

**2003/2004 PROPOSED USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.	\$175,000	\$175,000
A revolving loan fund for purchase and rehab of blighted property; new construction; neighborhood clean-up; homeowner rehab loans; elderly home modification loans; and other activities addressing affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization.		
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REHABILITATION SERVICES	\$55,000	\$55,000
Provision of rehab counseling, loan processing, inspections, and construction monitoring for all city housing rehab programs for low income people.		

ACQUISITION

INDIAN FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC	\$100,000	\$100,000
Acquisition of property located at 1220 Central Avenue to provide primary health care, diabetes care, and behavioral health programs to local Native Americans.		

PUBLIC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS/HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY

GREAT FALLS BASEBALL FOUNDATION, INC.	\$40,700	\$40,700
Purchase of elevator to provide ADA and elderly access at Legion Park Baseball Stadium located at 1015 25 th Street North.		
FOR THE CHILDREN COALITION	\$74,100	\$0
Building expansion/remodel to construct multi-purpose room to be used for programming needs and community meetings at Agape Youth Investment Center, a transitional living center, located at 626 Central Avenue West.		
URSULINE CENTRE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION	\$15,405	\$15,405
Repair or replacement of bricks on parapet walls and pilaster caps; replacement of flashing between parapet walls and roof; and, replacement of west sidewalk and installation of curb ramp at Ursuline Centre gymnasium located at 2300 Central Avenue.		

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<p>CITY PUBLIC WORKS—7TH AVENUE NORTHWEST Reconstruction of three blocks of roadway and construction of curb and gutter, sidewalks with handicap ramps, driveway approaches, and storm drain inlets in a low income neighborhood at 7th Avenue Northwest between 14th Street Northwest and Watson Coulee Road.</p>	\$187,150	\$187,150
<p>CITY PUBLIC WORKS—SIDEWALKS Grant program to provide assistance to low income homeowners to remove and replace hazardous sidewalks in lower income neighborhood from 1st Avenue South to 9th Avenue South between 2nd Street South and 15th Street South and other areas at request of low income homeowners.</p>	\$50,000	\$50,000
<p>CITY PUBLIC WORKS—HANDICAP RAMPS Installation of handicap ramps in lower income neighborhood south of 2nd Avenue South and west of 14th Street and other areas at request of disabled citizens.</p>	\$75,000	\$75,000
<p>CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF MONTANA Purchase and installation of elevator to provide ADA and elderly access at Children’s Museum of Montana located at 22 Railroad Square.</p>	\$93,990	\$93,990
<p>AMERICAN LEGIONAL TEAMS: STALLIONS AND ELECTRICS Construction of handicap accessible restroom at Don Olson Memorial/Optimist Field located at 13th Street South and 17th Avenue South.</p>	\$60,000	\$60,000
<p>CITY PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT Replacement of hazardous sidewalks and installation of curb cuts at seven City Parks to provide ADA accessibility and eliminate public safety hazards. Locations include Boston Heights Park—Central Avenue and 33rd Street; North Kiwanis Park—6th Avenue North and 25th Street; Rhodes Park—Central Avenue West and 8th Street; Memorial Park—2nd Avenue North and 19th Street; Roosevelt Park—2nd Avenue North and 25th Street; Russell Park—15th Avenue South and 34th Street; and, Dudley Anderson Park—9th Avenue South and 35th Street.</p>	\$23,264	\$23,264

PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<p>GREAT FALLS SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER Replacement of two furnaces in facility which serves the elderly located at 1004 Central Avenue.</p>	\$4,800	\$2,640
<p>YOUNG PARENTS EDUCATION CENTER Day care scholarships for infants and toddlers of low income teen or young adult parents completing high school or GED programs. Program located at alternative high school at 3300 3rd Street Northeast.</p>	\$15,000	\$15,000
<p>GREAT FALLS CHILDREN’S RECEIVING HOME Replacement of front and back yard fences to provide safety and privacy to children staying at Great Falls Children’s Receiving Home, a shelter for abandoned, neglected, and abused children (location confidential).</p>	\$9,904	\$9,904
<p>EASTER SEALS—GOODWILL Purchase of digital imaging equipment to expand supported employment program for developmentally disabled adults at Outsources Unlimited, a division of Easter Seals-Goodwill, located at 1020 Central Avenue.</p>	\$6,855	\$0
<p>EASTER SEALS—GOODWILL Home handicap accessibility program to complete ADA Modifications to homes, purchase ramps, and purchase other adaptive equipment for elderly and physically disabled individuals to allow them to continue living in their own homes. Program offered city-wide.</p>	\$35,000	\$35,000
<p>FAMILY CONNECTIONS Child care scholarships for low income families. Program located at 600 Central Avenue, Suite 225.</p>	\$10,000	\$10,000
<p>OPPORTUNITIES, INC. Remodel/expansion of second floor restrooms used by low income children participating in day care at the Head Start building located at 309 12th Street South.</p>	\$32,282	\$0
<p>EAGLE MOUNT Scholarships for low income people with physical, developmental, emotional, and behavioral disabilities to attend therapeutic and recreational activities. Program located at #9 3rd Street North.</p>	\$14,810	\$14,810

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<p>CASCADE COUNTY LAW CLINIC, INC. Purchase of two office chairs, three telephones, two printers, and one set of Montana Code Annotated to provide expanded legal services to low income people by agency located at 503 1st Avenue North.</p>	\$2,300	\$2,000
<p>SPECIAL OLYMPICS MONTANA, INC. Purchase of copier for agency that provides sports training and athletic competition opportunities for individuals with mental retardation. Agency located at 3117 5th Avenue North.</p>	\$27,952	\$9,273
<p>QUALITY LIFE CONCEPTS Purchase and installation of strobe lighting smoke and fire alert system in building which houses elderly day care program for developmentally disabled people located at 1601 Central Avenue.</p>	\$10,725	\$2,550
<p>VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES Purchase of three work stations and one filing cabinet for agency that provides emotional support, case information, and restitution assistance for victims of crimes and their families. Agency located at 112 1st Street South.</p>	\$9,225	\$9,225
<p>HANDS, INC. Child care scholarships for children from low income families for before school, after school, and summer child care. Program offered at all Great Falls elementary schools.</p>	\$20,000	\$20,000
<p>CASCADE COUNTY AGENCY ON AGING Purchase of food for Meals on Wheels program, a home delivery meal program for seniors who are handicapped or unable to prepare meals. Program offered city-wide.</p>	\$25,000	\$25,000
<p>YWCA OF GREAT FALLS Replacement of first and second floor windows and replacement of stair covering (including asbestos abatement) at facility located at 220 2nd Street North. Agency provides services for domestic violence victims, disadvantaged community members, and the general community.</p>	\$36,400	\$22,898

ADMINISTRATION

	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	\$190,000	\$185,000
General oversight, management, promotion, monitoring, and coordination of the CDBG program including activities to further fair housing and the Continuum of Care for Homelessness.		
UNPROGRAMMED FUNDS		
Funds set-aside to cover public facility projects cost overrun and/or to assist with new CDBG eligible projects.		\$17,491
TOTAL CDBG FUNDING REQUESTED	\$1,399,862	
TOTAL CDBG FUNDING RECOMMENDATION		\$1,256,300
TOTAL ANTICIPATED CDBG GRANT		\$1,151,000
TOTAL UNUSED CDBG GRANT FUNDS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS		<u>\$105,300</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE CDBG FUNDS		<u>\$1,256,300</u>

**2003/2004 PROPOSED USE OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.	\$150,000	\$150,000
Owners in Partnership XI—new construction of five single family homes and provision of subsidies to assist low income buyers, single heads of households, and disabled people to purchase these homes.		
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.	\$228,000	\$228,000
Down payment and closing cost assistance to help approximately 55 low income first time home buyers purchase homes.		
ADMINISTRATION	\$22,000	\$22,000
General oversight, management, promotion, monitoring, and coordination of the HOME program.		
UNPROGRAMMED FUNDS		\$57,000
Funds set-aside to assist with new HOME eligible projects.		
 TOTAL HOME FUNDING REQUESTED	 \$400,000	
 TOTAL HOME FUNDING RECOMMENDATION		 \$457,000
 TOTAL ANTICIPATED HOME GRANT		 \$457,000

CITY COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
April 15, 2003

A public hearing was held as part of the regular City Commission meeting on April 15, 2003, at 7 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at the Civic Center. The hearing was held to provide an opportunity for citizens to advise the Commission on their opinions regarding the proposed Action Plan, the proposed use of housing and community development funds, and on the performance of the CDBG and HOME grant programs in administration, distribution and implementation of federal funds.

The following is a summary of the comments which were expressed in the hearing.

Sheila Rice, Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.; Ms. Rice related that CDBG and HOME funds have been very important in helping their organization to build affordable houses in the community. In the upcoming year they plan to use HOME funds to construct five new houses and to provide down payment assistance. They have formed a design committee which will create different plans to use for their new houses. They will also be implementing a new program to finance the necessary physical accommodations to people's homes to allow elderly people to remain in their homes as they age. Since NHS began in Great Falls in 1980 they have constructed 120 new homes, 11 of which are high school houses. Ms. Rice noted all the houses they have built sell within a brief time and do not remain unoccupied very long.

AMENDMENT TO THE
2002/2003 ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED PLAN

The primary objective of the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) is the development of decent, affordable, safe housing primarily for low income people.

The Annual Consolidated Plan is a detailed illustration of the needs for community development in the City of Great Falls and goals to provide for those needs. It is also a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in order for the City to receive and distribute Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funding.

The HOME funding portion of the 2002/2003 Consolidated Annual Plan is being amended to accommodate a change in use of \$100,000 in funding allocated to Accessible Space, Inc. The 2002/2003 Consolidated Annual Plan shows an allocation in the amount of \$100,000 to Accessible Space, Inc. for gap financing for new construction of The Portage, a 48-unit accessible, affordable apartment complex with supportive services for the elderly. This apartment complex is located at 1521 23rd Street South. Accessible Space, Inc. has notified the City of Great Falls that they will not need the \$100,000 in HOME funding for the soon to be completed Portage project, and is requesting that the \$100,000 allocation be made available for their use in another assisted housing project planned for Great Falls

Accessible Space, Inc. is asking to utilize the HOME funding for acquisition of property for new construction of a 15-18 unit complex of accessible, affordable apartments that will be rented to people who are mobility impaired or have a traumatic brain injury. The project site has not yet been chosen, however, the site amenities will include close proximity to shopping, medical services, educational opportunities, and bus service.

This project will be the third accessible, affordable housing initiative in Great Falls by Accessible Space, Inc. Southwinds Estates, a 24-unit accessible affordable housing complex for people who are mobility impaired or have traumatic brain injuries, opened in 1996 and is the first project Accessible Space Inc. completed in Great Falls. Currently there is a 25 person waiting list for housing at Southwinds Estates. Accessible Space, Inc. is one of the largest non-profit providers of accessible housing in the nation. Their mission is to provide accessible, affordable housing and/or twenty-four hour attendant care/chore services to very low income adults with severe mobility impairments and /or traumatic brain injuries, as well as seniors.

AMENDMENT TO THE
2003/2004 ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED PLAN

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income.

The Annual Consolidated Plan is a detailed illustration of the needs for community development in the City of Great Falls and goals to provide for those needs. It is also a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in order for the City to receive and distribute Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Grant funding.

The Community Development Block Grant funding portion of the 2003/2004 Consolidated Annual Plan is being amended to accommodate the use of unprogrammed funds in the amount of \$67,000. These unprogrammed funds are comprised of unused funds from various completed CDBG projects, and the cancellation of a previously funded CDBG project to make handicap accessible improvements at two neighborhood swimming pools.

The City of Great Falls will be utilizing \$50,000.00 of the unprogrammed funds for a job training program through National Electronics Warranty (NEW) to create jobs for low to moderate income people, and \$17,000 for reconstruction of a portion of the Legion Park/Eagle Falls Golf Course parking lot for handicap accessibility. NEW will create up to 50 new jobs with a high percentage of these jobs employing lower income people. They will provide job training for the new employees including computer, telephone system, and interpersonal relations training. Currently, the parking area serving both Legion Park and Eagle Falls Golf Course, the city's municipal golf course, is gravel and in poor condition. The CDBG funds will be utilized for the portion of the parking lot that will accommodate handicap parking, including paving, striping, signage, curb cuts and an accessible route from the handicap parking to the facilities.

The use of CDBG funds for both of these projects will benefit low to moderate income people in the community by increasing economic opportunities, and allowing accessibility to public facilities for the elderly and people with disabilities.