

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

## City of Duluth

### HOUSING PROGRAM

FY 2016 Application Guidelines

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#### PROGRAM GOAL

The CDBG program provides grants and loans to implement the City's Consolidated Plan, which includes goals to increase the availability of affordable housing, preserve and upgrade the existing housing stock, help low-income households purchase homes, and assist in providing housing options for persons with special needs.

#### ELIGIBLE PROGRAM APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations, for-profit and governmental entities providing housing assistance in Duluth. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to expend funds awarded within 12 months of the date of the executed agreement, or 15 months from the Environmental Clearance date.

#### ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Allowable activities include homeowner or rental rehab, energy conservation, lead-based paint stabilization, handicapped accessibility, and repair or replacement of major systems; new construction or rehab of affordable rental and homeowner housing; homebuyer assistance; special needs projects; and the management of housing programs serving households at or below 80% of area median income. Applications and income verification will be coordinated through the Housing Resource Connection.

#### LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Energy Improvements.** Housing rehabilitation projects, either owner-occupied or rental housing, must achieve a 20% energy savings with the completion of the improvements.
- **Collaboration of housing rehab programs.** To encourage agencies to work efficiently and streamline administration of programs, requests for housing rehab activities must be part of the collaborative Housing Resource Connection. This includes homeowner rehab and emergency repairs; rental rehab; property acquisition/rehab for resale; weatherization and energy improvements.
- **Healthy Homes.** Housing rehab projects will be inspected using a Healthy Homes approach, and identified hazards addressed in the scope of work, including lead-paint hazards. Completed rehabs must meet housing code, and show energy improvements as stated above.

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#### Please contact one of the following staff persons regarding any questions:

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