

- Administers housing subsidy programs such as Section 8, Public Housing, and Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).
- Provides staff for the *Christmas in April* program, a volunteer effort to provide periodic repair and regular maintenance in the homes of elderly low-income residents of the County.
- Educates the community on the hazards of poisonous lead paint, especially the hazard to children, and abates lead paint from residences.
- Funds the rehabilitation of single-family owner occupied houses for the elderly, the disabled and other low-income families, through low interest loans or grants.
- Allocates tax exempt bond financing to housing developers for building and renovating residential properties within the County.

FY2003 HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided approximately \$8.4 million in CDBG funds for infrastructure and public facilities projects throughout the County including the Gateway Streetscape improvements along Sheriff, Silver Hill, and Sultan Roads.
- Successfully completed building renovations through adaptive re-use of several buildings located throughout the County, including the old New Carrollton City Hall, Leland Hospital in Hyattsville, and the former Laurel High School.
- Provided over \$4 million in CDBG funds to the Redevelopment Authority to further the agency's Suitland Manor Redevelopment, Gateway Arts District, and Palmer Park Senior Village capital projects.
- Funded healthcare and employment training for Hispanic immigrants, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, homeless individuals, and other low-income individuals seeking professional advancement.
- The Single Family Rehabilitation Program provided over \$1 million in financial assistance to correct housing code violations and make home improvements.
- The HOME Investment Partnership Program provided financing for the redevelopment and renovation of several multi-family developments throughout the County including Parkway Terrace in Suitland, Langley Gardens and University Landing in Langley Park, Parkview Manor in Hyattsville, and Selborne House and Willow Hills in Laurel.
- The Housing Authority issued \$22 million in Single Family Mortgage Revenue bonds. Bond proceeds were made available to finance mortgage loans for eligible borrowers.
- Down payment and closing cost assistance programs enabled first time purchasers to achieve homeownership.

FY2004 OVERVIEW

The FY2004 General Fund budget for the Department of Housing and Community Development, at \$1,143,600, represents a decrease of \$138,100 from the FY2003 Approved Budget. Salary and fringe benefits cost decreased primarily due to transferring expenses associated with one position in the Community Planning & Development Division from the General Fund to grants, which is more consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the position. In addition, Operating Expenses decreased by \$82,400 resulting primarily from a reduction in the General Fund grant to the Redevelopment Authority in the amount of \$75,600.

The FY2004 Grant Fund budget is \$65,854,600, a net increase of \$1,515,600, or 2.4 percent. The increase results primarily from funding increases in the following programs: Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA); HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME); Conventional Housing; the Housing Authority Bond Program; and Section 8 Choice Vouchers. Funding decreases are expected in the Section 8 Substantial Rehabilitation Program. Grant Programs that have expired or have been eliminated are Jobs for the Homeless; CHOICE MPDU; Drug Elimination; Resident Opportunity Self Sufficiency (ROSS) Grant; and Welfare to Work.

Beginning in FY2004, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) will be reflected in the Grant Summary in the division that administers the grant activities. In the Community Planning & Development Division, the CDBG grant will support infrastructure improvements, rehabilitation projects, compensation, and operating costs associated with active projects. In the Housing and Development Division, CDBG funding supports the County's Housing Preservation Fund, which provides below market interest rate loans and deferred loans to low and moderate-income homeowners, many of whom are elderly, to rehabilitate a residence to make it more energy efficient or to correct County building code violations. Lastly, in the Housing Assistance Division, CDBG funding supports rehabilitation and renovation of the County's public housing facilities. This function has been entitled "CDBG-Modernization".

Two new sources of revenue have been added to the FY2004 Grant Summary in order to provide consistency with other Federal and State documents. These two sources are Sugar Hill Townhouses in Upper Marlboro, and Coral Gardens Townhouses in Capitol Heights. Sugar Hill and Coral Gardens are properties owned by the Housing Authority of Prince George's County that receive rental revenues from tenants.

The Housing Authority will continue to provide \$20,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance to homebuyers purchasing homes in targeted areas of the County through the Down Payment Closing Cost Assistance Program. This program works in conjunction with the Single Family Mortgage Program.

The Housing Authority will continue to redevelop the Manchester Square apartments and create Windsor Crossing in Suitland. Demolition has been completed and the completion of new construction is expected in December 2003. When complete, the resulting development will consist of 338 units and reduce density in the community.