

Charleston County News Release

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Charleston County Community Development Grants Help to Improve Housing Standards *Grant funding applications due Jan. 19*

Annually, Charleston County receives grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help improve housing standards in our area, and this year's funding request applications are due by Jan. 19.

Any governmental, community, neighborhood or faith-based organization or non-profit agency engaged in a public service, as well as private, for-profit agencies engaged in providing services to low and moderate income individuals, can apply for funding from the following programs to address substandard housing issues:

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program: Funding to help develop urban communities with decent housing in a suitable environment and economic opportunities, primarily for low-to-moderate income residents.

The Emergency Shelter Grant Program: Funding to help provide decent, safe shelter and support for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

The HOME Investment Partnership Act (HOME) Program: Funding to provide affordable housing, assist non-profit providers and state and local governments to provide housing and gain private-sector participation.

"Through these programs, we've been able to award funding to organizations willing to partner with the County to address substandard housing, infrastructure needs and minor rehabilitation projects," said Jenise Jefferson, Charleston County Community Development Manager. "We encourage organizations to apply for funding that will help improve the standard of living in our area."

To be eligible for grant funding, local non-profit organizations, service providers and neighborhoods must apply by 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 19. To streamline the process, applications are now being accepted by the Charleston County Procurement Department.

Applications can be obtained by one of the following methods:

1. Contact the Charleston County Procurement Department at (843) 958-4750.
2. Visit the Charleston County Procurement Department at the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building located at 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, SC 20405.
3. Log on to www.charlestoncounty.org, and click on the Community Development Grant Information and Application link under the "What's New" tab.

Funds will be awarded based on the goals and strategies out-lined in Charleston County Community Development's Five-year Consolidated Plan.

For more information about submitting an application, contact Anita Jenkins, Charleston County Procurement Department Buyer, at (843) 958-4763 or ajenkins@charlestoncounty.org.

For more information about the Community Development Grant program and application qualifications, contact Betty McZorn, Charleston County Grants Department Community Development Program Administrator at (843) 202-6977 or bmczorn@charlestoncounty.org.

- Written by Danica Fri -