2021 Consolidated Annual Performance &
Evaluation Report
City of Burlington, Vermont

Prepared by
Community & Economic Development Office
Room 32 – City Hall
Burlington, Vermont 05401
(802)-865-7232
www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

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CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

The City’s Community & Economic Development Office (CEDO) regularly prepares three major plans and reports about housing and community development. First, there is the City’s Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The Consolidated Plan covers a five-year time period and provides detailed information about city demographics, the local housing market and local economy, and outlines housing and community development needs and priorities.

Second, the City prepares an Action Plan each year to address the Consolidated Plan priorities. The Action Plan provides a blueprint and budget for spending Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) resources that the City receives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD. Each annual Action Plan details how the City plans to spend funding and meet Consolidated Plan priorities. It must be submitted to HUD each year by May 15.

Third, after the close of each program year, the City prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to report on progress and on CDBG and HOME expenditures during the year. The City is required to prepare the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and annual Performance Reports in order to receive funding under the CDBG and HOME programs.

This Performance Report covers the fourth year of the five-year period covered by the City’s 2018 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. It contains information on all CDBG and HOME projects that were funded, underway, or completed during the program year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 (referred to as Program Year 2021.) It also contains information that may be of interest to the community, such as community indicators (Appendix A) and partner activities that contribute to the goals of the Consolidated Plan. The Report is due to HUD by September 30, 2022.

A public hearing was held on September 15, 2022 concerning this Report. Comments were accepted at the Public Hearing as well as at the Community Development and Economic Development Office and online via email through September 23, 2022. During the public hearing CEDO did not receive any comments on the public draft of the CAPER. Over the course of the public comment period, one comment was received via email. The comment discussed the negative impact that college students have on rental and owner-occupied units in the City of Burlington. We continue to solicit the input of our citizens about the effective allocation and expenditure of CDBG and HOME resources and on housing and community development needs.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Source / Amount</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>Expected – Strategic Plan</th>
<th>Actual – Strategic Plan</th>
<th>Percent Complete</th>
<th>Expected – Program Year</th>
<th>Actual – Program Year</th>
<th>Percent Complete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DH 1.1 Protect the Vulnerable - New Perm Supp Hous</td>
<td>Affordable Housing Homeless</td>
<td>CDBG: $55,000/ HOME: $100,000</td>
<td>Housing for Homeless added</td>
<td>Household Housing Unit</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH 1.3 Create New Affordable Housing</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>CDBG: $650,000 / HOME: $1,100,000</td>
<td>Rental units constructed</td>
<td>Household Housing Unit</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>66.36%</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH 1.4 Promote new homeownership buyer assist</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>CDBG: $100,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers</td>
<td>Households Assisted</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>140.00%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH 2.1 Acquire/Rehab - Rental or Owner Units</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>CDBG: $350,000 / HOME: $350,000</td>
<td>Rental units rehabilitated</td>
<td>Household Housing Unit</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>120.0%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>260.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH 2.1 Acquire/Rehab - Rental or Owner Units</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>CDBG: $350,000 / HOME: $350,000</td>
<td>Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated</td>
<td>Household Housing Unit</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>130.00%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DH 2.2 Protect the Vulnerable - Lead Hazard</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>CDBG: $35,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Rental units rehabilitated</td>
<td>Household Housing Unit</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>84.00%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO 1.1</td>
<td>Support Microenterprises</td>
<td>Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $350,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Businesses assisted</td>
<td>Businessess Assisted</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>167.20%</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<td>------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO 1.2</td>
<td>Retain/Create Jobs</td>
<td>Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $330,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Jobs created/retain ed</td>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>64.00%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO 1.3</td>
<td>Reduce Economic Barriers - Early Childhood</td>
<td>Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $80,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>321.00%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| DH 2.2 | Protect the Vulnerable - Lead Hazard | Affordable Housing | CDBG: $35,000 / HOME: $0 | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Househol d Housing Unit | 62   | 16   | 26%     | 4    | 0  | 0%     |
| DH1.2  | Protect the Vulnerable - New Special Need Hsng | Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs | CDBG: $55,000 / HOME: $415,770 | Rental units constructed | Househol d Housing Unit | 80   | 0    | 0.00%   | 12   | 0  | 0.00%  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EO</th>
<th>Reduce Economic Barriers - Access Resources</th>
<th>Non-Housing Community Development</th>
<th>CDBG: $65,000 / HOME: $0</th>
<th>Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit</th>
<th>Persons Assisted</th>
<th>3000</th>
<th>2476</th>
<th>82.53%</th>
<th>611</th>
<th>666</th>
<th>109.00%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Provide Public Services Homeless</td>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>CDBG: $200,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>675.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Provide Public Services</td>
<td>Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $70,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74.00%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Improve Public Facilities &amp; Infrastructure</td>
<td>Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $550,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit</td>
<td>Persons Assisted</td>
<td>42000</td>
<td>42363</td>
<td>100.86%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL 1.4 Remediation of Brownfields</td>
<td>Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development</td>
<td>CDBG: $10,000 / HOME: $0</td>
<td>Brownfield acres remediated</td>
<td>acre</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>156.7%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

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

The City continues to focus its CDBG and HOME dollars on high priority activities, primarily comprised of housing and economic development projects. In addition to focusing funds across the three identified priorities, the City also targets its funding geographically in high priority areas such as the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). Burlington continues to focus essentially all expenditures to assist low and moderate-income persons, as a result greater than 93% of CDBG beneficiaries fall in the low to moderate income category. As of June 2022 CDBG-CV funds are being expended on small business assistance, rental assistance, food access programs, and community health initiatives.

Highlights of Outcomes

The City’s highest priority under its Consolidated Plan is affordable housing. Highlights include:

- In January 2021, the City of Burlington’s Lead Program received $3,566,466.80 in lead hazard control funds and $530,000 in healthy homes supplemental funding to reduce other health hazards such as asbestos, tripping, and inoperable windows found in homes. During the reporting period of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, the Lead Program completed testing for Lead-Based Paint hazards in 51 housing units, performed Lead Hazard Control activities in 10 rental housing unit, performed Healthy Home interventions in 10 rental housing units, trained 99 individuals on the VT Essential Maintenance Practices Lead Law (EMP), trained 5 individuals on the EPA Renovate, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule, and conducted 12 Outreach and Education events that reached over 460 individuals.
- HOME projects were completed during the program year, with 33 new or preserved affordable housing units
- Pathways Vermont served 42 individuals experiencing homelessness by providing a variety of housing support services including service coordination, housing location services, retention supports, benefits coordination, and mental health and substance use services.
- Through CDBG-funded partners, 9 households achieved the goal of homeownership
- Rehabilitation of 2 owner-occupied units was completed enabling low income households to stay in their homes.

Economic opportunity is the City’s next overall priority. Highlights include:

- CEDO and CDBG funded partners provided technical assistance to 97 microenterprises
- In order meet the needs of working families, early childhood services were provided at three sites. The ECHO Early Learning Center site served 96 persons, while the Lund Early Childhood Program served 39, and the Sara Holbrook Center Elementary After School Program served 63.
- The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program served 659 Burlingtonians, providing tax preparation and other income tax related assistance.
- CDBG-funded partner, REsource of Burlington provided job training assistance for 7 low-income Burlingtonians

**A suitable living environment is the City’s third priority. Highlights include:**
- CDBG-funded agency Steps, provided emergency shelter and services to over 299 homeless residents
- Development work, including site work and construction, continued at the Moran – FRAME project

**Narrative on Progress**

This Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report is the fourth report in the City of Burlington’s 5-Year 2018-2022 Consolidated Plan. Below is a narrative of the progress the City of Burlington has achieved on the goals set for 2021.

**Outcome - increase the availability of/access to decent housing:** One of the Four goals were met at or above 100%. Rehab of rental units was met at 280%. For the creation of new affordable housing, the City is working to complete the underwriting for two projects that will total an additional 20 units of affordable housing in the next two years. Lead hazard activities have shifted increasingly toward rental units due to income levels of homeowners in the city. Lead hazard reduction in rental units reached 20 housing units during the program year. With a number of projects currently underway, the city expects to meet the overall strategic plan goal for lead hazard rehabilitation of rental units.

**Outcome - Increase the affordability of decent housing:** Zero of two goals exceeded 100% - 33 rental units constructed while 12 households assisted with financial assistance to homebuyers.

**Outcome - increase the sustainability of decent housing:** Zero of two goals exceeded 100% - 2 homeowner units were rehabilitated. One goal met 13% of its target 7 households were assisted by preserving and upgrading affordable rental units, however progress on this goal has been great overall with 95% of the total Consolidated Plan goal completed.

**Outcome - increase the availability of/access to economic opportunity:** Zero goals exceeded 100%. While zero jobs were created or retained during the reporting period, the program is on track to create additional jobs in the next program year. During the program year 69 businesses were assisted, meeting the goal at 48%. However for the strategic plan the goal has been met at 167.2%.

**Outcome - increase the sustainability of economic opportunity:** Both goals exceeded 100%, 57 persons assisted to reduce economic barriers through child care and 666 persons assisted to remove barriers by increasing access to resources.

**Outcome - increase the availability of /access to a suitable living environment:** Under this category one goal exceeded 100% - under providing public services to the homeless 594 households were served.

**Outcome - increase the sustainability of a suitable living environment:** Two goals were not met, achieving 0% to COVID related delays. The renovations are still underway and are anticipated
to be completed during the next fiscal year.
CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted
Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).
91.520(a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CDBG</th>
<th>HOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>3232</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or American Native</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4259</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Hispanic</td>
<td>4250</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Narrative
For the following statistics, the 2019 American Community Survey figures by race and ethnicity are compared to racial composition of CDBG beneficiaries served. At the time of this report the 2020 Census data was not yet available. The majority of the beneficiaries served with CDBG funds are white. Black/African Americans comprise 13.2% of the CDBG population and 5.4% of the general population. Asians community members are 5% of CDBG beneficiaries and 6.9% of the total population. Hispanic or Latino of any race community members comprise 2.7% of the Burlington population and .1% of the CDBG population.

The City’s CDBG expenditures continue to be focused on those at the lowest income levels. The chart below shows CDBG expenditures by income level for this program year, for all completed programs/projects. Over 92% of those served are low to moderate income persons.
CDBG Beneficiaries by Income 2021

- Extremely Low (<30%)
- Low (>30% and <50%)
- Moderate (>50% and <80%)
- Non Low-Mod (>80%)
CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Resources Made Available</th>
<th>Amount Expended During Program Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDBG</td>
<td>public - federal</td>
<td>$1,624,530.38</td>
<td>$1,002,985.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>public - federal</td>
<td>$2,018,583</td>
<td>$1,604,170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative
The resources available to our City, to serve our low- and moderate-income residents, include federal, state, local and private sources. With Entitlement funds, the City expended $1,002,985.64 of CDBG funds and $1,604,170.00 in HOME funds.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Planned Percentage of Allocation</th>
<th>Actual Percentage of Allocation</th>
<th>Narrative Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City-Wide</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative
Burlington targets its CDBG and HOME funds in the City’s Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area. The Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) includes census tracts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10 – roughly, the Old North End, downtown and the waterfront, Ward One including the Riverside Avenue corridor, and the area west of Pine Street down to Flynn Avenue. The NRSA is shaded in purple on the map that follows.

Of total non-administrative CDBG and HOME expenditures, approximately $260,687.74 was spent on programs /projects located in the NRSA this year. Programs located outside the NRSA, such as Lund Early Childhood Education program and CVOEO’s Financial Futures Micro Business Development program, serve a number of NRSA residents, but are not exclusive to NRSA residents. The dollar amount of NRSA expenditures is an estimate of funds benefitting NRSA residents.

Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) Map
Leveraging

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

The City leveraged over 35 million dollars to meet identified needs through public service, economic development, and housing construction/rehabilitation activities completed this year. These are other funds that the City and its subgrantees raised for their completed CDBG-funded activities as well as funds invested by outside entities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 .Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report
## Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project No. or Other ID</th>
<th>Date of Contribution</th>
<th>Cash (non-Federal sources)</th>
<th>Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges</th>
<th>Appraised Land/Real Property</th>
<th>Required Infrastructure</th>
<th>Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor</th>
<th>Bond Financing</th>
<th>Total Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1523</td>
<td>12/10/2020</td>
<td>36,667.67</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$36,667.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

### HOME MBE/WBE report

**Program Income** – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period $</th>
<th>Amount received during reporting period $</th>
<th>Total amount expended during reporting period $</th>
<th>Amount expended for TBRA $</th>
<th>Balance on hand at end of reporting period $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1474.11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$1474.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7 – Program Income
### Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises

- **Minority Business Enterprises**
  - **Total**
  - **Alaskan Native or American Indian**
  - **Asian or Pacific Islander**
  - **Black Non-Hispanic**
  - **Hispanic**

#### Contracts

| Number | 16 | - | - | - | 16 |
| Dollar Amount | $14,527,630 | - | - | - | $14,527,630 |

#### Sub-Contracts

| Number | 30 | - | - | - | 30 |
| Dollar Amount | $9,317,065 | - | - | - | $9,317,065 |

### Minority Owners of Rental Property

- **Total**
  - **Minority Property Owners**
  - **Alaskan Native or American Indian**
  - **Asian or Pacific Islander**
  - **Black Non-Hispanic**
  - **Hispanic**

#### Contracts

| Number | 16 | 2 | 14 |
| Dollar Amount | $14,527,630 | $17,400 | $14,510,230 |

#### Sub-Contracts

| Number | 30 | 3 | 27 |
| Dollar Amount | $9,317,065 | $2,294,752 | $7,022,313 |

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

### Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

CAPER Draft 9.7.2022 18
Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parcels Acquired</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Businesses Displaced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Organizations Displaced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Households Displaced</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Minority Property Enterprises</th>
<th>White Non-Hispanic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alaskan Native or American Indian</td>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

Narrative
During the program year, the City of Burlington closed out three HOME projects. These projects included Juniper, Ruggles House, and 204 Pearl Street. Between the three projects, the HOME program created or preserved 33 units of affordable housing.
CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units</th>
<th>One-Year Goal</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>165</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11 – Number of Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of households supported through Rental Assistance</th>
<th>One-Year Goal</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of households supported through The Production of New Units</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>101</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

During the 2021 program year, HOME and CDBG funding were used to support ongoing projects for Homeowner rehab projects, affordable rental unit rehab, and the construction of rental housing in the City of Burlington. Included among these projects was the Ruggles House rehab project, which supported the rehab of 11 permanently affordable units.

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

Decent and affordable housing is the City's highest priority. Projects that acquire, preserve and create affordable housing will continue to be funded in subsequent Action Plans within the current 5-year Consolidated Plan.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Households Served</th>
<th>CDBG Actual</th>
<th>HOME Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Low-income</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low-income</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>
### Narrative Information

In the City of Burlington housing affordability remains a high priority issue. With a rental vacancy rate that hovers below 1% and an increase in demand for housing, existing apartments in the City have continued to see an increase in average rent prices. These prices are unsustainable for low-income residents.

Affordable housing is a balance to economic development. In boom times, affordable housing ensures that there is housing for workers and that rising prices do not displace residents. In a troubled economy, affordable housing development is an economic engine and its subsidies ensure that low-income residents are not made homeless. Finally, the use of affordable housing to redevelop distressed neighborhoods prevents the loss of value of the surrounding properties and encourages long-term investment by other property owners.

All the residents of Burlington have the right to live and raise their families in homes that are safe and sound, at a cost that allows them to afford the other necessities of life. The free market for housing is often not a fair market for low-income residents, including the elderly and disabled, as well as many workers whose wages have not kept up with housing costs. Without rehabilitation and/or general housing assistance, housing conditions will deteriorate or become expensive to maintain, push people from their homes and leave others with no homes at all.

planBTV, a product of the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative Planning Grant, emphasizes ways to promote and improve mixed use and quality urban design, affordable and workforce housing and especially housing for the downtown. In addition, the City also participated in the regional HUD Sustainable Communities grant, the ECOS Plan, to integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation and infrastructure investments. Ensuring the availability of a continuum of housing, for all residents of Burlington, continues to be a top priority for the City.

Since the adoption of Burlington’s Housing Action Plan in October 2015, the Mayor’s Office, City departments, various boards and commissions, and the City Council have been working to implement the 22 strategies contained in the Plan. Several have been completed and adopted over the past year. These have included: planBTV South End and the Neighborhood Project Toolkit. Additionally, in 2019 the City enacted a substantial and comprehensive update to the City’s Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance.

In early June 2019, the City hosted the BTV Housing Summit with the view to continuing the momentum on the Housing Action Plan. Specifically, the Summit aimed to bring focus and energy to five remaining strategies from the Housing Action Plan. The five areas comprise a multi-pronged approach to increasing housing availability and affordability. These areas are: (i) updating standards for energy efficiency in rental housing (ii) making it easier for people to build Accessory Dwelling Units (iii) implementing new regulations for short-term rentals (iv) reforming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moderate-income</th>
<th>49</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>74</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 13 – Number of Households Served*
requirements for building new parking in new residential developments in downtown and (v) restoring and increasing the level of funding for the City’s Housing Trust Fund. With input from stakeholders, this slate of five policy reforms was delivered to the City Council for action in the fall of 2019. The increase to the dedicated tax for the Housing Trust Fund was passed by the City Council and approved by voters in March of 2020. In the 2021 program year the dedicated tax was suspended to allow for taxpayer relief during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to additional federal funding and subsequent rounds of CARES Act and ARPA funding are being used to increase the City’s supply of affordable and supportive housing for low-income community members. In spring of 2021 the City announced an initiative to bolster BIPOC homeownership.

In December 2021, to accelerate and bring even greater focus to the affordable housing challenge, Mayor Weinberger released a 10-point Action Plan which will implement 10 specific initiatives. These include: investment of at least $5 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds; creation of a new position in CEDO to work on this housing effort; supporting the creation of 1,250 total homes, including 312 permanently affordable homes, by end of 2026; full funding of the Housing Trust Fund in fiscal year 2023 and more. Much of this work is already underway. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was also released to create an Enterprise Innovation District in the South End. The new aims to support employees and local businesses through the creation of new affordable and market-rate homes to support and grow a vibrant creative economy, land conservation and multi-modal transportation.

CEDO is also working to revamp the Home Improvement Partnerships program to provide emergency rehab services to low-income homeowners.
CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)
Evaluate the jurisdiction’s progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:
Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

Continuum of Care services for those experiencing homelessness in the Greater Burlington metropolitan area are delivered through a consortium of nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, housing developers, government agencies, and the Burlington Housing Authority that aims to make homelessness rare and brief.

The Chittenden County Homeless Alliance envisions a future in which every person and family in Chittenden County has a permanent, safe, decent, affordable home and the necessary means and community supports to sustain it. In recognition of the intensifying shortage of homes that has evolved and deepened in Chittenden County as a result of the pandemic, in December 2021 Mayor Miro Weinberger presented a 10 point Action Plan to fulfill the promise of Housing as a Human Right in Burlington. The City Council of the City of Burlington demonstrated bipartisan support for the homelessness related sections of the plan, committing more than $3 million in American Recovery Plan Act funding in 2021 and 2022 to support development of an emergency shelter, ongoing operational funding of the daytime warming shelter, strengthening of Coordinated Entry systems, and City-dedicated staffing for implementation.

The jurisdiction has an increased number and structure of outreach programs to connect to those experiencing homelessness, especially those unsheltered, and assess their needs. These include services and points of contact from the community outreach and advocacy team, two daytime warming centers Community Health Centers of Burlington Homeless Healthcare Program, and the Salvation Army, among others. These agencies provide meals on a daily basis and are the service providers that community members experiencing homelessness routinely seeks out. The COVID-19 pandemic forced changes to the way that services are provided, to ensure safety from infection. Services were adapted and in most cases the volume of services provided has increased. The City supports a Community Resource Center with community partners. The center was operated to provide warm/cool space and access to services at a time when other venues for warming were closed or restricted. The Community Health Centers of Burlington Homeless Healthcare Program operates a van to provide mobile surveillance and outbreak testing and vaccination distribution, along with outreach services including counseling, psychiatry and addiction treatment, to individuals experiencing homelessness. This mobile clinic operated at shelter sites, emergency housing hotels, and in places where the community experiencing homelessness congregates, ensuring access to vital public health services. The Community Health Center’s Homeless Healthcare Program also provides outreach and case management to individuals experiencing homelessness with mental illness through their Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) funded Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) grant. The two PATH outreach caseworkers work to engage individuals who are typically difficult to engage through active street outreach and community referrals. The PATH caseworkers provide supportive services such as housing navigation, referrals to resources, advocacy, community integration and benefit enrollment. PATH outreach caseworkers had contact/outreach with 111 individuals over the last year of which 93 were actively engaged in services.
A street outreach team funded by the City of Burlington, the state of Vermont, local businesses, and other private donors provided outreach to 180 individuals, families with children, and youth sleeping on the streets in our downtown area.

The City of Burlington’s Crisis Advocacy Intervention Program (CAIP) has a team of social workers, Community Support Liaisons (CSL), that do routine outreach and service connection for houseless individuals. All three of them spend 1-3 hours weekly specifically dedicated to outreach to our houseless neighbors, to include the necessary follow up to assist with bridging the service gap that often happens for folks living outdoors.

An Adult Local Interagency Team helps to identify people with complex needs, who are often unsheltered persons, and provides consultation and expertise to help resolve difficult situations. The goal of the team is to help keep these clients within the community and out of the correctional system, hospital, or residential services, while helping them get the support and services they need to be safe and successful. These teams identify individuals and families and connect them with appropriate programs, services and housing options.

Increased outreach services were created to support the large increase in number of people experiencing homelessness as a result of the pandemic and included teams of outreach workers and housing navigators operating in the hotels working within the statewide Emergency Housing initiative.

The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) operated a Community Resource Center for individuals experiencing homelessness. The shelter provided temporary relief from the winter weather and connect unsheltered homeless individuals with additional sheltering services to further prevent the spread of COVID-19. The project operated seven days per week, with staff providing a safe and warm environment with access to hot food and drink, telephone, internet and computer access, and referral to homeless, housing, and other essential service and supports.

The Chittenden County Coordinated Entry System (CES) models a no-wrong-door approach to the greatest extent possible with respect to accessing the CES. This means that service-providers and community partners are engaged throughout Chittenden County to become designated Access Points to the CES, allowing individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis to be directly engaged and linked to the CES wherever they may present requesting assistance. Standardized Housing Needs Assessments, however, will only be available through trained Assessment Partners and Assessment Hubs.

**Coordinated Entry**

Access Points connect persons seeking housing assistance with the CES Assessment Specialist to complete the assessment process by completing the Initial Screening Form with the household and submitting this form to the CES lead agency. 2-1-1 functions as a virtual Access Point for persons who call the hotline requesting housing assistance. 2-1-1 provides full geographic coverage throughout Chittenden County and will connect persons who are experiencing a housing crisis outside of Burlington to the CES. Coordinated Entry is a system to streamline access to housing...
supports and resources in Chittenden County. The system was developed to assess and match homeless households with eligible services based on vulnerability, sustainability and length of homelessness through a standardized, scored assessment. Each eligible household will be assigned a housing navigator and added to a master list of homeless households which is reviewed on a weekly basis by coordinated entry partners for appropriate housing opportunities. Currently, eligible households include HUD-defined ‘literally homeless’ and ‘imminent risk’ households. Additionally, coordinated entry is a tool for better identifying the housing needs facing our community. The CE system was taken out to where people were living via outreach and housing navigators working with clients in emergency housing in hotels, through the state General Assistance program.

Outcomes

- The Community Resource Center welcomed 888 unduplicated individuals from November 2021 – April 2022, recording some 8900 daily visits.
- The local food shelf served hot meals and takeaway food on a daily basis at the Community Resource Center, hot meals are also available on a daily basis at the Salvation Army and the Daystation.
- The Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) Daystation, a daytime emergency shelter, provided essential services to 268 unduplicated, single adults experiencing homelessness.
- PATH outreach caseworkers had contact/outreach with 111 individuals over the last grant year of which 93 were actively engaged in services.
- Street Outreach Team interacted over 1,634 times with 217 homeless individuals in the downtown area, homeless encampments, neighborhoods, at the airport, and in emergency housing hotels last year.
- Adult Interagency Team met weekly to provide a forum for collaboration and consult for over 25 individuals and families – attended by service providers from more than 15 community service organizations.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

There are two emergency shelters serving single adults including veterans: COTS Waystation and ANEW Place. COTS also operates the Firehouse and Main Street Family Shelters for households with children. Steps to End Domestic Violence operates a 21-room emergency shelter serving women and children experiencing homelessness as a result of fleeing domestic violence. Survivors of all genders are also served through the Safe Tonight program in partnership with Economic Services.

Spectrum Youth and Family Services operates a shelter for homeless youth. Each shelter offers case management and housing search assistance to help participants move quickly out of shelter into transitional or permanent housing and include necessary follow-up support for maintaining housing. It remains a goal of the Jurisdiction and the Continuum to increase the actual number of permanent housing and permanent supportive housing options so that participants will have opportunities to quickly transition out of the emergency shelters.
During the year, shelters and services continued to be significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There were many uncertainties, including surges in cases, changing access to testing resources, and the roll out of vaccine boosters. Additionally, there was ongoing uncertainty about when non-congregate shelter through the General Assistance program would end. To comply with public health requirements, there were times when emergency shelter programs needed to limit intakes in order to prevent the spread of infection. In addition to the Housing Opportunity Grant Program, services and shelter for those experiencing homelessness were supported through non-congregate wrap-around service contracts and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program’s Housing Stability Service Grants.

ANEW Place’s Low Barrier Shelter opened at the Champlain Inn in December 2020, operating 24/7 through to July 2021 and transitioning to primarily a nighttime only shelter for the majority of services. There are 24/7 exceptions for medical needs and two ADA accessible rooms. The daytime drop-in center offers support and help with case management tasks during the daytime hours. Census is between 50 and 65 guests a night and all rooms are set up based on COVID precautions.

ANEW Place also operates a longer term sober shelter at 89 North Street. This program includes our ANEW Step and ANEW Leaf programs where guests enter a shared living house and engage in Case Management and Community Supports within the house. Guests also have the opportunity to take part in the ANEW Leaf transitional housing program where they begin active steps toward securing housing and the skills and money needed to maintain that housing. 89 North served 42 individuals during this reporting period, housing 15 guests on any given night.

Harbor Place, a former Econo-Lodge in nearby Shelburne, VT, operated by Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) provided up to 59 rooms of temporary lodging for guests experiencing homelessness between 7/1/21 and 6/30/22. Those units include single rooms with refrigerators and microwaves, and one- and two-room kitchenette units. Onsite service providers include CVOEO, WHBW, Howard, Safe Harbor, Turning Point and UVM Home Health for medical respite cases. Case managers are available 40 hours/week. There is a property manager onsite 24/7. While the majority of referrals to Harbor Place come from the Economic Services Division of the Vermont Agency of Health Services, there is contract with the UVM Medical Center that guarantees the availability of rooms for people being discharged from the hospital with no home to go to.

For the period of 7/1/21-6/30/22 CHT continued to operate the Ho Hum motel as the State’s only site for people experiencing homelessness who also have a need to quarantine due to COVID-19. Staff coordinate meal distribution, answer questions, quiet fears, make referrals to area organizations for support, and distribute Medically Assisted Treatment meds when needed. The site ceased to operate at the end of June 2022, need was diminished and the State of Vermont opted for closure.

**Emergency Shelter Outcomes**

Emergency Shelter Outcomes with CDBG funding:
Steps to End Domestic Violence served 287 adults & children (189 adults and 98 children) with emergency housing with an average length of stay of 99 days. Steps supported 73 people in transitioning from emergency housing to permanent housing. 72 people transitioned to permanent housing either from rental assistance, transitional housing or from the community. Through grant support from CDBG funds, many Burlington residents transitioned to permanent housing from emergency housing and 36 Burlington residents transitioned from rental assistance, transitional housing or from the community to permanent housing.

At ANEW Place and during the reporting period, Champlain Inn served 475 individuals. Of those individuals 36% reported working on overcoming addictions, 37% reported being disabled or dealing with a major medical issue, 33% reported having experienced domestic violence, and 43% reported challenges with mental health.”

89 North Street served 54 individuals, of those 63% reported they were working to overcome addictions and 56% reported mental health challenges.

Other: COTS family shelter program provided 25 families, including 55 children, with emergency 365/24/7 shelter and services. The average length of a single stay in family shelter was 135 days and with 75% successfully exiting shelter to permanent housing. The COTS Waystation program provided 139 unduplicated, single adults with emergency overnight shelter and services. The average length of a single stay was 35 days with 22% of successful exits securing permanent housing. The COTS hotel outreach team housed 56 households during the reporting period.

Spectrum Youth Services served 31 youth at their emergency shelter with an average length of stay of 77 days for those who exited. The average for those remaining in the residence is 44 days. Spectrum operates a year round 8-bed shelter for youth ages 16-23 that incorporates life skills building programming to help youth work towards independent living.

Through the Housing Opportunity Program, administered by the State of VT, 1,202 people for a total of 61,185 bed nights or an average length of stay of 57.8 nights, were served. The shelters were opened 85% of the time and 25% of the clients met with a case manager within 3 days of entering the shelter. There were no seasonal shelters open during this period. 8% of the adults exited to stable permanent or transitional housing and 79% of the youth had safe exits.

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) is a source of funding within the work of the Housing Opportunity Program. ESG specifically focuses on stabilizing housing for households that were either homeless at the time of requesting assistance (Rapid Re-Housing), or were in danger of becoming homeless (Prevention). The ESG program in Chittenden served 450 persons in 338 households with homelessness prevention or rapid rehousing services, and approximately 62% of persons served were literally homeless.

**Transitional Housing Outcomes**

Of the population determined to be in need of Rapid ReHousing for youth, 14 youth stayed in Pearl Street Housing and 4 of the 6 youth who exited did so to permanent housing; 8 youth still reside in Rapid ReHousing; all 14 youth entered Rapid Rehousing Housing via the Emergency Shelter. The Rapid ReHousing Program serves youth ages 18-23 and is a partnership between Spectrum and Vermont State Housing Authority. This program incorporates services to continue building
independent living skills and learning how to navigate the housing market in Chittenden County and beyond.

Family Supportive Housing (FSH) provided supportive and therapeutic services to families with complex needs from emergency shelter to transitional and permanent housing with leveraged private subsidy assistance.

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

Several agencies administer prevention services that include back rent assistance, home heating fuel aid, transportation, tenants' rights advocacy and legal representation. The Chittenden Community Action (CCA) Housing Assistance Program operated by the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) worked with 301 households, 195 of which were Burlington residents. In addition, 90 Burlington Rent Right classes were taught to 348 participants. Chittenden Community Action provided home heating fuel and utility assistance through three programs; Crisis Fuel Assistance, Additional Crisis Expenditures (ACE awards), and the Warmth program. CCA served 582 unduplicated Chittenden County households (1,471 individuals) between 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2022; of those served, Burlington residents represented 103 households (241 individuals). These numbers are down significantly from the previous heating season, as there were a number of factors that impacted the use of the Crisis Fuel and other emergency home heating fuel and utility services. Seasonal Fuel benefits were significantly higher than in previous years, as the State utilized additional Federal funding to bolster families resources at the start of the heating season. There was also a secondary Seasonal Fuel benefit that was distributed later in the season by the State to households using fuel oil and kerosene; this meant that there was less need for the emergency programs. Community Action was also helping people apply for programs such as Vermont COVID-19 Arrearage Assistance Program (VCAAP II) and Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program (VERAP) which provided assistance with metered utility bills and rent; when the rent is covered, that allows households to pay for home heating fuel without having to ask for help from emergency services. CCA helped 532 households apply for Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program services, 204 of which were Burlington residents. Burlington has far more households that use metered utilities (VT Gas) for their home heating fuel. The VCAAP II and VERAP programs assist primarily with metered utilities, so the number of Burlington residents served through Crisis Fuel, Warmth, etc. was down significantly as those households, in general, received more assistance through the VCAAP II and VERAP programs.

The statewide 10-Year VT Plan to End Homelessness includes a goal to create an accountability system to ensure all institutions do not routinely discharge people into homelessness or a homeless program through a clear state policy and mandate.

Discharge Planning
Youth exiting foster care in Vermont have two primary supports that protect them from being discharged into homelessness as they exit legal custody at age 18: Youth Development Program funded with federal Chafee Foster Care Independence Program and state funds & Act 74 Youth in Transition Extended Care Program. These programs are in addition to the programming run directly by the VT AHS-Dept. of Children & Families Services. In this program, a number of youth formerly in foster care are supported with case management and connected to long-term rental assistance with local Housing Authorities, including a VT State Housing Authority Sect. 8 HCV waitlist preference for youth aging out of foster care as part of the HUD Family. We also have additional case management opportunities through our Compass Program offering prevention and stabilization supports for youth and their families (PSSYF) that have a DCF history.

Pathways Vermont served 42 people in Burlington in our Permanent Supportive Housing program. 30 individuals were supported out of corrections (13 included in Burlington #, others supported throughout Chittenden Co.). We served an additional 19 individuals in our HUD Rapid Rehousing program and an additional 55 individuals in Chittenden County through RRH CARES. Using a Housing First approach, Pathways Vermont's partnership with the Department of Corrections supports individuals who have histories of involvement in the institutional circuit, cycling between incarceration, homelessness and other institutions without successfully maintaining housing. Over the last year, Pathways Vermont was able to continue to serve additional Vermonters via a RRH modality, as we were able to support clients in both its HUD RRH project and in our CARES project, supported by CARES Act funding. Pathways expects to continue supporting many of these households via ERAP and alternative funding sources in the coming year.

Persons discharged from a mental health treatment or community bed receive state-funded assistance through the VT Dept. of Mental Health Subsidy & Care Program, VT DMH Housing Contingency Fund and the VT DMH Housing Recovery Fund. In addition, state agencies collaborate with the Burlington Housing Authority and other affordable housing agencies to use Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher and federal project based voucher programs to house people discharged from mental health treatment and community beds. Patients are routinely discharged to Howard Center transitional or step-down programs.

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

Burlington is committed to the retention of affordable housing units with expiring tax credits. The CoC and its partners are committed to transitioning homeless persons into permanent housing and independent living and shortening the time individuals experience homelessness. Agencies focus on the Housing First approach.

Beginning January 2018, the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance (CCHA), a HUD Continuum of Care implemented a coordinated entry process to move persons experiencing homelessness into permanent housing. A community-wide prioritization and referral process exists for both CoC-
funded and non-CoC housing resources. Using a revised standardized assessment tool, persons are assessed for severity of service needs, vulnerability, and length of time homeless. Through the assessment, homeless households are prioritized and referred to a standing review team that meets weekly to make prioritization decisions based on information gathered and coordinate follow-ups on referrals with housing and service providers as well as prospective program participants. In 2018, CCHA implemented a By Name List for homeless single adults, families, and youth contained in the Homeless Management Information System. During the reporting period 1019 homeless single adults (households without children) in the system and 104 families, a total of 1126 households, were in the system. The system reported 734 household exits, of which 310 were to permanent destinations. The number of total households and exits mirrors the previous year. Though we saw a sharp increase in the number of families served this year.

**Housing Outcomes**

BHA continues to assist the homeless with permanent supportive housing utilizing shelter plus care funding, serving 27 households individuals this past year.

Pathways Vermont's Housing First program provides support to individuals with histories of chronic homelessness who are living with a psychiatric disability and other co-occurring conditions. Pathways' unique model of service delivery has been proven effective in engaging individuals who are unable or unwilling to work with more traditional resources. The Housing First program allows individuals to immediately access independent housing and supports clients in maintaining their tenancy with local landlords. Pathways Vermont served 42 people in Burlington in our Permanent Supportive Housing program. We served an additional 19 individuals in our HUD Rapid Rehousing program and an additional 55 individuals in Chittenden County through RRH CARES.

Burlington agencies utilize a range of housing retention programs to assist at risk households in maintaining their housing. These services include any wrap-around support services, a hoarding task force, landlord advocacy, and a Risk Guarantee Fund used to mitigate risks on the hardest to house persons.

Susan’s Place, a permanent supportive housing provider, had its first full year of operation during this reporting period. During this time the majority of the 68 apartments remained full, with very few landlord initiated moveouts (1). During this same period The Susan’s Place “program” has flourished. Staff was added to better serve the residents, and onsite programming was increased with the addition of Turning Point and Safe Harbor spending time at Susan’s Place. The relationship with Dot’s Place, a local food shelf, continued with residents and staff combining to bring much needed food resources to the building. The Susan’s Place staff continued to work with the Town of Essex regarding increasing public transportation options to the site.

CHT signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with BHA to better serve 204 Pearl Street. 204 Pearl Street is SRO style housing and has experienced challenges as of late, keeping the building safe and full. The MOU allows for Local Preferences to be requested for up to 6 section 8 vouchers annually. CHT also assigned a Resident Services staff person to 204 to better assist the residents as many are being housed directly out of homelessness.
The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) is a source of funding within the work of the Housing Opportunity Program. ESG specifically focuses on stabilizing housing for households that were either homeless at the time of requesting assistance (Rapid Re-Housing), or were in danger of becoming homeless (Prevention). The ESG program in Chittenden County served 450 persons in 338 households with homelessness prevention or rapid rehousing services, and approximately 62% of persons served were literally homeless.

Retention/Rapid Re-housing Outcomes

Pathways served an additional 19 individuals in our HUD Rapid Rehousing program and an additional 55 individuals in Chittenden County through RRH CARES. Pathways Vermont's Housing First program provides support to individuals with histories of chronic homelessness who are living with a psychiatric disability and other co-occurring conditions. Pathways' unique model of service delivery has been proven effective in engaging individuals who are unable or unwilling to work with more traditional resources. The Housing First program allows individuals to immediately access independent housing and supports clients in maintaining their tenancy with local landlords.

Using a Housing First approach, Pathways Vermont's partnership with the Department of Corrections supports individuals who have histories of involvement in the institutional circuit, cycling between incarceration, homelessness and other institutions without successfully maintaining housing.
CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)
Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Burlington Housing Authority has successful converted all of its housing properties to the HUD Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. BHA was the first Housing Authority in New England to convert all Public Housing Properties to RAD.

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

With RAD conversions complete as of the close of calendar year 2015, there were no more public housing apartments in the agency’s portfolio. Nevertheless BHA social services department continued to support the Resident Advisory Board meetings and worked to sponsor a number of health and wellness events both on-site and off-site. Tenant organizational initiatives at LIHTC properties were also supported by BHA staff.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Burlington Housing Authority is designated as a High Performer and currently does not require or receive financial assistance for its housing developments from the City of Burlington.
CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)
Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Since the adoption of Burlington’s Housing Action Plan in October 2015, the Mayor’s Office, City departments, various boards and commissions, and the City Council have been working to implement the 22 strategies contained in the Plan. Several have been completed and adopted over the past year. These have included: planBTV South End and the Neighborhood Project Toolkit. Additionally, the City enacted a substantial and comprehensive update to the City’s Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance.

In early June 2019, the City hosted the BTV Housing Summit with the view to continuing the momentum on the Housing Action Plan. Specifically, the Summit aimed to bring focus and energy to five remaining strategies from the Housing Action Plan. The five areas comprise a multi-pronged approach to increasing housing availability and affordability. In October 2019, emerging from two Housing Summits, the City Council approved a resolution to adopt a series of housing policy reforms aimed at increasing housing availability and affordability. The housing policy reforms centered around: (i) updating standards for energy efficiency in rental housing (ii) making it easier for people to build Accessory Dwelling Units (iii) implementing new regulations for short-term rentals (iv) reforming requirements for building new parking in new residential developments in downtown and (v) restoring and increasing the level of funding for the City’s Housing Trust Fund.

In December 2019, the Burlington City Council approved a charter change to increase funding for the Housing Trust Fund from half-cent to one cent per hundred dollars of assessed property value. This measure was approved by Burlington voters, although the measure has not yet taken effect as a result of the pandemic. The City adopted a series of Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance changes to encourage the creation of ADUs. These include, a streamlined permitting process to provide predictability in cost and timeline; eliminating the parking requirement and increasing the maximum ADU size.

The city passed a minimum housing standards ordinance around energy efficiency for rental properties and is currently in use. In June of 2022, a short-term rental proposal that aims to help reduce impacts on long-term housing availability and neighborhoods was passed by the council. The ordinance disallows short term rentals that use a whole home, apartment, or condo, only allowing for short term rentals within a portion of a tenant occupied unit.

Following the City’s unanimous approval of the creation of a new Neighborhood Activity Center – Cambrian Rise (CR) District, which allows for a mix of neighborhood uses, construction of more than 770 residential units commenced in 2017, in the North End of Burlington. While a phased, multi-year approach for the build-out of Cambrian Rise is currently being undertaken, once the 950 units are completed, there would be a combined total of 238 inclusionary Zoning (IZ units), a net increase of 45 IZ units, satisfying the 25% IZ requirement.
In November 2017, the City adopted planBTV Downtown Code, Burlington’s form-based code, critical to implementing the vision for the downtown and waterfront adopted in planBTV Downtown and Waterfront Master Plan. From all reports, planBTV Downtown Code is proving to be helpful in ensuring a level of predictability and certainty to the regulatory process, greatly benefiting developers who are putting their investment at risk.

**Student Housing**

As part of an agreement between the City and Champlain College, that institution opened its doors to a new 314-student bed facility in August 2018, on a former-city-owned surface parking lot in downtown Burlington. The City continues discussions with both UVM and Champlain College regarding options for the remainder of the goal of 1,700 new, well-managed undergraduate student housing beds over the next five years. Meanwhile, in September 2019, the City and UVM agreed to an additional extension of the current 2009 Memorandum of Agreement dealing with student housing. A draft agreement for consideration by both the Burlington City Council and the UVM Board of Trustees was anticipated by end May 2020. Post-pandemic, the City will continue discussions with both UVM and Champlain College regarding options for the remainder of the goal of 1,700 new, well-managed undergraduate student housing beds over the next five years. In an effort to reduce student pressure on rents in near-campus neighborhoods, both the University of Vermont (UVM) and Champlain College have each built new on campus housing for about 600 students over the past four years, representing the completion of one-third of the Mayor’s 5-year goal of housing half of off-campus undergraduate students in new, well-managed student housing to better balance quality of life issues in the City’s historic neighborhoods.

**Regulatory Barriers**

With the view to simplifying and making more user-friendly and accountable the City’s permitting system, following a public vote and legislative approvals, components of three departments were merged into a “one-stop shop” known as the Permitting & Inspections Department (DPI). The new DPI, whose main responsibility is to administer and enforce Burlington Minimum Housing Ordinance, opened in January 2020. It now has all of the functions of permitting – zoning, building inspections and code enforcement - in one location, making it easier for residents to pursue their plans and needs for their homes and businesses. As part of the reform of Burlington’s building code and with the view to reducing inappropriately high residential zoning and building fees, a preliminary review of residential zoning fees was conducted. A comprehensive review of residential zoning and building fees is expected to be undertaken by the new DPI.

As noted, in February 2020, the City Council unanimously adopted zoning reforms for ADUs. These reforms included the elimination of ADU parking requirements, an increase in the maximum ADU size and additional lot coverage. The ultimate goal is to make it easier for people to construct this housing type, which offers more flexibility for families to age in place, offset housing costs for homeowners and create additional neighborhood-scale housing options throughout the City.

Finally, in the period under review, the city continued to invest in basic public services, with a focus on upkeep of streets, parks, public safety and parking. As noted, investments in preserving affordable housing units, creating new affordable units, new transitional housing units and support
for renovating rental and owner-occupied affordable housing continued.

Homeless Initiatives

The City’s ongoing focus on creating and preserving affordable housing and a strengthened Housing First Strategy saw a continued decline in the population of people experiencing homelessness in Burlington and surrounding cities, with a drop of 50% between 2010-2020. This decline was abruptly reversed by the pandemic and the 2021 Point in Time count reported an increase of 300%. The Chittenden County Homeless Alliance (CCHA) continues to implement a coordinated entry system to streamline access to housing supports and resources and better identify housing needs of the homeless population. The CCHA supported a coordinated response to pandemic impacts, with regular pandemic response focused meetings among members. The statewide Emergency Housing Initiative provided emergency hotel based accommodation housing more than 600 people per night during the reporting period. The City supported ANEW Place and Cathedral Square in the operation and purchase of the Champlain Inn, a new year round low barrier shelter option, providing up to 50 beds per night. The CCHA membership continues to coordinate on the development of affordable housing opportunities and related pandemic recovery funding.

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

The City, through the Community and Economic Development Office (CEDO), its division of Opportunity and Engagement, and the Department of Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (REIB) continues to build and maintain relationships with community constituents through public outreach strategies and systematic program partnerships. The impact of the pandemic brought an expansion of engagement and outreach efforts and during 2020 and 2021 the City formed and expanded the Trusted Community Voices program and a pandemic Resource and Recovery Center, both worked to understand and serve community need and provide an equitable pandemic response. The City continued to implement its Eight Point Plan to Protect Black Indigenous and Persons of Color (BIPOC) Communities and Ensure a Racially Just Recovery, including deliberate steps to protect those who are medically vulnerable, as well as those who have experienced systemic inequalities based on socioeconomic status, historical injustice, and race and ethnicity. REIB put this plan into action by raising and distributing pandemic relief funds through the BIPOC Small Business and Non-Profit Relief Fund and the programs to relieve food insecurity or BIPOC households. Prior to the pandemic, major concerns that have been shared include high housing costs, transportation, limited civic spaces, and access to quality of educational and employment opportunities. The City supported coordination efforts with partners serving the community experiencing homelessness to support pandemic response for housing in hotels and de-concentration of congregate shelter, and mobile testing and vaccination clinics to provide healthcare where the population lives and gathers. The City also supported a year round Community Resource Center, with community partners, to ensure that those experiencing homelessness or marginally housed had access to daytime warming or cooling when many usual venues for daytime shelter were closed or providing restricted services.

Youth and Interns

The City values and is invested in youth engagement and participation. Youth are the next
generation of leaders and community members. CEDO leads Burlington’s chapter of My Brother’s Keeper (MBK), a national initiative. MBK Burlington is committed to focus on the goals of youth graduating school with college and careers attainment. MBK Burlington also seeks to ensure that youth are provided second chances and opportunities to thrive. This year the My Brothers/Sisters Keeper program served 8 Burlington High School students. MBK/MSK Affinity Program is a weekly group for BIPOC students. Students come together and discuss personal and social development, addressing issues of identity, school climate, equity, racism and leadership. The program provides support, incentives, and awareness around academic achievement, civic engagement and internships/jobs.

In partnership with Channel 17 Town Meeting TV, CEDO My Brother’s and Sister’s Keeper expanded community career internships for BIPOC high school students into media and production. CEDO MBK place 4 interns to learn about media production, literacy and professional skills, engage directly with their community, expand their civic involvement. The City Hall Internship program has hosted 241 intern participants since the program’s creation 8 years ago. The program has developed over time and focuses on closing education and career opportunity gaps and providing entry level internships as an equity strategy that eliminates barriers for low income and BIPOC youth to gain career access and be successful in internships. Despite the pandemic and not running the summer internship program the MBK/MSK program continued to develop and support a total of 12 MSK/MSK interns.

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

During the winter of 2021 the City of Burlington closed its 5th Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control grant with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. 74 housing units received lead hazard reduction services and 113 housing units received lead-based paint inspections over the course of the 3 year grant cycle.

- In January 2021, the City of Burlington’s Lead Program received $3,566,466.80 in lead hazard control funds and $530,000 in healthy homes supplemental funding to reduce other health hazards such as asbestos, tripping, and inoperable windows found in homes. The Lead Program anticipates reducing lead hazards in 110 units, other health hazards in 90 units and testing for lead-based paint hazards in 145 units by July, 2024. The goal of the Burlington Lead Program is to reduce lead-based paint hazards in eligible homes to reduce childhood lead poisoning and improve the overall health of the enrolled homes.
- Accomplishments during the reporting period of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 include the following:
  - Completed testing for Lead-Based Paint hazards in 51 housing units
    - 2 owner occupied units and 49 rental units
  - Performed Lead Hazard Control activities in 10 rental housing units
  - Performed Healthy Home interventions in 10 rental housing units
  - Trained 99 individuals on the VT Essential Maintenance Practices Lead Law (EMP)
  - Trained 5 individuals on the EPA Renovate, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule
  - Conducted 12 Outreach and Education events that reached over 460 individuals
  - Utilized in excess of $552,121 for the administration, implementation and completion of Lead Hazard Control work and Healthy Home activities
Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Poverty is a regional, national, and sometimes generational issue and many factors contributing to poverty lie outside of local control. Poverty disproportionately affects children and young adults (although the poverty rate among young adults in Burlington is distorted by the college student population) and women raising families as single parents. According to the American Community Survey 2014 - 2019, 26% of Burlington residents overall and 35% of families with a female head of household live in poverty. Within Chittenden County, people living in poverty are concentrated within Burlington and the adjoining city of Winooski. Portions of Burlington’s Old North End neighborhoods have the highest poverty rates of any census tracts in the state. The City invests a substantial portion of its Entitlement funding into programs serving the NRSA. These programs are designed to both prevent vulnerable City residents from falling into long-term poverty and provide the necessary supports to enable vulnerable City residents to pull themselves out of long-term poverty.

CDBG funds were invested in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program which increased income for low income persons, as well job training, and small business assistance which offer opportunity to increase earned income.

The City launched its My Brother’s Keeper Initiative in 2015 and continues to coordinate resources to close opportunity gaps for BIPOC youth and low income youth in the City. CEDO partners with the Vermont Professionals of Color Network to build community and networking opportunities that promote, support, and affirm BIPOC professionals and to create pathways for BIPOC youth. Over the past year, CEDO worked alongside the Vermont Professionals of Color Network to help them manage significant new grant revenues and to obtain nonprofit legal status.

**Burlington Poverty Rates**

![Poverty Status in Last 12 Months, % Below Poverty Level](image)

Poverty disproportionately affects children, young adults (although the poverty rate among young adults in Burlington is distorted by the college student population) and women raising families as single parents.

**Poverty Rate by Age**
In Burlington, families with a female head of household follow the national trend of experiencing the highest rate of poverty compared to other family types.

**Poverty Rate by Family Type**
In Burlington, families with a female head of household follow the national trend of experiencing the highest rate of poverty compared to other family types.

**Community Justice Center Activities**

The Burlington Community Justice Center (BCJC) provides a community-based response to crime and conflict utilizing the principles of restorative justice to help repair the harm that crime
and conflict causes to victims, the community, and offenders. Its role is to work with and along-
side its partners in the criminal justice system accomplishing the following this past year:

- Continue into our third year of our contract with the Court Diversion and Pretrial Services programs, allowing us to serve:
  - Approximately 4 people with Driving with License Suspended charges, helping them to secure their licenses again and drive legally
  - 184 people in the Youth Substance Awareness and Safety Program, for underage drinking or marijuana possession, helping them understand the impacts of using substances on themselves and others, and lowering the risk of future use, while connecting those identified as high-risk levels to professional substance use clinicians.
  - 72 people in our Tamarack Program, diverting people whose crimes are connected to substance abuse or mental health issues from the court system and rapidly referring them to treatment.
  - 97 people in our Court Diversion panels, diverting them from the court system and working to address and repair the harm they caused
  - Over 220 people in our Pretrial Services program which assists adults with substance use or mental health treatment needs who are going through the court process and awaiting final case resolution.
  - In January 2022 we began a DUI Diversion pilot in Chittenden County. All of those numbers are noted in the data above.
- Contacted 1144 individual crime victims and opened 246 cases to offer assistance and support through Parallel Justice.
- Supported 10 core members in Circles of Support and Accountability as they reentered the community after incarceration. The work group convened last year completed the creation of a statewide reentry/ COSA manual, had it approved by the Vermont DOC and distributed it all the CJC reentry coordinators. This work group has also started a project to collect more stories and demographic information for COSA circles around the state.
- Received 277 new referrals to our Restorative Justice panels, including pre-charge, Diversion and reparative referrals.
- Volunteers contributed over 1637 hours of time, equating to roughly $46,720 of in-kind donations (using the value of $28.54 per hour).

The City has taken a number of coordinated approaches to addressing equity and poverty alleviation, including the creation of Department of Racial Equity Inclusion and Belonging in early 2020 and the launch of an 8 point plan to protect BIPOC communities and ensure a racially just pandemic recovery, including deliberate steps to protect those who are medically vulnerable, as well as those who have experienced systemic inequalities based on socioeconomic status, historical injustice, and race and ethnicity. The City hosted the We All Belong Program over a 10 year period, to support Burlington’s non-profits, schools, and city departments to create more equitable and inclusive workplaces and to improve service provision to Burlington’s changing community. Alongside equity and inclusion training the City is supports initiatives to close the opportunity gaps faced by migrant and non-migrant BIPOC communities.
In response to the emerging needs of the pandemic, the City created the Trusted Community Voices (TCV) program and a pandemic Resource and Recovery Center which ensured that important health and resource information was inclusive to multiple language groups within the City. CEDO also supports Burlington’s My Brother’s Keeper initiative, providing collective responses to pressing community issues, keeping youth on track and safe, promoting healthy lifestyles, accessing employment and educational opportunities, as well as creating system changes with youth to be successful leaders through engagement in education and community.

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

Vermont and Burlington are small communities, nonetheless focused on the development of institutional structure through coordination, empowerment and communication among the public, private and nonprofit sectors and there is overall good coordination of services locally. Prominent coordination efforts include our CoC - the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance (CCHA), where nonprofits, local and state government, and private partners collaborate to create coordinated systems that improve outcomes. The COVID-19 pandemic saw increased coordination with the formation of statewide and local coordination bodies for homeless and shelter response, where Vermont piloted the Infection Control Inventory and Planning Tool for the CDC. The City of Burlington, through its COVID Resource and Recovery Center convened a COVID Response Group for those providing services for Seniors, recognizing the needs and vulnerability of this group during the pandemic.

There is room to improve and develop our institutional structure to eliminate duplication of services and ensure all populations are being served. For example, among our migrant population, where language and culture are often barriers to service, improved access to services, better outreach, and communication to residents is required, despite the City of Burlington’s Trusted Community Voices program, and other State of Vermont support language equity projects. In addition, agencies as well as City departments need to build capacity to serve a racially and ethnically population. To this end, the City accomplished the following this past year.

**Equity and Inclusion**

The City of Burlington recognized the need to improve institutional structure and responded in increasing the staffing of the Department of Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. The Department is focused on promoting racial equity and inclusion throughout the City of Burlington both internally and externally through engagement, facilitation, education, and systemic change. Towards this effort, the department has completed the development of the Racial Equity Strategic Roadmap and worked to produce an implementation model for the plan rooted in data and community engagement. The department managed a consultant team to conduct an assessment of the City’s policing structure and developed a report expected to guide the city’s decisions about policing into the future with recommendations of how to improve systemic deficiencies. The REIB’s public health capacity worked on the city’s effort to open an overdose prevention site in Burlington. The department also rolled out its Anti-Racism Workshops – a 16 hour facilitated training curriculum which serves to establish a shared understanding of institutional and systemic racism among City staff and provides practical tools that staff can use in their community engagement.
The City continues to develop the implementation of a Language Access Plan, to support access to services and communication. The pandemic led to the creation of a number of COVID Response coordination structures to eliminate duplication of services and ensure all are served including, a statewide multi-lingual task force providing supports for translated public health information, a Chittenden County COVID Response Group for providers working on housing and homelessness, and a working group for providers of services to our senior community.

Support Engagement

The City continues to host and support engagement, education and training for equity and inclusion.

- CEDO was charged by the Mayor to support the My Brother’s Keeper Initiative, and has worked to develop partnerships with City agencies, nonprofits and most importantly the school district. MBK partnership programming will continue to focus on closing the opportunity gaps.
- CEDO’s Community Justice Center (CJC) has long partnered with the Burlington School District to develop restorative practices across the district. This work has developed from the skill set held by the CJC from its community restorative justice work and as a result of the recognition of the disproportionately high rates of discipline and suspension that our BIPOC youth were experiencing.
- In partnership with the Burlington School District, CEDO’s MBK and CJC for the fifth year continued an affinity group program called MBK Pathways to Lead for BIPOC students. This program provided 24 students a safe space where the students could discuss issues important to their daily lives but also receive mentoring from BIPOC professionals to discuss closing opportunity gaps for education and career.
- CEDO and its AmeriCorps team are leading outreach and coordination to ensure that resources are focused on BIPOC and low income youth and access to opportunities, to avoid reinventing or duplicating systems and initiatives already in place. CEDO and the AmeriCorps team are coordinating to offer information and opportunities for jobs and internships, and gather youth feedback on opportunities for new support and services.

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

In order to enhance coordination and collaboration between public and private housing and social service agencies, best practices have been implemented for several community initiatives. Coordination begins with a focus on assembling the right people or agencies at the table, clearly defining roles and responsibilities, sharing a common mission and developing good communication.

Here are some examples of successful collaborations this past year:

The City is the Collaborative Applicant for VT 501 Continuum of Care. With the Built for Zero Collaborative, the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance continued to develop a By Name List and robust coordinated entry system for individuals experiencing homelessness.
An ongoing collaboration between UVM Medical Center, Champlain Housing Trust and the Community Health Centers of Burlington Homeless Healthcare Program, is the medical respite program for homeless and marginally housed individuals at Bonvouloir (formerly Bel Aire) Apartments. The seven medical respite units at Bonvouloir offer brief recuperative care for individuals experiencing homelessness who need a place to stay during preparation for and recovery from a medical procedure, who are discharging from the hospital, or as a way to avoid hospitalization. Bonvouloir receives referrals from the hospital and community

Members of the City government (multiple departments) and representatives of the University of Vermont, Champlain College, and University of Vermont Medical Center routinely meet with constituents, nonprofit representatives and land owners to address shared challenges. This cooperation and coordination increased during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

In 2017 the City of Burlington, in partnership with the Burlington Housing Authority and Winooski Housing Authority, completed an Assessment of Fair Housing for the jurisdiction. That assessment identified eight primary goals to address fair housing issues and their contributing factors. The Fair Housing Issues include: Segregation/Integration, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, Disproportionate Housing Needs, Publicly Supported Housing, Disability and Access Issues, and Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity and Resources. There are no Racial and Ethnic Concentrations of Poverty within the Jurisdiction or Region.

There are several groups, in addition to the City, who are committed to reviewing the progress of the Fair Housing goals. Vermont Legal Aid’s (VLA’s) Housing Discrimination Law Project, , and Champlain Valley’s Office of Economic Opportunity’s Fair Housing Project, have engaged in activities that directly address the identified Fair Housing issues during the reporting period.

VLA undertakes numerous activities to combat discriminatory housing practices by housing professionals including: legal advice to people who have been discriminated against; conducting investigations of fair housing violations, including conducting testing; providing legal counsel about fair housing rights to complainants; and reviewing advertisements and responding to the poster; advising them of FH law. VLA's testing and report of findings has affirmatively furthered fair housing by detecting violations and making them known. VLA also monitors and responds to discriminatory advertisements for housing informing the poster that the advertisement is discriminatory and requesting that they change the language of the advertisement. VLA receive over 100 fair housing complaints per year and represents victims of housing discrimination in state and federal courts and before the Vermont Human Rights Commission, as well as in pre-filing negotiation. They also conduct approximately 80 test parts per year. Additionally, VLA represents people with disabilities annually on a range of fair housing issues from how to request a reasonable modification or reasonable accommodation to actions. VLA also routinely testifies in public comments to municipalities, boards, housing policy makers, and commissions about the impact on fair housing of various policy choices made by officials responsible for planning and zoning,
housing and community development, and for siting of housing and shelters for people with mental health disabilities and homeless people.

**Fair Housing Goals Including Fair Housing Issues they Address and the Contributing Factors:**

1) **Increase Affordable Housing Options - Neighborhood Stabilization Plan**
Create a neighborhood plan to convert residential units used for student housing by private landlords to individual/family households.

**Fair Housing Issues Addressed:** Protected classes lack neighborhood options due to market

**Contributing Factors:** Impediments to mobility, lack of affordable units

**Actions taken this year:**
- Following acceptance of The Neighborhood Project (TNP) report by the City Council in April 2019, the document was referred to the Community Development & Neighborhood Revitalization (CDNR) Committee, a sub-committee of the City Council, for prioritization of its action items and creation of a TNP Implementation Plan (Phase 1). In early December 2019, the CDNR Committee approved the TNP Implementation Plan (Phase 1), which was accepted by the City Council later that month. Over the past year, TNP Implementation Plan (Phase 1) placed emphasis on one of the three broad strategies recommended in the TNP report, in particular enhancing the quality of life in near-campus neighborhoods. To this end, with the view to strengthening Burlington Minimum Housing Standards, a review of the City’s Certificate of Compliance (CoC) 1-5 rating system commenced. Additionally, work to make the existing City Property Database more user-friendly and updates property and landlord information regularly, including housing unit inspections was completed.

2) **Increase Affordable Housing Opportunities – New Construction**
The City of Burlington continues to prioritize the provision of safe, decent and affordable housing within its Housing Action Plan as well as its Five Year Consolidated Plan. To that end, federal resources such as CDBG and HOME, along with municipal resources of the City of Burlington Housing Trust Fund are allocated to nonprofit developers for the construction of deeply subsidized affordable units. The City also enforces an Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance which produces several IZ units annually. An increase of units provides access to protected classes in new neighborhoods, close to transportation, with supportive services and close to amenities.

**Fair Housing Issues Addressed:** Disproportionate housing needs, disability and access, segregation

**Contributing Factors:** Location and type of affordable housing, availability of affordable units in range of sizes, lack of affordable units, integrated housing for individuals who need supportive services, private discrimination

**Actions taken this year:**
- The City has devoted significant staff resources in support of Burlington City Place, a large-scale private redevelopment of a downtown mall. Once complete, the project is
expected to add approximately 440 new units including 88 permanently affordable units through Inclusionary Zoning.

- The City completed $1.6 million worth of affordable housing units through the HOME program.
- A new private 70-unit housing development included 60 new permanently affordable units through Inclusionary Zoning.
- A new private 49–unit including 5 new permanently affordable units through Inclusionary Zoning
- At the City's request to accommodate larger families which are disproportionately BIPOC families, the nonprofit housing development organizations have included some 3 bedroom units in plans for new rental developments.
- The City works proactively to ensure that our HOME funded projects comply with the requirements of Section 504 and 24 CFR part 8 Subpart C.

3) Increase Affordable Housing Opportunities

Following adoption of Burlington’s Housing Action Plan in October 2015, the City has moved forward with implementing a number of initiatives to help reduce the cost of housing for all Burlington residents and more broadly, support affordable housing. Additionally, in order to address the housing availability and affordability problem and to give greater impetus to the gains since the adoption of the Housing Action Plan, in June 2019, the city hosted the BTV Housing Summit to kick-off a community conversation about housing policy reform. This was followed in September 2019, by a second public meeting to share those initial recommendations and ask for more input.

Fair Housing Issues Addressed: Segregation/Integration

Contributing Factors: Location/type of affordable housing, private discrimination

Actions taken this year:

The issues discussed in the BTV Housing Summit and second public meeting focused on five housing policy reforms, all designed to make housing in Burlington more available and affordable. These reforms related to: Short term rentals, parking requirements, increasing the Housing Trust Fund, Energy Efficiency and Accessory Dwelling Units. During the period under review, four of the five housing policy reforms have been adopted with the fifth proposal, short-term rentals at an advanced state of committee discussion. All five of the housing policy proposals advance a two-part housing strategy: (i) Continuing Burlington’s proud legacy of building as much permanently affordable housing as possible and ensuring the protection of tenants and (ii) Simultaneously pursuing policies and proactive efforts to create more homes for households of all backgrounds in order to increase the vacancy rate in Burlington.

Accessory Dwelling Units:

This policy change is designed to make it easier for people to create Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) which offer more flexibility for families to age in place, offset housing costs for
homeowners and create additional neighborhood-scale housing options throughout the City. The policy change was adopted by the City Council in February 2020, and the City approved zoning permits for six new ADUs in calendar year 2020.

Housing Trust Fund

This policy change restored and increased the level of dedicated funding to Burlington’s Housing Trust Fund (HTF), which supports the creation and preservation of permanently affordable housing. While 69 percent of voters approved the change to the City Charter to allow for this increase, on account of the impact of Covid-19, the City delayed implementation of this increase in Fiscal Year 2021 until next year. The annual funding to the HTF in FY23 increased from $200,000 to close to $565,000.

Parking Minimums:

The policy change to parking minimums which required developers to build new parking in residential development in downtown and along key transportation corridors, removes a major cost driver of housing and takes a major step toward aligning the City’s land use policies with its climate goals. Since its adoption in September 2020, two significant projects have applied for permits to create housing that would benefit from the policy change for a combined 490 new homes and several others are under consideration.

Energy Efficiency in Rental Housing

This policy aims to update standards for energy efficiency in rental housing to protect renters from unreasonable high utility costs and support Burlington’s climate goals. This policy change was adopted in March, earlier this year.

Short-term rentals

This policy change implements new regulations for short-term rentals like Airbnb, in order to reduce the impacts on long-term housing availability and neighborhoods, while also balancing the economic benefit for Burlingtonians who are hosts. The policy change was passed by City Council during the program year.

4) Maintain/Preserve affordable housing units

The City of Burlington prioritizes maintaining and preserving affordable housing within the City and allocates federal and local resources to partners to keep housing with expiring subsidies, renovate housing, provide energy efficiencies and lead remediation. Given that the cost of creating a new unit can be $250,000 or more, it makes economic sense to rehabilitate existing affordable housing at a significantly lower cost.

Fair Housing Issues Addressed: Cost of housing – disproportionate housing needs, disparities in access to opportunities
Contributing Factors: Lack of affordable units, location and type of units, displacement of residents due to economic pressures, inaccessible private infrastructure

Actions taken this year:
- Rehab work was completed on 204 Pearl Street, which contains 14 affordable SRO units
- Rehab work was completed at Ruggles House, which contains 15 units of service enriched affordable housing for seniors
- The Burlington Lead Program completed lead hazard control and health and safety repairs in 12 units occupied by low/mod income families.
- CEDO’s Housing Initiatives Project provided low interest loans to 2 low income single family home owners for health and safety repairs.

5) Provide housing resources to low income renters and homeowners, and increase homeownership opportunities

While the City invests resources in building new housing units and preserving affordable housing, resources are also used to assist low-income/protected class renters to remain in safe, affordable housing. With specific census tracts low in homeownership opportunities, the City will identify homeownership trends and partnerships/programs that can encourage and expand owner-occupied housing for underrepresented minorities. Additionally, the City will continue to assist seniors/disabled with accessory modifications and age in place housing options. Overall, the City will explore other housing options such as ADU’s and homesharing.

Fair Housing Issues Addressed: Segregation/Integration, disparities to access to opportunities, disproportionate housing needs, publicly supported housing, disability and access

Contributing Factors: Lack of assistance for housing accessibility modifications, displacement of residents due to economic pressure, availability type, frequency and type of public transportation, impediments to mobility, private discrimination

Actions taken this year:
- The City devoted considerable staff resources related to the Cambrian Rise development which will create 161 owner-occupied units, including 24 permanently affordable
- Through Champlain Housing Trust’s Shared Equity program 44 low/mod income households were provided direct financial assistance to purchase their first home.

6) Increase employment opportunities for protected classes

By providing access to better jobs, livable wages or business creation/expansion, protected classes have more housing options and access to opportunities.

Fair Housing Issues Addressed: Disparities to access to opportunities, disproportionate housing needs, publicly supported housing, disability and access

Contributing Factors: Lack of affordable units, location and type of units, impediments to mobility, availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation.
Actions taken this year:

- Technical assistance was provided to 9 individuals or potential entrepreneurs, way short of the benchmark goal for the year under review. This was as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and its impacts and the closure of City Hall for over one year. As a result of the technical assistance provided, two new businesses were spawned, one business expanded and five full-time jobs were created.

- Of the 9 individuals who received technical assistance, two were white, three Black and four were Asian.

- During the period under review, seven (7) trainees were enrolled in the Construction and Safety training program which is targeted toward low-income and unemployed individuals, young adults, women, BIPOC and immigrant and refugees so they are qualified for the hundreds of good jobs in the construction sector. Of the seven trainees who enrolled, all students successfully graduated and obtained the OSHA 10 (safety) certification and the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certificate. To date, five are employed in full-time jobs in the construction industry and two are working part-time. Before entering the training program, no student had a full-time job; specifically, four were unemployed and three worked in the gig economy. The training program included six students with disabilities, one ex-offender, and one female participant.

- Over the review period, a Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) Workforce training program was launched. The program’s goals are two-fold: (i) to train 35 persons from Burlington’s underserved populations, including BIPOC, immigrants and refugees to become LNAs and (ii) increase the capacity and availability of targeted health services within medical facilities and other assisted living/long-term care facilities. The training program will be undertaken in 5 separate cohorts each of 6-8 persons. To date, seven (7) students have been trained, with five students passing outright and gotten their license (LNA) from the state; the remaining two students, one of whom is an English Language Learner (ELL), will shortly retake either the theory or practical test, as both received partial passes. Since the program’s launch in May 2021, there has been overwhelming interest on the part of Burlington’s underserved communities. As of August 24, 2021, the program had received eighty-two (82) applications.

7) Increase educational opportunities with a focus on protected classes

Programs that increase educational opportunities for BIPOC youth and other protected classes, improve access to opportunities, integration, and provide a pathway out of poverty. Classes that prepare tenants to be successful renters and homeowners, create new opportunities for housing, improve housing retention, and educate persons in protected classes about their rights and resources to combat discrimination.

Fair Housing Issues Addressed: Segregation, disparities to access to opportunities, disability and access
Contributing Factors: Location and type of units, impediments to mobility, availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation, community opposition

Actions taken this year:

- The City Hall Internship program has hosted 241 intern participants since the program’s creation 8 years ago. The program has developed over time and focuses on closing education and career opportunity gaps and providing entry level internships as an equity strategy that eliminates barriers for low income and BIPOC youth to gain career access and be successful in internships. Despite the pandemic and not running the summer internship program the MBK/MSK program continued to develop and support a total of 12 My Brothers/Sisters Keeper interns.

- In partnership with Burlington High School and Burlington After School, CEDO continued programming for pathways and successful school transition, and supported two groups of BIPOC youth in My Brother’s Keeper, serving 8 students.

- In partnership with Channel 17 Town Meeting TV, CEDO My Brother’s and Sister’s Keeper expanded community career internships for BIPOC high school students into media and production. CEDO MBK place 4 interns to learn about media production, literacy and professional skills, engage directly with their community, expand their civic involvement.

- CHT offers Ready Set Rent, a program designed to remove credit and other barriers to renting an apartment. The program serves rental applicants who have been denied a CHT apartment because of poor credit or no credit history. Once an applicant completes their education and develops an action plan to address their credit. Many vulnerable tenants who were previously denied an apartment are now developing solid rental histories through this program.

- The Rent Right Program is designed to provide participants the skills, materials, and confidence necessary to find and maintain stable housing. The program includes four workshop modules, followed by a one-on-one financial coaching session. The four modules are Tenant Skills, Finding Housing, Getting Ready to Rent and Sustaining the Rent. Upon completion of the program, participants receive a Preferred Renter Certificate as a way to demonstrate their readiness for sustaining housing. When a landlord receives an application or has a current tenant with this certificate, they will know the applicant or tenant is invested in being a successful renter, knowledgeable about resources, and connected to service providers, such as a financial coach. Experienced teaching teams from CVOEO’s Vermont Tenants and Financial Futures programs collaborate to offer these free workshops and coaching experiences. Workshops are offered as 60-90 minute webinars or as fully self-paced, online classes, and can be taken in any order.

- CHT announced their Homeownership Equity Program (HEP) to enhance and encourage homeownership for households of color. The program provides 0% interest loans of up to $25,000 for qualified shared equity homebuyers.

8) Support Fair Housing Education and Equitable Outreach

Burlington has two agencies within the City doing fair housing outreach and education. Both agencies are dependent on grant funding to sustain their important work. Demographics of the City show how diverse our community has become in the past 30 years. However, not all of our new
community members feel welcome during standard engagement efforts like neighborhood planning assemblies, City Council meetings and committee meetings or public hearings. Learning to engage diverse populations in non-traditional techniques, while creating safe and inclusive spaces for equitable engagement is critical for the City to reach underserved and underrepresented communities. The very populations who may be facing displacement pressures, segregation, and disproportionate housing needs are those who need to be reached and heard.

Fair Housing Issues: Discrimination or violations of civil rights law or regulations, segregation

Contributing Factors: Lack of resources for fair housing agencies, private discrimination, need for expanded policies for inclusion, community opposition

Actions taken this year:

- The Burlington Fair Housing Committee was active in its engagement of Fair Housing issues in Burlington. In addition to the City’s Code Enforcement Department and the Community & Economic Development Office, this group includes Vermont Legal Aid’s (VLA’s) Housing Discrimination Law Project, and Champlain Valley’s Office of Economic Opportunity’s Fair Housing Project (FHP).
- The Burlington Lead Program offers training on lead based paint hazards for Section 8 tenants at the Burlington Housing Authority.
- The Burlington Lead Program encourages program participants to follow Fair Housing Laws and provides educational materials regarding protected classes to landlords who are seeking loan forgiveness.
- VLA provides fair housing education through outreach/education events, media interviews, maintaining a website, writing newsletter articles and sharing information on Facebook.
- CEDO and the Code Enforcement Office continue to hand out Fair Housing booklets to landlords during inspections of registered rental properties, with around one-third of all city rental properties routinely inspected annually.
- With ongoing City funding, the Champlain Housing Trust's Homeownership Center is providing interpreters for its homeownership classes.
CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230
Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

All CDBG subrecipient activities are monitored through program reports submitted by subgrantees with each request for funds. More in-depth onsite monitoring occurred for two subrecipient programs. Selection of these sites is based on factors such as: whether the subrecipient is a new organization or a new CDBG grantee, how long it has been since the last onsite monitoring visit, whether there were problems revealed during the last monitoring visit, whether the program reports indicate a need for onsite monitoring, whether there have been significant changes in subrecipient staff, and the size of the grant. Eleven subrecipients were monitored through quarterly desk reviews, as well as CEDO’s internal CDBG funded projects, and none subrecipients received onsite monitoring visits.

HOME subgrantee activities are typically monitored through annual project reports submitted by subgrantees and through onsite visits. The purpose of the project reports is to ensure that (a) for rental housing, all HOME-assisted housing units meet federal regulations for rent and income levels as well as compliance with applicable inspection standards and other federal requirements; and (b) for homebuyer projects, all HOME-assisted housing units are owner occupied and in compliance with other federal requirements. Despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, CEDO completed HOME monitoring and inspections for all required properties during the program year.

CEDO has developed a web-based registry of self-certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and does outreach to local businesses to make them aware that the registry can help them access contracting opportunities. This registry, together with the state’s online DBE registry, is available to City departments and to subrecipients for their procurement processes. Periodically CEDO publishes a public notice soliciting Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), DBE, and Section 3 contractors for inclusion on the online registry. Further, CEDO’s Housing Division works closely with the Economic Development team to reach out to known MBE, DBE, and Section 3 contractors to include on the list. Finally, HOME recipients are required in the written agreements to, using the CEDO and State of Vermont registries.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)
Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The Community & Economic Development Office is the lead agency responsible for overseeing the development of the CAPER and for administering the CDBG and HOME programs. The Citizen Participation Plan was followed for the development of this Report. A public hearing was held on September 15th, 2022. The hearing was published in a local paper and reasonable notice was provided to residents to comment on the performance report. In addition, public input was sought with the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance via their list serve. Public comment was
also sought via CEDO’s website and email distribution lists that reach several non-profits as well as community members.
CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

There are no changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives.

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

No

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

- The Moran FRAME concept was approved by City Council in February of 2019 and work continued in the current year. The demolition of the building was completed along with soil remediation and abatement. The structure was painted and final lighting and signage was installed. Substantial completion was achieved on October 31, 2021.
CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)
Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

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

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection.

All HOME-funded developments that expected to receive on-site inspections were completed and passed before the end of the program year:

Avenue Apartments—1201 North Ave. - units #106, #109
Bobbin Mill – 234 S Champlain - units # 210, #212, #218
Bright Street Cooperative — 37 Bright Street units #101, #108, #201, #210
Callahan – 33 North Street units #5, #6, 134 North Street units #5, #9
Cathedral Square Senior Living—16 Cherry St. – units #6C, #7B, #8B
COTS 95 North Ave – 95 North Avenue units #201, #203, #212, #214, #204
City Neighborhoods—52 North Champlain Street St. C, 59 North Champlain Street St. #6, 73 Sherman Street, and 221 Pine Street #4
ECHO – 92 North Ave units #1, #2, #5, #7
Heineberg Senior Housing—72 Heineberg Rd. - units #109, #115, #205
Independence Place – 110 Mansfield Avenue units #2, #3, #4, #6
King Street Apartments – 88 King Street units #307, #308, #406
Salmon Run—220 Riverside - units F11, C12
Scholars – 110 Mansfield Avenue units #2, #5, #9, #10
Waterfront Housing—300 Lake St. - units #202, # 206, #210, #304, #401, #404, #406
Wharf Lane Apartments—57-61 Maple St. - units #220, #319

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

The effectiveness of the City’s affirmative marketing actions for HOME units is considered a success based on the characteristics of households living in HOME-funded units. Overall, HOME-funded units provide housing to a higher percentage of households in protected classes than the general housing stock of Burlington. The Community & Economic Development Office actively encourages affirmative marketing of HOME-funded units. During the development process, as well as during ongoing project monitoring, each project is required to submit an affirmative marketing plan that is reviewed by staff. Recipients of HOME funds must try to provide
information to and otherwise attract eligible persons from all racial, ethnic, and gender groups in the housing market area. Future actions will change based on the data gathered each year.

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

For the period 7/1/21 to 6/30/22, CEDO received $1,474.11 in HOME program income and expended $0 in HOME program income.

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

The City continued to take action with both funding and advocacy to preserve the affordability of existing rental housing. While low-income housing is being lost to conversion and demolition all across the nation, Burlington has policies and funding priorities that have managed to both preserve existing rental housing and create new rental housing affordable to low and moderate income households. Finally, the City has an approved Assessment of Fair Housing.
Appendix A: Community Indicators

The City of Burlington tracks a selection of community indicators in order to measure progress toward housing and community development goals. The data is also used to see if any changes in program strategy, objectives, or activities are warranted.

Poverty

Within Chittenden County, people living in poverty are concentrated within Burlington and the adjoining City of Winooski. Portions of Burlington’s Old North End neighborhood have the highest poverty rates of any census tracts in the state. According to the ACS, 25% of Burlington residents were living below the poverty level, almost 15% higher than Chittenden County, Vermont, and the United States as a whole.

Poverty Rates by Age

Poverty disproportionately affects children, young adults (although the poverty rate among young adults in Burlington is distorted by the college student population) and women raising families as single parents.
Poverty Rate by Family Type
In Burlington, families with a female head of household follow the national trend of experiencing the highest rate of poverty compared to other family types.

Decent Housing
The City’s goal is that all Burlington residents have a range of housing options that offer them safe, decent, appropriate, secure and affordable housing. Indicators tracked in this area include:
**Rental Vacancy Rate and Rental Affordability**

A rental vacancy rate between 3% and 5% is generally considered by most experts to be “balanced.” When it falls below that level, a lack of supply will lead to escalating rents, leave people unable to find housing, and limit economic growth. The local rental vacancy rate, measured twice a year by the Allen, Brooks & Minor Report, was .8% in Chittenden County as of December 2021, a 1% decrease from 2020 and well below the ‘balanced’ range.


Rental affordability, measured by a “housing wage” that allows a tenant to pay no more than 30% of income for housing and utilities, continues to be out of reach for lower-income residents, particularly for residents that require two to three bedroom apartments. Both indicators show a continuing need for retention of existing affordable units and the production of new affordable rental units.

![Annual Rental Inflation](Allen, Brooks & Minor Report, December 2021)
Rent is rising at a higher rate than household income. According to the Allen, Brooks & Minor Report released December 2021, median household income has increased at an average of 2.2% since 2010 while rent grew at an annual average rate of 2.4%. From 2020 to 2021, the average rate of rental inflation has decreased from 1.2% to 2.7%.

*Please note that the cost of utilities is not included in the Housing Wage calculated above.*
**Median Home Sales Price, Number of Home Sales and Number of Foreclosure Filings**

Home sales prices in Burlington increased sharply from 2002 to 2005, dipping in 2006. Since 2008 we have seen a more gradual increase in median price until 2017 where the Burlington median price jumps to just under the historically higher Chittenden County median price, however 2020 introduce a number of elements that cause median prices to jump. The median sale price in Burlington increased from $316,500 to $350,000.

The number of homes sold showed a dramatic decline from 2006 to 2009, with that trend appearing to reverse in 2010 with slow but increasing sales until 2013. Home sales steadily decreased from 2013 to 2016, and then increased until 2018 and remained steady in 2019. Burlington escaped the kind of foreclosure
crisis experienced by other cities, but foreclosure filings did begin rising in 2007 – with escalating numbers continuing in 2008 and 2009 – before beginning to abate in the first part of 2010. This trend has continued through 2019, which saw the lowest foreclosure figures in over 15 years. In 2020 there were 6 foreclosures. In 2021 there were 0 foreclosures, likely due to homeowner access to mortgage related pandemic relief.

These indicators show a continuing need for support of affordable homeownership. The City will continue to monitor foreclosure levels; however, the data demonstrates foreclosure filings are low. The current foreclosure prevention programs of the two federal housing counseling agencies located in Burlington – Opportunities Credit Union and the Home Ownership Center of the Champlain Housing Trust – appear to be sufficient to meet the level of need.

**Number of Homeless**

Each January, local homeless and housing providers count the number of people in Chittenden County (primarily in Burlington) who are without permanent housing on a given night – including those in shelters and state-paid motels, those in transitional housing and those living in places unfit for human habitation.

The total homeless population is represented by the graph **Total Persons Experiencing Homelessness**. The homeless population in Chittenden County experienced an overall 43% decrease from 2010 to 2020, increasing slightly in 2014, leveling out again in 2015 and decreasing significantly in 2016 and 2017. The highest number of homeless was counted in 2010 and the lowest number in 2020. Due to the effects of the pandemic the PIT count in 2021 was substantially higher than previous years, with the count at 690 persons sheltered. For 2021 HUD did not required an unsheltered count. From 2016 to 2020 the most significant decrease is seen in the number of families experiencing homelessness from over 120 people in families to 58 people in families. No data is currently available for 2021.
Please note the downward trend of those accessing emergency shelter with the lowest point in 2012 and then the sharp increase of 56% in 2013 due to the Emergency Assistance Motel Voucher Program. Cold weather exemptions and relaxed standards led to increased usage. It is not clear as to whether this represents an actual increase in literal homelessness in Burlington. 2020 marked the lowest number of persons accessing the program in 10 years. Due to the effects of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 saw a rapid increase in the homeless population, nearly tripling between 2020 and 2021.
Economic Opportunity
The City’s goal is that a prosperous Burlington economy provides all Burlington residents with access to livable wage jobs, to the education and training that qualify them for those jobs, to business ownership opportunities, and to the supports necessary to access those opportunities. The indicators which we track in this area include:

Job Growth and Unemployment
The pandemic had a large effect on the unemployment rate for Burlington, mirroring the effects that were felt state and countrywide. The unemployment rate peaked at close to 15% in March of 2020, decreasing to 2.9 by December of 2020.
Job growth in the City and in the Labor Market Area (LMA), which is based on commuting patterns, declined sharply between 2008 and 2009. Employment, however, did appear to be following national trends with a slight decrease in jobs in the LMA, including those in the private sector. From 2017 to 2019 we see larger increases in job growth nationally than locally, with local growth remaining steady. The pandemic caused a significant loss of jobs throughout the country. This effect was felt equally in Burlington, as well as the LMA.

### Commercial Vacancy Rates
The downtown retail vacancy rate jumped upwards in June 2008, leveled out for several years, and peaked in December 2016 at 10.9%, higher than the historic average of 8.3%. Much of this increased vacancy is attributed to broad, long-term redevelopment plans at the Burlington Town Center shopping mall, now known as City Place Burlington (BCP). In 2018, retail vacancy fell below 5% for the first time since 2007, a trend that continued through 2019, while office vacancies show a decrease of 2.1% between 2018 and 2019. The pandemic caused an increase in both office and retail vacancy rates in the City. In addition to the increase in unemployment in 2020 a number of office jobs switched to remote work in order to limit exposure. There was also a mandated shutdown of non-essential business for a large period of 2020 causing an increase in retail vacancy rates. This trend continued into 2021 with office and retail vacancy rates hovering around 10%.
Sales and Entertainment Revenues
Burlington saw a significant rise in sales and gross use receipts between January 2010 and 2011; from $48,027,596 to $64,779,961 in a one year period. From 2012 to 2014 we see a more modest annual increase of 3% - 10% a year, more recently 2016 and 2017 both saw an annual increase of over 10%. Burlington meals, rooms and alcohol receipts have remained largely stable since 2011, increasing by 10.81% in 2012, dipping slightly in 2013 and 2014, and increasing slightly through January 2017. The beginning of 2020 saw small increase in sales and gross receipts, however the pandemic had a major impact on revenues. As of January 2022, meals, rooms, and alcohol tax revenues are still down by 15.5% compared to the previous fiscal year, while retail sales tax revenues increased back to pre-pandemic levels.
Monthly Change in Tax Revenues, January 2008 - January 2022
Source: Vermont Department of Taxes, Monthly Reports
**Educational Success**
The Burlington Senior High School 4 year cohort graduation rate peaked in 2014 at 88%, it then reached a ten year low at 69.8% in 2018. After decreasing in 2020 the rate increased to 72% in 2021, matching pre-pandemic levels.

In 2010, the Vermont State Board of Education adopted the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) or Common Core assessment. Starting in the 2013-2014 school year the NECAP assessments for Reading, Writing, and Math were replaced with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) or Common Core assessments for English Language Arts and Math. In 2019, 56% of Grade 9 students scored proficient or above in English Language Arts and 38% scored proficient or above in Math.

Family income continues to impact student proficiency, in the 2016-17 school year 25% of Grade 11 Burlington High School students who received Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) scored proficient or above
on the SBAC English Language Arts test as compared to 58% of students who do not receive free or reduced lunch. In 2019 this trend continued, low income students scored proficient or above at rates 40% lower than students who do not qualify for FRL. Although these numbers may be indicative of not only poverty levels, but also English language proficiency and range of familiarity with the American school system and years of school, the data indicates a need for further investment in educational support and opportunities for low income students.
Refugee Arrivals
Refugees coming to Vermont are principally resettled in Burlington and neighboring Winooski. Refugee arrivals have seen a sharp decrease since 2016, and 2020 was the lowest reported number of arrivals in more than fifteen years with only 23 individuals.

Equity
Burlington has seen major demographic changes in the last three decades. In 1980, Burlington was a city where 98.5% of its residents identified as white and only a half of one percent of residents did not speak English proficiently. In 2018, over 17% of residents identified as a race other than white and in 2019, 16% of Burlington High School students received English Language Learning Services. This rapid change in demographics and evidence of racial disparities in educational attainment, employment, and poverty demonstrate a need for more systemic changes for equitable access to opportunity.
The most recent data on poverty demonstrates that some Black, Indigenous, & People of Color (BIPOC) residents consistently lag behind white residents financially on the local and state level. BIPOC residents in Burlington generally experience higher rates of poverty than the state average among each respective race and ethnic group. Black/African American residents are experiencing poverty at higher rates than other races in Burlington, Chittenden county, and statewide.
Examining unemployment by race, Black/African Americans and persons who identify as being 2 or more races have a higher incidence of unemployment in Burlington than all other races, while persons that identify as Hispanic of any race experience the highest percentage of unemployment, showing racial and ethnic disparity in the employment sector.

2018 unemployment was at 0% for people who identified as “Some Other Race”, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

At Burlington Senior High School students who identify as Black/African American and Asian are scoring proficient or above at a lower rate than students who identify as white.