

Increase the Capacity of Public Facilities and Infrastructure

- Improve residential neighborhood safety and livability by expanding/improving public facilities and infrastructure
- Increase services for low to moderate income persons by expanding/improving public facilities

2016 Annual Action Plan activities to address this goal were:

- The Boys and Girls Club was awarded \$300,000 for renovations to the facility. The kitchen facility was expanded; the bathrooms were updated; improvements to the gymnasium, learning center, game room, teen room, tech lab, facility entrance, and storage areas were made ; and, new flooring and paint were made part of this project. The Mimms Club serves approximately 400 youth each year.
- North Georgia Angel House was awarded \$45,243 for improved access to the facility and connecting to city water. NGAH is scheduled to begin this project during 2017 with the addition of \$100,000 from the Living Waters Project.
- Living Waters for Girls was awarded \$100,000 to address drainage concerns at its facility for victims of human sex trafficking. Living Waters is unable to complete this project at this time and the funds will be reallocated to North Georgia Angel House during 2017.
- Cherokee County Senior Center will use the \$177,898 to add a portico for the purpose of protecting the home delivered meals volunteers from inclement weather while they are loading their vehicles. Any funds remaining will be used to expand storage for the center and the Home Delivered Meals program. The portico project is scheduled to be underway early in 2017.

Prior Year Funded Projects completed and/or underway in 2016

- The City of Holly Springs was awarded \$197,995 to address stormwater management, add sidewalks, curbs and gutters to Palm Street. The initial work began in late 2015 and was expected to be completed during 2016; however, delays by the utility companies postponed the completion of the project. The project is now scheduled for completion during 2017. The Palm Street project area serves 2,660 persons.
- The City of Woodstock completed stormwater and infrastructure improvements to Goshen Lane in late 2016. The expenditure of these funds will be reflected in the 2017 CAPER. The Goshen Lane improvements will benefit 82 LMI persons in this neighborhood.

Increase the Capacity of Public Service and Economic Opportunities

- Provide critical services for low income persons, homeless persons, and other persons with special needs to assist them toward increased stability.

2016 Annual Action Plan activities to address this goal were:

- Bethesda Community Health Clinic provides low cost health care to the uninsured or under-insured LMI persons and relies on volunteers to increase the delivery of services. A volunteer coordinator schedules the volunteers as well as the recruitment of additional volunteers for the clinic. CDBG funds (\$18,471) allow the clinic to offer a stipend for this position. In 2016, Bethesda Community Clinic served 1,200 LMI residents.
- Transportation continues to be a priority need in Cherokee County. While the County does have public transportation, it is limited by its hours and routes. CDBG funds were allocated to the Boys and Girls Club (\$22,000) to support its transportation program for after-school and summer programs; to the Goshen Valley Foundation (\$12,500) for the acquisition of a van for transporting the boys to/from school, school activities and doctor/dentist appointments; and, to the City of Woodstock Senior Center (\$44,318) to purchase a bus. Transportation services were provided to 596 LMI persons in 2016.
- Staff support was provided to three additional non-profits to support staff positions. Cherokee Family Violence (\$31,783) operates transitional housing for victims of domestic abuse. Children who experience domestic abuse often become abusers or victims of abuse themselves. CFV offers a children's program to specifically deal with the issues children face in hope that the chain of abuse is broken. CDBG funds are used to support a Child Advocate position that served 118 children during 2016.

The Child Advocacy Center, Anna Crawford, serves child victims of abuse through counseling, court support and counseling of the non-abusive guardian. Many of these victims are not English Speaking and are served by a trilingual staff person. CDBG funds (\$18,665) are used to support this position providing support to 252 children.

MUST Ministries acquired four additional transitional housing units for veterans and homeless/near homeless persons. Case managers provide services to these residents. CDBG funds (\$13,936) were allocated to provide staff support for this position which served 71 individuals.

Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing

This priority goal was originally funded through HOME funds from the Georgia Urban County Consortium. The GUCC was disbanded and this priority goal was added for CDBG.

- Improve sustainability of homeownership through a rehabilitation program
- Expand the supply of affordable housing
- Expand the supply of affordable rental housing
- Reduce lead-based paint hazard
- Encourage fair housing opportunities

2016 Annual Action Plan activities to address this goal were:

- Cherokee County partnered with Habitat for Humanity in 2015 to administer an emergency home repair program for LMI persons with emphasis on veterans and senior citizens. Emergency repairs include such items as roof repairs, HVAC systems and plumbing issues as examples. During 2016, eight (8) households received new HVAC systems; five (5) households received new roofs and five (5) received other repairs.