



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Philadelphia Office  
The Wanamaker Building  
100 Penn Square East  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3380

**NOV 26 2010**

The Honorable Linda A. Cartisano  
Chair  
Delaware County Council  
Government Center Building  
201 West Front Street  
Media, PA 19063

Dear Ms. Cartisano:

**SUBJECT: Annual Community Assessment Letter  
County of Delaware  
July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010**

The provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, require the annual submission of performance reports by grant recipients receiving Federal assistance through programs covered under these Acts. Additionally, these Acts require that a determination be made by the Secretary that the grant recipient is in compliance with the statutes and has the continuing capacity to implement and administer the programs for which assistance is received.

The Consolidated Plan regulations at 24 CFR 91.525 require this Department to evaluate and report to the public on a community's overall progress in the management of its program funds; compliance with the Consolidated Plan; the accuracy of performance reports; and the extent to which progress has been achieved toward the statutory goals identified at 24 CFR 91.1. This letter serves to apprise you of our assessment of Delaware County's overall progress.

In making our evaluation, we relied primarily upon the County's submission of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Fiscal Year 2009. This report summarizes the accomplishments made with funds provided from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG). This letter is a summary of our review of the County's overall performance.

The HUD timeliness requirement is that a community may have no more than 1.5 times their most recent annual grant remaining in the line of credit 60 days prior to the end of their program year. When the 60-day timeliness test was conducted on May 2, 2008 it was calculated that Delaware County had a balance in its Line-of-Credit of 1.49 times its annual grant. Please note that this did not include any program income that the County may have in its accounts. Thus, this figure may actually be higher.

During the 2009 program year, the County has obligated 76.74 percent of its CDBG funds for activities benefiting low/moderate income persons, which meets the Primary Objective of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. In addition, 2.42 percent was obligated for public service activities, which is within the 15 percent regulatory cap. In addition, the County obligated \$741,803.02 or 17.30 percent of the CDBG grant plus program income for Planning and Administration which meets the 20 percent limitation cited at 24 CFR 570.200(g).

The HOME requirements have been met for expenditures by committing all funds to projects within two years and expending funds within five years. The requirement to provide at least 15 percent of HOME funding to Community Housing Development Organizations has also been achieved. We also remind grantees that all HOME projects should be closed within 120 days of their final draw.

The County allocated HOME funds to OHCD to provide first-time homebuyers pre-purchase homeownership counseling and up to \$5,000.00 for down payment and closing costs to low-income families and/or individuals purchasing their first home. Program resources were utilized to provide assistance to 25 first-time homebuyers.

The Department of Community Development, along with Delaware County's Intercommunity Health Coordination Department continue to work together to educate its citizens on lead poisoning prevention and provide information on lead based paint hazards.

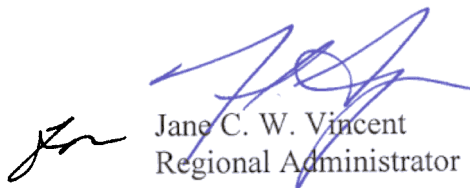
In addition \$1,110,949.00 in CDBG-Recovery funds made available under the ARRA was committed to community development activities. The County also received \$1,700,587.00 in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). HPRP funds were used to help 223 households from becoming homeless through the provision of short and long-term rental assistance, security and utility deposits and utility payments. Also, 30 households were rapidly re-housed through housing stabilization and relocation services including comprehensive assessment and case management services, housing search and placement and legal services.

We congratulate the County on its many accomplishments during this program year. Based on our review we have concluded that Delaware County has the capacity to carry out its programs and has met the reporting requirements.

We ask that you review our assessment of your performance and provide your response relative to the Planning and Administration Costs requirements. Please provide this response within 35 days of the date of this letter. Upon receipt, we will evaluate your comments and make any revisions that are deemed appropriate. To facilitate and expedite citizen access to our performance letter, we request that you inform the general public and interested citizens' organizations and non-profit entities of its availability. If, for any reason, the County chooses not to do so, please be advised that our Office is obligated to make the letter available to the public. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and members of your staff to accomplish Departmental goals and mutual objectives to develop viable urban communities. We would also be pleased to provide you with any information on resources that may be available to your community. If you need assistance, or if you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Nadab O. Bynum, Community Planning and Development Director at (215) 861-7652, or Ms. Fatina Ming, Community Planning and Development Representative, at (215) 861-7662. This Office may be reached via text telephone (TTY), by dialing (215) 656-3452.

Sincerely,



Jane C. W. Vincent  
Regional Administrator

cc:

Mr. John E. Pickett