HUD as a local Participating Jurisdiction (PJ). The local PJs that receive HOME funds directly from HUD are: Clarksville, Chattanooga, Jackson, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville-Davidson County, Knox County, Shelby County and the Northeast Tennessee/Virginia Consortium (the Cities of Bluff City, Bristol, Johnson City, Kingsport, Sullivan County and Washington County, excluding the Town of Jonesborough). The HOME Program is an affordable housing program that provides federal funds to states and the local PJs to carry out multi-year housing strategies. The purpose of the program is to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing for low- and very low-income households. Local governments, public agencies and non-profit organizations are all eligible applicants for HOME funds. The HOME Program received an allocation of \$10,096,577 from HUD for FY 2014-15. More than \$7 million of these funds are awarded competitively to local communities and non-profit agencies, including community housing development organizations. THDA awarded the remaining funds to CHDOs.

## HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)

The Tennessee Department of Health (DOH) administers HOPWA, a program designed to assist HIV infected individuals and their families who are threatened with homelessness, by providing funds to nonprofit service providers, known as project sponsors. State HOPWA funds may be used in 79 of 95 counties in the state. Areas excluded from the state program are covered by sponsors in the Nashville and Memphis eligible metropolitan statistical areas (EMSAs), which receive direct funding from HUD. In FY 2014-15, DOH awarded a total of \$939,055 to seven project sponsors.

#### ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

The State of Tennessee contracted with Western Economic Services to conduct the Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice for the non-entitlement jurisdictions of the state. The Analysis was the culmination of public forums, surveys, data analysis and other public comments on fair housing issues in the state. The report was finalized July 12, 2013 and identifies public and private sector impediments along with suggested actions. The State has developed activities to address the findings contained in the AI and has developed a comprehensive Fair Housing Plan to overcome the impediments, which can be found in the FY 2014-15 Annual Action Plan. These activities address the identified impediments and show the Consolidated Partners' commitment to affirmatively furthering fair housing in Tennessee. The Consolidated Partners will use the AI for the next several years to continue to address impediments. The AI is available on the THDA and ECD websites.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Written comments on this summary will be accepted through Thursday, September 10, 2015. To access the public comment forum, please go to the THDA website at <a href="www.thda.org">www.thda.org</a> and select "Public Notice & Comment" under "About THDA". The complete performance report will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in September 2015 and will be available for review by going to the THDA website at <a href="www.thda.org">www.thda.org</a> and clicking on the "Research & Planning" and "Consolidated Planning" pages.