

FINAL DRAFT MAY 2019



CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

Year 2 Action Plan

July 1, 2019 – July 30, 2020

**U.S DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM**



The City’s Entitlement Mission Statement is as follows:

“To create a Strategic Plan for the next five years that continues to enhance the community and economic development of the City of Biddeford through targeted public facility and infrastructure improvements, social services, housing, economic development projects, and activities that benefit residents, including low to moderate income persons and special needs population groups.”

Objectives and Outcomes

The following are the priorities, objectives and outcomes for the Consolidated 5 Year Plan that began on July 1st, 2018. This five-year plan encompasses the following proposed projects and programs for the Year 2 Action Plan to begin on July 1st, 2019. Infrastructure is Priority 1 and has a greater percentage allotment than Housing. However, from comments collected at the Public Hearings and from the Citizens Advisory Committee, Priority 2, Housing, is to be funded equally with Infrastructure when funding is available and housing projects are ready, and infrastructure needs are not critical.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Priority 1 - To eliminate slum and blight in the downtown area through infrastructure and public facilities improvements that benefit LMI neighborhoods.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Outcome – Improving sustainability by promoting viable communities

Objective 1 - Increase access and provide public facilities that provide for the health and safety of residents in LMI neighborhoods.

- Actions:
1. Implement sidewalk and other street improvements, ADA projects and beautification projects in LMI neighborhoods for safe and adequate access to services and facilities.
 2. Implement park, trail and walkway developments in LMI neighborhoods for safe and adequate recreation needs through acquisition, demolition and redevelopment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Outcome – Improving sustainability by promoting viable communities

Objective 2 - Increase business attraction to promote job creation

- Actions:
1. Provide grant assistance to commercial property owners and businesses through a Business Assistance Program.
 2. Provide for projects that increase the economic viability of the downtown.
 3. Implement sustainable energy related projects in the downtown.

HOUSING

Priority 2 - To provide a strategy to meet the increasing need for transitional to affordable and supportive housing.

HUD OBJECTIVE – PROVIDING DECENT HOUSING

Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units

Objective 1 - Increase the supply of safe and adequate affordable housing for low to moderate-income persons.

- Actions:
1. Consider making the City's "surplus" and/or tax acquired real estate available for the development of affordable housing.
 2. Consider revisions to the City's zoning and land use standards which would provide incentives, e.g. density bonuses for the development of affordable housing.
 3. In partnership with other public/private parties, explore the adaptive re-use and redevelopment of non-residential properties, e.g. mills, churches, etc. into affordable sheltered housing.
 4. Consider and implement when feasible combinations of housing and community space that support LMI neighborhoods and enhance opportunities for housing occupants.

Objective 2 - Preserve and upgrade the City's housing stock serving low to moderate income persons.

- Actions:
1. Consider establishment of low interest loan programs to help finance the rehabilitation of the City's downtown housing stock.
 2. Consider acquisition and demolition of blighted properties for construction of new housing when applicable.
 3. Provide funding to low to moderate income homeowners for improvements comprised of energy conservation.

4. Consider establishment of low interest loan programs to help finance the rehabilitation of the City's downtown housing stock.
5. Undertake a systematic and concentrated program of code enforcement to ensure life safety standards are met and to prevent blighting influences on neighborhoods.
6. Encourage participation by landlords in the Biddeford Landlords Association and encourage partnerships that provide resources for landlords and tenants.

Objective 3 - Increase opportunities for homeownership for low and moderate income persons.

- Actions: 1. Consider a partnership with other public/private organizations to pool resources to help finance home ownership, e.g. down payments, loan assistance, mortgage interest rate write-downs, and other financing mechanisms.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Priority 3 - Provide educational and work opportunities for homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations that provide avenues to obtain jobs and/or better paying work opportunities.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units or services

Objective 1 - Increase the economic prosperity of homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations, and their ability to afford housing, and health and safety amenities by providing work opportunities and partnerships that provide housing and housing services.

- Actions: 1. Provide opportunities for homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations to participate in work force preparedness and financial management programs that enhance their ability to have access to affordable housing.
2. Provide child care and youth programs that increase the opportunity for homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations to attend educational and training programs, while providing enrichment programs for youths of all ages.
 3. Link local programs to secondary education and training that would be the "next step" for low to moderate income persons, homeless and special needs populations, and implement training and educational programs for these populations.

Priority 4 - Implement strategies to aid the elderly and special needs populations with access to information and services to increase health and safety and reduce reliance on the City's overburdened Health and Welfare Department that can only provide minimal assistance.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units or services

Objective 1 - Improve the health and safety of the elderly and special needs populations.

Actions: 1. Provide and coordinate programs that outreach to the elderly and enable the elderly to access assistance that enhances their quality of life.

Priority 5 - To reinforce and strengthen the emergency shelter and transitional housing system that is already in place which includes housing, counseling, education and a wide variety of homeless, special needs and LMI assistance.

Objective 1 - Assist and work with the City's Health and Welfare Department, volunteer organizations and agencies to seek collaborative efforts to assist homeless, low to moderate income and special needs populations in Biddeford.

- Actions: 1. Encourage network meetings of area resources and services.
2. Strengthen individual neighborhoods through outreach efforts, including meetings, events, and planning strategies

* The following falls under all priority listings and pertains to special needs populations thus giving it a stand alone Objective and Action.

Objective 1 - Provide for a seamless network of social services and assistance for special needs populations.

- Actions: 1. Continue to gather all social service information and examine gaps in existing systems for all special needs population groups (includes diagnostic, rehabilitative, educational, housing and work opportunities).

Year 2 Projects are detailed below under their respective objectives and actions.

Construction/reconstruction of sidewalks, possible ADA projects, other street improvements, additional qualifying sidewalks, and parks, are targeted for a total of \$135,651 (29%) and \$116,940 (25%) for housing projects. Public services are targeted to LMI citizens citywide and are funded for a total of \$70,164 (15%) for implementation of new services and expansion of current services. A Downtown Improvement Program is also targeted for \$51,454 (11%). Administration is funded at \$93,552 (20%). Approximately 80% of the total funds will go to benefit LMI citizens.

The budget is based on \$467,761 that has been allocated by HUD for Year 2.

The total carryover of funds from Year 1 will be approximately \$200,000. Year 1 is the current project year from July 1st, 2018 to June 30th, 2019. These funds are already allocated and in the process of being expended.

1. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

Infrastructure

Priority 1 - To eliminate slum and blight in the downtown area through infrastructure and public facilities improvements that benefit LMI neighborhoods.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT
Outcome – Improving sustainability by promoting viable communities

Objective 1 - Increase access and provide public facilities that provide for the health and safety of residents in LMI neighborhoods.

- Actions:
1. Implement sidewalk and other street improvements, ADA projects and beautification projects in LMI neighborhoods for safe and adequate access to services and facilities.

Project Title: Sidewalk/ Lighting Improvements and Parks

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$135,651 (includes park funds)

Benefit: 1,000+/-feet

The City of Biddeford has once again determined that the reconstruction/construction of sidewalks is a top priority. The following is a list of projects for consideration in Year 2 and have already been cleared and approved in a previous Action Plan.

- 1) Main Street Sidewalk – Phase 2 - continue sidewalk/lighting project
 - a. Continue sidewalk reconstruction including intersections, lighting installation, bump outs, crosswalks, and addition of other street amenities on both sides of Main Street from Lincoln Street and Adams Street to Elm Street. Include design enhancements at intersections.
- 2) South Street
 - a. Both sides Green to Elm Street, approx. 550'
 - b. North side from Kossuth Street to Green Street, approx 280'
 - c. 100' up side streets along route

- 3) Green Street
 - a. Both sides from South to Center Street, approx 400'
- 4) Jefferson Street
 - a. Sections that have not been done, from Main St. to Adams St, approx 1000'
 - b. 100' up sides streets in those sections

Water Street from Main to High Street, portions of Elm Street on the west side from Lincoln to West Street, and others located in LMI Census tracts are also under consideration. The possibility of new street lighting, intersection improvements and other amenities are also a consideration when any sidewalk is reconstructed/constructed.

In addition, the design for Shevenell Park, located in the downtown core, is currently being finalized, and could be ready for engineering in order to under go reconstruction. \$18,711 is included in the Cost line in this section if the park is ready for engineering and reconstruction.

HOUSING

Priority 2 - To provide a strategy to meet the increasing need for transitional to affordable and supportive housing.

HUD OBJECTIVE – PROVIDING DECENT HOUSING
 Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units

Objective 1 - Increase the supply of safe and adequate affordable housing for low to moderate-income persons.

Objective 2 - Preserve and upgrade the City's housing stock serving low to moderate income persons.

Objective 3 - Increase opportunities for homeownership for low and moderate income persons.

Project Title: Housing Program
Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020
Cost: \$116,940
Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: TBD

Housing activities in Year 2 could include, acquisition, housing rehabilitation, including multifamily housing, homeowner gap financing, energy conservation improvements, and/or housing that benefits low to moderate income persons or presumed benefit populations (transitional, homeless, seniors, etc.). If the opportunity presents itself and is identified as a benefit, community nonprofit space will be considered in housing projects.

In Year 2 the primary focus will be on rehabilitation of multifamily housing units. A significant number of rental units in Biddeford are 60 or more years old and considered substandard (electrical issues, code and life safety issues, energy efficiency, etc.), so much so that the City has implemented a code safety program for all apartment buildings in excess of 4 units. At the same time, demographics suggest that Biddeford is experiencing unprecedented growth in the demand and cost of rental housing. These two factors are making it harder for those at the lower end of the housing spectrum to find safe, affordable housing. The City is proposing to continue a multifamily housing rehabilitation program for owner occupied structures with four units or less. The goal will be to improve housing quality while preserving affordable rents in a competitive housing market. The City plans to rehabilitate approximately 6 total housing units in the continued program. In each rehabilitated building, 51% of the units must be for residents who are below 80% of the low to moderate family income threshold, according to HUD requirements. The housing affordability will be enforced for a minimum of ten years in conjunction with the City and/or the Biddeford Housing Authority, Each unit will be eligible for funding of up to \$10,000 per unit. However, this will be determined on a case by case basis. Those housing units will meet the safety requirements of the Code Enforcement Office and HUD Housing Quality Standards.

Economic Development

Priority 1 - To eliminate slum and blight in the downtown area through infrastructure and public facilities improvements that benefit LMI neighborhoods.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Outcome – Improving sustainability by promoting viable communities

Objective 2 - Increase business attraction to promote job creation.

Actions: 1. Provide grant assistance to commercial property owners and businesses through a Downtown Improvement Program.

Project Title: Downtown Improvement Program

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$51,454

Benefit: Job Creation (TBD)

A Downtown Improvement Program will target the downtown to improve buildings and address issues related to health, safety, and ADA issues, while creating jobs for income eligible Biddeford residents. A participating business will create 1 full time job or 2 part time jobs. This grant program was developed to compliment the ongoing revitalization and facade improvement program in the downtown to assist with business attraction and retention. A key component of this grant program will be to assist businesses and property owners with health, safety, and ADA issues that are often too costly for potential businesses to locate and open in Biddeford's downtown.

Community Development

Priority 4 - Implement strategies to aid the elderly and special needs populations with access to information and services to increase health and safety and reduce reliance on the City's overburdened Health and Welfare Department that can only provide minimal assistance.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units or services

Objective 1 - Improve the health and safety of the elderly and special needs populations.

Actions: 1. Provide and coordinate programs that outreach to the elderly and enable the elderly to access assistance that enhances their quality of life.

Project Title: Southern Maine Agency on Aging – Meals on Wheels

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$16,000

Inkind Commitment \$25,750

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 90

The Southern Maine Agency on Aging's Meals on Wheels program provides nutritious meals to homebound, older and disabled adults living in Biddeford. In addition to a nutritious meal, Meals on Wheels provides valuable socialization and safety checks for participants. Meals on Wheels has become an important factor in addressing hunger among older people.

This program seeks to expand its program to provide approximately 9,000 meals to 90 homebound senior residents of Biddeford in Year 2. The program will continue to expand, meet and improve the traditional role of Meals on Wheels while accommodating the growing challenge of senior hunger and homelessness. It is not uncommon for the program to hear from recipients that this is the only meal they have during the day. In addition, living conditions can vary widely depending on the financial resources of the recipient. The program is continually striving to ensure that not only are people fed, but that they, through the meal site staff and volunteer drivers, are connected to the social service resources of Southern Maine Agency on Aging to provide them with benefits, housing, and appropriate affordable medications.

This program year the Meals on Wheels program will continue to expand its services to include providing a “warming crew” for those needing assistance to heat their meals, and a “phone pals” program that will conduct check-in calls to senior participants requesting this service. In addition, SMAA will provide a choice of two entrees each day and continue a new assessment program that includes information on socialization, health, and the client’s living conditions. The program will also continue to increase the amount of time a Meals on Wheels volunteer spends in the home by providing delivery of frozen meals twice a week, and augment deliveries on other days with volunteers who are not constrained to timely meal delivery. The volunteers will continue to be able to focus on those living alone who need the safety check. For those clients who need a hot meal, the volunteer can heat and serve the meal, allowing more time for socialization. Those who do not need daily deliveries or safety checks can arrange for delivery

twice a week. This will increase convenience for these recipients while increasing time for those living in isolation who need more socialization and safety checks. Seventy seven percent of the program recipients live at or below the federal poverty level, and 22% live under 200% of the federal poverty level.

The Meals on Wheels Program will provide the following services:

1. Receive referral (either a self-referral, from a physician, neighbor, hospital discharge, family member, friend, etc.).
2. Conduct a phone assessment to determine preliminary program eligibility and begin delivery of meals within 10 days of referral unless there is a wait list.
3. Conduct thorough, in-home assessment to further verify program eligibility, and to identify other social service needs such as caregiving stress, falls, financial exploitation, home health assistance, Medicare and insurance questions, heat and utility costs.
4. Client works with SMAA's Information and Resources staff to pursue programs and services to address additional needs/challenges.
5. If eligibility for the program is confirmed during in-home assessment, continue delivering up to five meals a week during two weekly deliveries.
6. Conduct a re-assessment over the phone after 6 months to confirm continued eligibility, and to identify any changing needs of the clients.
7. Conduct thorough, in-home expanded assessment every 12 months of being enrolled in the program.

The City of Biddeford will provide space at the Ross Center for this expanded service.

Priority 3 - Provide educational and work opportunities for homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations that provide avenues to obtain jobs and/or better paying work opportunities.

HUD OBJECTIVE – CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Outcome – Improving availability or accessibility of units or services

Objective 1 - Increase the economic prosperity of homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations, and their ability to afford housing, and health and safety amenities by providing work opportunities and partnerships that provide housing and housing services.

Actions: 1. Provide child care and youth programs that increase the opportunity for homeless and low to moderate income persons, and special needs populations to attend educational and training programs, while providing enrichment programs for youths of all ages.

Project Title: ArtVan Program

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$7,920

Inkind Commitment: \$TBD

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 25

Many children and youth in the Mechanics Park, Bacon Street and downtown area live in low income housing and do not have ready access to traditional summer programs and who lack opportunities for safe self expression, adult supervision and creative outlets for learning. Youths who attend the 42-week ArtVan Program are provided a safe, creative and tangible way to express art and discover ways to beautify their neighborhood while working together. The program will continue to expand its program in partnership with the Canopy Park Resource Center on Bacon Street, Community Partnerships for Protecting Children, the University of New England, and local garden programs to engage referrals, provide space and volunteers, and provide artistic opportunities. In exchange, the ArtVan Program provides a “community arts” program that no entity has the staffing to provide. The program plans to serve additional youths in the program and provide new experiences for those returning to the program.

Ethnic diversity is something Biddeford is experiencing more and more. The ArtVan Program addresses diversity issues through creating a work space that is non-judgmental and open-minded, while abiding by the organization’s three rules of respect: Respect for yourself as a human being, respect for others as co-human beings, and respect for the space, location, and materials. The program encourages the opportunity to share other cultures including languages and other art forms, and conversations about different foods to enhance cross-cultural communication.

Through exploring meaningful themes (such as Who am I, What Brings Me Peace, What Are My Dreams, Who Do I Love), and using a variety of art mediums, Youth are encouraged to safely express their emotions practice social skills and share their goals and hopes with the group. While the art-making is healing in and of itself, ArtVan knows that our consistency to build deeper and trustful relationships is key in creating change and positive growth. Through the creative process, Youth get the space to work expansively activate their curiosities to expand the boundaries of what they understand as communicable and possible.

The crux of the program will be the creation of the art work for the 12th Annual Bacon Street Festival to be held in August. The art work will be comprised of recycled materials and will consist of large and small sculptures, as well as hanging and flat pieces. A Teen Art Team will also be a part of the festival.

The ArtVan Program will provide the following services:

1. Providing a consistent, ongoing summer art therapy program for summer (2 hours/week) at the designated playground location outside the community center;
2. Providing a consistent, fall 26-week (90-minute) program at the designated indoor location (CPPC)
3. Assessing Bacon Street neighborhood and community needs by collecting information from Staff, youth, and families, and to provide the appropriate LMI income data;
4. Orienting ArtVan toward local businesses through direct introductions;
5. Supporting neighborhood youth to take ownership of the projects and to use art therapy to support their emotional/social growth;
6. Recruiting volunteers and interns;
7. Working with the City of Biddeford to plan and design Bacon Street Festival decorations;

8. Documenting all attending Youth income levels and complete all required Federal paperwork, record participation, stories, and quotes through written and photographic means;
 9. Using community resources to build new partnerships and deepen present relationships to promote the ArtVan mission,
 10. Using staff meetings and direct supervision to further develop art therapy interventions and methods;
 11. And, Evaluating impact of ArtVan's work on youth residents, as well as tracking financial expenses for reporting purposes and the number of Bacon Street youth who are able to attend the festival this year while it is being hosted in their neighborhood.
-

Project Title: Neighborhood HUB Program

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$7,124

Inkind Commitment: TBD

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 100

Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition (CHCC) or a selected agency will direct the Canopy Park Resource Center, called the HUB, at 49 Bacon Street, in the LMI Bacon Street Neighborhood in Census tract 252-02. The CHCC or selected agency and program staff will be available to assist neighborhood residents with access to services and programs, and engage residents in the neighborhood in community events. The CHCC is leading a planning process to reestablish the HUB and coordinate with Biddeford Ready. The selected agency will work with established neighborhood networks to expand their presence in the neighborhood and bring in additional services and programs to the HUB. With the improvements seen over the last 10 years in the Bacon Street Neighborhood and the reduction in negative activities, it is the goal of this program to eventually expand into other identified LMI neighborhoods. Some of the programs/resources that are a possibility at the HUB include community building activities, early childhood programs, lead paint prevention and education programs, parenting programs, bike and other recreation programs, and other opportunities outside of the HUB. Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition is an entity of the University of New England Medical School. This activity is projected to serve 100 LMI people in the neighborhood and beyond as staff time permits.

3. Link local programs to secondary education and training that would be the "next step" for low to moderate income persons, homeless and special needs populations, and implement training and educational programs for these populations.

Project Title: Seeds of Hope - Seeds of Hope Career Center

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$16,000

Inkind Commitment: \$2,440

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 50

The Seeds of Hope Career Center will continue to assist 50 additional Biddeford residents in computer competency, resume development, job search and interview preparation at the Center at 35 South Street. The Center will also continue to offer a mentoring program pairing local business persons with job seekers to help lift self-esteem, create achievable goals and to position participants as competitive prospective employees through interview prep and professional presentation skill development.

The Career Center is also expanding its program and services to support workers even more effectively in the labor force . The Center will be working with the City's Workforce Development Task Force to connect businesses with Biddeford's workforce, evaluate the needs of businesses – the type of skilled labor needed and what worker issues often present themselves with new hires. The Career Center will use this information so it can better assist workers with support in transitioning into new jobs. The Career Center staff will also be listening to the unemployed and workers, to hear what is preventing them from attaining jobs or if working, attaining better jobs.

The Career Resource Center will provide the following services:

1. Seven computers and networked printer available for public Internet use
2. An easy-to-use job support website that steps the user through the steps of an effective job search, with samples/templates of planning and deliverable (e.g. resumes, cover letter) documents -- www.seedsofhope4me.org/CareerCenter
3. Basic Internet competency training & E-mail setup/training
4. Career planning
5. Resume preparation
6. Help using the Internet for job searches
7. Help with Internet job applications
8. Interview preparation
9. Sustainability assistance (advocacy/referral to other social service organizations for shelter/food/training and other critical assistance resources
10. Local Wireless Internet access (BiddefordOpenNet) – while this is currently not in service, we are seeking funding for fixing the current system, as well as expanding to a wider area.

With the abundant supply of jobs currently in Biddeford and the surrounding communities, we

expect our service numbers to decline, however we believe that the type of programs we will be offering will be “client”-intensive, giving more individualized attention. However, we are currently pursuing partnerships within the city to create a Workforce Development Working Group.

Project Title: ENGINE Cultural Exchange Program

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$7,670

Inkind Commitment: \$6,500

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 25

Engine is proposing a cultural exchange program that will provide support and opportunity for young New Mainers and English Language Learners (ELL) living in Biddeford using food and art as a vehicle for social cohesion. Outside of the public school system, Biddeford lacks programs and cultural spaces for New Mainers and ELLs that create the relationships that allow them to thrive and participate as full members of the community. The program will create a sense of belonging, which has direct links to better health and wellness, and will build understanding of new cultures with the traditional residents of Biddeford.

Engine is located on Main Street in downtown Biddeford and is a community space for events and for education in the arts/design, focused mostly on youth. Working with Biddeford ELL professionals, Engine, has begun to attract immigrant and refugee youth because we are accessible and affordable. In talking with the children, Engine discovered that when youth are not in school, there might often be one meal a day at home, typically dinner. Additionally, working with the Biddeford Civil Rights Club comprised of many New Mainers, the cultural importance of having access to food from the students’ homelands was high. From these conversations came the idea that Engine, with its little kitchen and crew of volunteers, could offer a simple meal that is prepared as a group and then eaten together as a “family” followed or preceded by art making or homework assistance to help with literacy. The youth designed the menu and made Swahili potatoes, flatbreads, foo foo and peanut soup, and even Italian gnocchi. The program is not exclusive to ELLs and American youth from the community regularly attend and have developed friendships with the New Mainers. Engine would like to invite more youth but with a volunteer staff and donated goods, we want to be sure we can continue in a sustainable manner.

Engine’s Cultural Exchange Program will consist of two parts: 1) weekly Wednesday after-school and Saturday programming for students grades 4+, and 2) a high school mentorship program. Free-to-attend art and food-centered activities will take place weekly on Wednesdays during the school year (tentatively, 3:15-5pm on typical Wednesdays and 12-5 during the once monthly early release) and on Saturday afternoons at lunchtime (from 11-2:30, tentatively). Saturday sessions will be year-round starting after the school year ends.

A paid internship will be created for one high-school aged student enrolled Biddeford High School ELL program. The role of this intern will be to help plan educational activities for Wednesday after-school sessions and support younger students during sessions, and act as a

community liaison. The intern will work directly with Engine's Education Program Manager and Engine's Social Work intern from the University of Southern Maine. The internship role will grow and evolve to accommodate the students' strengths, interests, and expertise.

1. Create calendar of Saturday and weekday Wednesday after school/early release sessions.
2. Working with volunteers and Biddeford High School Civil Rights club, we will design menus for each session.
3. Organize volunteer chefs for each of the 88 sessions, pulling from Engine's EPA grant Local Foods Local Places engaged citizens and the adult New Mainer population via the Biddeford Adult Education English program run by Sam Smithwick.
4. Working with teaching artist(s), develop art-making/design activities for sessions.

Project Title: New Horizons for Traumatized New American Youth

Timeline: July 1, 2019 to June 30th, 2020

Cost: \$14,616

Inkind Commitment: \$3,100

Numbers To Be Served/Benefit: 25

The Community Bicycle Center (CBC) will collaborate with Spurwink's Refugee Services program to engage new American youth in CBC programs, assisting in Spurwink's focus on reducing the core stressors that result from trauma for many of these youth. Youth in this distinct population experience core stressors that can impact their ability to engage with others, including at school and in the community. CBC programs address several of those core stressors (acculturation stress, social support, isolation including loneliness, alienation and discrimination, increased independence through learning to ride and earning an actual bicycle, which can then assist in meeting basic needs). Through a partnership, youth can better access CBC programs and both organizations can work together to reduce core stressors and increase youth engagement. This program will increase the number of traumatized new American youth that engage in CBC programs and, by doing so, will increase the community and social engagement of those youth. Spurwink provides group support for youth *during school*. There are currently no formal partnerships for out-of-school time for those youth, and youth in this demographic struggle to engage in community-based programming.

The CBC focuses on Providing Opportunities for Youth to Grow through six key priority areas:

- **Youth Development:** Provide low-barrier, high-quality program activities that address the developmental needs of all youth and young adults ages 8-18 years.
- **Social Responsibility:** Promote civic engagement and service learning among youth and young adults.
- **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math):** Increase youth access to hands-on STEM learning experiences through CBC programs and provide opportunities of increasing complexity for youth to develop STEM competencies.
- **Job Readiness:** Engage older youth in soft and technical job skills development opportunities.

- **Healthy Living:** Provide activities that engage youth in physical fitness, outdoor recreation, and mind/body health.
- **Sustainability:** Develop the four components of organizational sustainability: people resources, partnerships & collaborations, communications, and resource development.

The CBC will collaborate with Spurwink’s Refugee Services to serve at least 25 youth who have experienced trauma or severe stress associated with being a refugee, asylee, or immigrant. Services will include active, relationship-focused, out-of-school programming with outcomes focused around the six priority areas outlined above.

The Community Bicycle Center will provide the following services:

1. The CBC will develop a fluid partnership through which youth receive a “soft hand-off” from their providers at Spurwink into CBC programs.
2. Cultural training for staff/volunteers and CBC mentors
3. Spurwink case manager will begin referrals of youths to CBC with assistance to ensure youths engage with the CBC in an positive manner
4. Follow up to ensure the youths are feeling engaged with the CBC
5. Transportation and healthy snacks will be provided
6. Youths can participate in the “learn to ride” summer program, learn basic riding skills, and be part of one summer ride
7. Youths can participate in craft and art projects and any bike camp program
8. During the school season, youths can participate in the Build a Bike Program, Kids Bike Factor Program, Daily Drop In, Bike Doctor Program, and/or the CBC Cycling Team.

Administration is to be funded at a total of \$93,552 for office staff, equipment, supplies, and any other administrative expenses.

Contingency Provision

Since the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may not have awarded the City its 2019 allocation by the time this Plan is approved through the City’s Citizens Participation Plan process, the awarded funds contained in this Draft of the Year 2 Action Plan are only proposed. If necessary, the City of Biddeford will adjust the proposed allocations according to the percentages stated within the Consolidated Plan and Year 2 Action Plan.