

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST TO RELEASE FUNDS

Date Posted: July 9, 2018

Grantee Name: Lawrence County
430 Court Street
New Castle, PA 16101

Contact: Jennifer Elliott
724-658-7258 or jelliott@lccap.org

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS

In February of 2018, Lawrence County submitted a request to the Commonwealth (Department of Community & Economic Development) to release their HOME Program funds of \$500,000.00. Lawrence County intends to utilize these HOME funds less administration expenses to benefit owner occupied housing units that have been deferred for Weatherization assistance due to deficient code and/or property standards. These HOME funds will provide an additional resource to advance the county's redevelopment efforts through the rehabilitation of our current housing stock by bringing these home up to PA minimum standards, while other funds are dedicated to addressing Weatherization and energy efficiency. Only eligible properties of the Weatherization Assistance program that have been determined ineligible for weatherization due to code deficiencies will be eligible to receive these potential HOME funds.

The proposed activities are categorically excluded from NEPA requirements (24 CFR Part 58.35) and there is no requirement for a full environmental review assessment. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determination for these projects is on file at Lawrence County Social Service, Inc. located at 241 West Grant Street New Castle, PA 16101 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON FINDINGS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Lawrence County, 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA 16101 Attention Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. All comments received by July 16, 2018 will be considered by Lawrence County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

Lawrence County certifies to DCED that Daniel Vogler in his capacity as Chairman Commissioner of Lawrence County consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. DCED's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and Lawrence County certification for a period of 15 days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following basis: (a) the certification was not executed by the mayor (b) the RE has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DCED; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to Department of Community Development, Center for Community Building, 400 North Street, 4th Floor Commonwealth Keystone Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify that actual last day of the objection period.

Certifying Officer: Daniel Vogler, Chairman Commissioner, Lawrence County

Location of Posting: Lawrence County Courthouse, LCCAP Facebook, New Castle News

Date of Posting: July 9, 2018 – July 16, 2018