



Lake County CDBG Fact Sheet

Program History

Enacted by Congress in 1974 under the Housing and Community Development Act and signed into law by President Gerald Ford on August 22, 1974, CDBG provides necessary funding to communities across the country to address infrastructure, economic development, housing, disaster recovery, and other community needs. CDBG remains one of the most important resources for state and local governments to use in devising flexible solutions to meet community development needs.

Basic Program Components

Benefiting low- and moderate-income persons and communities: The CDBG Program works to address a range of community needs. Funds are targeted to assist low- and moderate-income persons and families with the intent of filling gaps in funding.

Local decision-making & flexible use of funds: By design, the CDBG program empowers local communities to make decisions about how best to address their own needs. Grantees can tailor their community development strategies to local circumstances.

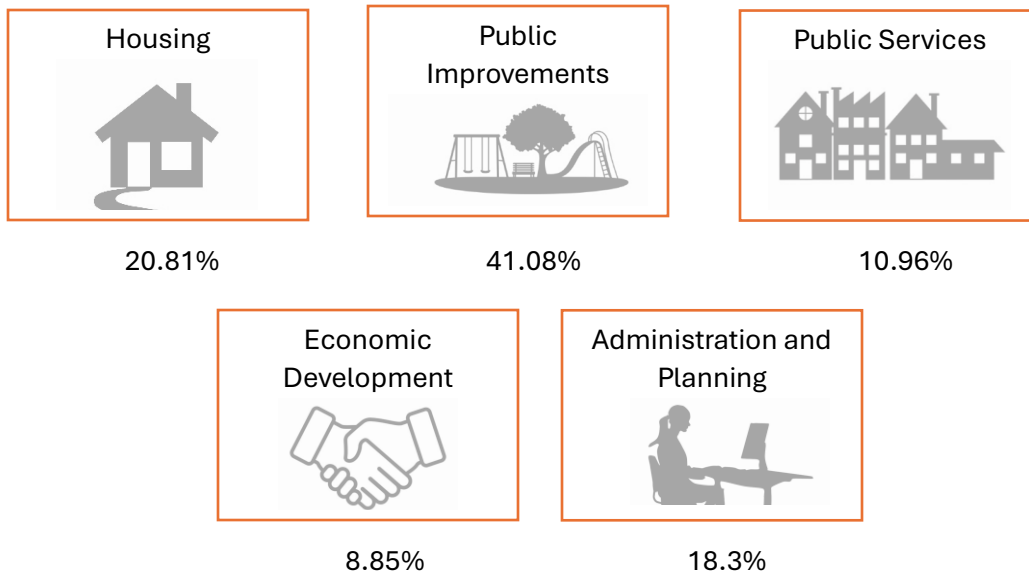
Community participation: Through the citizen participation process, community members and stakeholders take part in decision-making. The program builds in opportunities for community and beneficiary input, including public hearings, reviewing program performance and allowing for written feedback.

Leveraging & partners: Working with partners is critical to the success of most CDBG program activities. Not only do partners often bring financial resources to the table, but they also bring expertise and perspective about how to make programs work. Grantees can use CDBG as a resource to leverage other funds.

Strategic & targeted investment: Linking CDBG activities to other private and public resources compounds the impact of CDBG investments.

Program Accomplishments

CDBG spending by activity type for FY2017-FY2021 (5-Year Consolidated Plan Period):



CDBG outcomes by activity type for FY2017-FY2021 (5-Year Consolidated Plan Period):

Expanding economic opportunities: CDBG funds partner with the private, public, and non-profit sectors to support economic development and improve community conditions. During this period, CDBG supported 7 façade treatments and the creation of 16 jobs. CDBG-CV funds were distributed in the form of grants and loans to 151 small businesses that were impacted by COVID. These businesses each met at least one of the CDBG requirements: having a location in a Low Mod Area of the county, owner qualifying as having low/mod income, or creating and/or retaining jobs.

Improving housing and living conditions: CDBG funds are utilized to improve housing conditions for low- to moderate-income homeowners and to extend the economic life of the existing housing stock. CDBG supported improvements to 178 housing units through county-wide housing rehab programs: emergency repair program, mobility accessibility program (MAP), and general rehabilitation program. Additionally, four target-area housing activities were completed in local communities.

Improving the quantity and quality of community services: Public Service activities include, but are not limited to, services concerned with health, landlord/tenant counseling and foreclosure prevention, recreational needs, tax assistance, domestic violence and homeless services, youth services, and casework support for low-income families with children. 114,810 persons benefitted from services during this period. CDBG-CV funds were used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to infectious disease – activities included support for emergency food distribution, 2-1-1 pandemic response, foreclosure prevention counseling, homeless assistance, and more.

Making a lasting impact through public improvements: CDBG supports Public Facilities and Improvement projects that are integral to the quality of life for community residents. 153,636 persons benefitted from activities including improvements to homeless facilities, parks, parking facilities, streets and sidewalks, facilities for persons with disabilities, youth and senior centers, and water/sewer improvements. 10 communities and 9 agencies completed projects during this period. CDBG-CV funds were spent on modifying public facilities to prevent the transmission of the coronavirus: 5 facilities were assisted.

Project Highlights

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Community Development Block Grant program, a number of Lake County CDBG success stories are being recognized for their outstanding accomplishments. These success stories were submitted by former CDBG subrecipients. To learn more, follow the link to the Lake County Planning and Community Development website: <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/planning-community-development/>

CDBG Success Story

Arcola Creek Wetlands Park

Madison Village

Caitlin Stillisano

Watershed Coordinator

Lake County Soil & Water
Conservation District

cstillisano@lakecountyohio.gov

Funding Sources

\$500,000 H2Ohio

\$58,000 CDBG

\$50,000 ODNR

\$50,000 Lake SMD

Problem or need addressed: On Hubbard Road, just south of the Madison Senior Center, are 19 acres of former nursery land now owned by Madison Village. The historical land use of nursery production had drained these former wetlands for more than 80 years. More than 500 feet of a tributary to Arcola Creek had been channelized as a ditch that ran along Hubbard Road to the east. The land remained overgrown and unused for years due to the challenging wet soils. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers delineated 6.29 acres of this land as wetlands in 2015.

Solution: In 2021 Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District worked with Madison Village to secure funding to restore the stream channel and wetlands, improve water quality and habitat, and create an opportunity for public recreation and education about wetlands. H2Ohio funds were secured to complete the restoration and CDBG funds were secured to construct an ADA accessible trail, observation deck, and parking area.

Results: The restoration, completed by EnviroScience, Inc., was a success. The stream was relocated and restored to a meandering channel flowing through the wetlands. A total of 1,300 linear feet of stream was restored. Three Beaver dam analogues were installed, the drainage ditches were plugged, 11 vernal pools were excavated, and the berms around two former irrigation ponds were excavated to reestablish the natural surface hydrology, raise the water table and expand the existing wetlands. The area was then planted with native wetland species. These practices created an additional acre of new wetlands. The new Wetlands Park is a refuge for wildlife and an attraction for hiking, birding, and environmental education. The trail and observation deck are open to the public and CDBG funds were used to ensure ADA accessibility to the park. Lake County Stormwater Department funds were used to make the new parking area environmentally friendly with permeable pavers instead of conventional concrete. The new park is an asset to the community and will improve water quality and habitat in the Arcola Creek watershed.



Janice Silvaroli
Executive Director

Birthright Lake Inc

birthright_lake@att.net

440-975-9055

birthrightlake.org

\$100,000 in diapers/wipes
supporting 1,603 infants &
toddlers in 2023

\$55,000 from CDBG

Additional funding provided
by individual donors, churches,
fundraisers, Knights of Columbus
organizations and the Christ
Child of Western Reserve

Fredon Corp provides
warehouse needs

Partnership with the Diaper
Bank of Greater Cleveland



CDBG Success Story

Diaper Pantry

Birthright Lake 7237 Industrial Park Blvd Mentor

Problem or need addressed: In Lake County, Ohio, financially struggling families face significant barriers accessing diapers and wipes, essential for infant and toddler health. Current government assistance programs do not cover these basic needs, despite diapers costing \$80-\$100 and wipes an additional \$40-\$60 per month. Urgent action is needed to ensure all families have access to these critical supplies for their children's well-being.

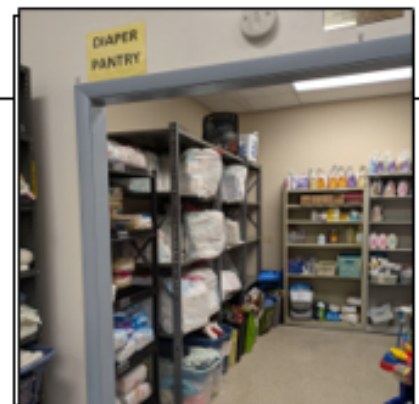
Solution:

Birthright Lake Inc. currently serves as the primary emergency resource for diapers and wipes for financially struggling families in Lake County, Ohio. Since October 2020, we have operated a Diaper Pantry funded initially by the 2020/21 CDBG grant, and subsequently supplemented through the 2022/23 CDBG grant.

Result: Birthright Lake Inc. distributes 150-200 diapers and 3 packages of wipes per child quarterly, following the National Diaper Bank's guideline of 50 diapers per child per month. We also provide 60-90 pull-ups for toddlers beginning potty training. In 2022, we assisted 1,137 infants and toddlers, a number that grew to 1,603 in 2023 due to increased living costs and diaper expenses. Wic, ODJFS, and other community agencies send moms in need of support. Client feedback underscores the impact of our support: mothers report reduced stress and the ability to allocate funds toward food and household essentials. Testimonials such as "Birthright saved me and my kids" and "You have helped me so much. I have no family; Birthright has been my family" highlight the meaningful role Birthright plays in our community.



birthrightlake.org



CDBG Success Story

Miracle League Playground

City of Eastlake

City of Eastlake

CDBG Funds: \$200,000

Total Project Cost:

\$1,300,000



Problem or need addressed: The Miracle League is a nationwide program that provides opportunities for children with physical and intellectual disabilities to play baseball and be a part of a team. The Eastlake facility is the third in Ohio. The thoughtful design of the park also includes four family restrooms, one designed to accommodate an adult changing table.

Solution: The playground includes 8,055 square foot of rubberized safety surface and inclusive play structures to accommodate wheelchairs and other assertive devices, allowing children and young adults with disabilities to enjoy safe, outdoor play with their friends and family. Every piece on the playground serves a purpose for people with disabilities. Fun features include sensory equipment – musical play pieces, adaptive swings, bouncers, slides, and a zip line!

Results:

The Miracle League All Inclusive Playground provides play opportunities for individuals with special needs and disabilities, and it is estimated that there are 2,000 Lake County residents who can benefit from the utilization of the facility. This is a resource not just for Eastlake or Lake County, but for Northeast Ohio as well. The nearest similar playground is in Findlay, Ohio, more than 3 hours away. The project is a result of wide-spread collaboration and is a source of much excitement. It enhances the county as a wonderful place for people of all abilities.



CDBG Success Story

CDBG: Economic Development Loans Lake Development Authority

Administered by:
Lake Development
Authority

Total CDBG Loans:
\$1,397,220
53 Full-Time Jobs Created

Problem or need addressed: This extensive loan program addressed the need for financial resources to spur growth and stability. By facilitating access to funding, these economic development funds helped small businesses with favorable terms, lower interest rates compared to traditional loans, and provided gap financing.

Solution: The capital for these small businesses allowed for the investment in infrastructure, equipment, and job creation. This was essential financial support to small businesses, enabling them to grow, innovate, and compete effectively in the market.



Results:

Administered between June of 2011 and November of 2017.

53 Full-Time Jobs created.

20 economic development loans invested in 17 small businesses of Lake County.

\$1,397,220 in loans disbursed.



CDBG Success Story

ADA Access: Elevator/Entrance Replacement

38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby

Paul Holm

The Fine Arts Association

pholm@fineartsassociation.org

Total Cost - \$274,522

- \$79,000 - Lake County CDBG
- \$125,000 - Lake County Land Bank
- \$50,000 - State of Ohio Capital Grant
- \$20,522 - Ohio Arts Economic Relief Grant



Problem or need addressed:

The Lift at The Fine Arts Association was obsolete and in need of replacement. In addition, the accessibility features on our main entrance were no longer functioning or appropriate for persons with physical limitations.

Solution:

- 1) Replace obsolete, screw drive lift with new hydraulic lift and move it closer to main entrance for easier access.
- 2) Replace front doors and push button access mechanisms with new, sliding doors equipped with optical sensors.

Results:

A new, enclosed lift was installed closer to the main entrance and encapsulated in drywall to give a safer, more discreet experience for the rider. The new installed lift is also much quieter than the previous one allowing for undisturbed performances in the main gallery and less attention drawn to riders. In addition, the existing main entrance doors which required physical effort to activate the automatic door openers were replaced by sliding doors with optical sensors.



CDBG Success Story

Fair Housing Advocacy

Lake County, Ohio

Patricia Kidd

Fair Housing Resource

Center, Inc.

Patricia@Fhrc.org

CDBG Fair Housing

Administration Funds

\$45,000

Problem or need addressed:

Lake County senior residents residing at two local apartment complexes were experiencing fair housing accessibility issues, conditions issues and the lack of onsite maintenance and property management.

Solution:

Fair Housing Resource Center (FHRC) worked with the Mayor of Willoughby Hills to conduct a town hall style event to inform residents of their rights as tenants and gather information to assist those who had individual issues. FHRC also independently hosted a similar event in Painesville to ensure that those residents had access to FHRC resources and advocacy as well. With FHRC's assistance, nearly all their issues/complaints have been resolved.

Results:

Due to County funding, senior residents had a place they could call to get:

- a. Fair Housing Advocacy
- b. Information on Tenant Organizing
- c. Legal Assistance, and
- d. Staff that Care



**KNOW YOUR
RENTAL RIGHTS!**



CDBG Success Story

CDBG: COVID-19 Grants and Small Business Loans Lake County

Lake County Planning and
Community Development

CDBG-CV

Grants = \$720,000

Loans = \$340,000

Problem or need addressed: The COVID-19 pandemic caused unprecedented disruptions and financial strain for small businesses, with lockdowns leading to significant revenue losses and decreased foot traffic. Supply chain interruptions and the sudden shift to our infrastructure further compounded these challenges, resulting in layoffs, furloughs, and in some cases, permanent closures.

Solution: During the COVID-19 pandemic, 0% interest loans and grants provided crucial financial support to individuals and small businesses, helping them cover essential expenses and stay operational despite reduced income. These measures offered immediate relief by alleviating the burden of high-interest debt, enabling businesses to retain employees and maintain stability during a period of unprecedented economic uncertainty.

Results:

\$720,000 in grants distributed

\$340,000 in 0% interest loans distributed

151 Small Businesses assisted



CDBG Success Story

Residential Sanitary Sewer Lateral Line Installation City of Kirtland

Western Reserve

Community Development
Corporation

Fiscal Year 2023:

\$266,100



Problem or need addressed:

Low-income homeowners often struggle to afford the costs associated with connecting to a lateral sewer line, including installation fees and necessary plumbing upgrades. Without financial assistance, these homeowners may face health risks from inadequate waste management and environmental contamination.

Solution:

Addressing the financial barriers for low-income homeowners required to connect to the lateral sewer line involves providing targeted financial assistance. This support helps cover installation costs and necessary plumbing upgrades, ensuring compliance with regulations and facilitating access to safe and reliable sewer infrastructure. By mitigating health risks from outdated septic systems and reducing environmental contamination, this solution enhances community well-being and promotes sustainable urban development.

Results:

23 Households are anticipated to be recipients of financial assistance for connecting to the lateral sewer line.



CDBG Success Story

Mooreland Mansion Painting and Repair Lakeland Community College

Contact Information

Jay (Joseph) Kahn AIA

Lakeland Comm. College

jkahn4@lakelandcc.edu

Need addressed: Preserve the history of Lake County, Ohio. The Moore Mansion represents the only intact example of the work of Cleveland architect Arthur N. Oviatt. Oviatt was commissioned by Edward W. Moore, a prominent Cleveland capitalist who made his fortune in banking, electric railroads, and telephone distribution in the decade prior to 1900.

Solution: Lake County Board of Commissioners, Community Development Block Grant Program, The Lakeland Foundation, and Lakeland Community College donated over \$236,000 to restore the historic mansion. Then Design Architects developed the preservation strategy to repair the water and insect damaged exterior walls and restore the mansion back to the original condition. The materials and techniques used in the restoration assure the mansion will continue to welcome Lake County Residents for weddings and community events for many years to come.

Front Entrance



Results: The Community Development Block Grant Project repaired water and insect damaged exterior walls, encapsulated lead-based paint to protect the public, and restored one of Lake County's historic buildings so Mooreland Mansion can be used and enjoyed for many generations to come.

Northeast view from Garden



Northwest view from Garden



CDBG Success Story

Front Door Replacement

Morley Library, Painesville

Aurora Martinez

Morley Library

director@morleylibrary.org

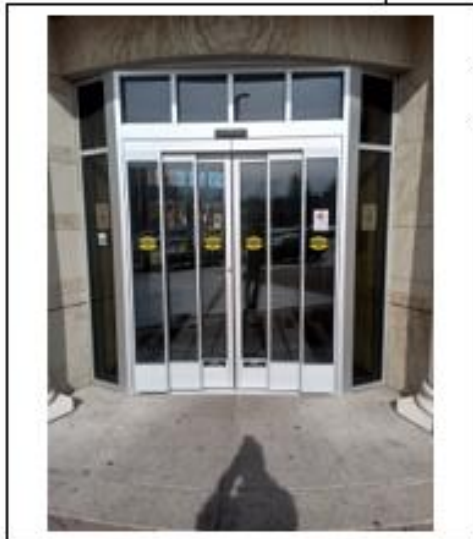
CDBG \$22,000

Problem or need addressed:

The library's original main doors were not effectively automated and were difficult for patrons with mobility issues to use. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we also strove to minimize the number of surfaces requiring physical touch or handling by the general public.

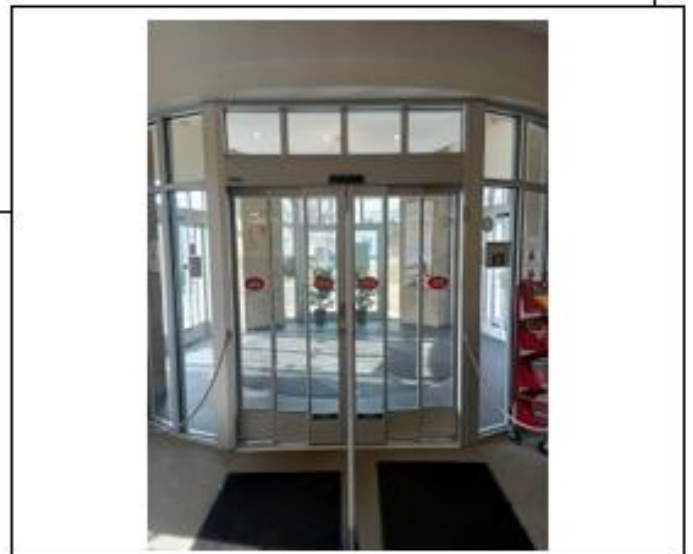
Solution:

We decided to install automatic touch-free sliding doors in order to improve physical access to the building and to enhance public health by eliminating the potential spread of germs via contact with door handles.



Results:

The library received a 2021 CDBG grant of \$22,000 for the purchase and installation of touch-free automatic doors for both entry points in the building's main lobby. Planning began in 2021 and the project was completed in 2023. The new doors have worked out well and library patrons have expressed appreciation for the upgrade.



CDBG Success Story

Project Hope for the Homeless shelter
25 Freedom Rd., Painesville Twp.

Judy Burr

Ecumenical Shelter Network
of Lake County, Inc.

director@projecthopeforthehomeless.org

CDBG \$66,000

Problem or need addressed:

To respectfully and compassionately empower persons who are homeless with hope by providing emergency and transitional housing, care and guidance together with the community.

Solution:

CDBG funding has helped us provide a solution for those in our community experiencing homelessness to thrive and reach their most abundant life by providing us with funding for the Residential Specialists to provide case management in the form of support, guidance, goal planning, crisis intervention, accountability and linkage to resources.

Results:

More than 80% of the men, women, and children who entered the doors transitioned to the next best step in their lives! This includes housing and/or treatment.

"Project Hope for the Homeless has given me hope once again. It has given us the drive to fight for ourselves, for our children, for our future. Upon greeting we were filled with positivity and guided to a path that moves us forward. We were given direction and held accountable for our weekly set goals. We were shown grace when not producing results. We were cared for. Our children were cared for. Gestures were made to have us feel human. Holiday celebrations, birthday celebrations, academic achievements all acknowledged. When we ran into roadblocks or bumps in the road we were motivated to understand God's will. We were given an opportunity to follow parameters of best practice routines for our family with proven success. Structure that was so desperately needed was implemented". – former guest family with 3 children now successfully housed



Restoring Hope.

**PROJECT
HOPE**
for the Homeless
Renewing Lives.



CDBG Success Story

Roofing and Siding Program

City of Painesville

Community Development
Department

City of Painesville

csotka@painesville.com

\$75,000 of CDBG Funds

Homeowners matched 10% of
estimate



Problem or need addressed:

Multiple dwellings in violation due to roofing or siding conditions occupied by low-income residents without access to resources to improve their property. Properties that sit in violation accrue additional fees for said residents and deteriorate property values and neighborhood comfortability.

Solution:

Partnership with Lake County Commissioners utilizing Community Development Block Grant funds to establish a program that targets low-income residents with persisting code violations, that enables them to improve their property at a low cost and enjoy their home more comfortably.

Results:

Close to a dozen revitalized dwellings located throughout the various wards of the City of Painesville. Improved property values and neighborhood environments, reduced property violations, and newly established City to resident relationships.



1221 Crescent Drive: Siding Before



1221 Crescent Drive: Siding After



CDBG Success Story

Tim Brown
Madison Township Lake Co. Ohio
tbrown@madisontownship.net

Total Project Cost: \$333,774.27
CDBG: \$250,000.00
Madison Township: \$87,774.27

Bill Stanton Park
Recreation Hall Restroom Renovation
5585 Chapel Rd.
Madison, Ohio 44057

Problem or need addressed: There were no ADA compliant restrooms available to the public when visiting Bill Stanton Park.

Solution: Madison Township entered into a partnership with the Lake County Board of Commissioners to build ADA compliant restrooms attached to an existing "Recreation Hall" and renovate the restrooms within the Recreation Hall.

Results: Construction was completed with slight cost overrun. The restrooms provides access to visitors of the park as needed.

Pre-Construction



West Side



North Side

Post-Construction



West Side



North Side

Interior





CDBG Success Story

Bill Stanton Park Exercise Trail
5585 Chapel Rd.
Madison, Ohio 44057

Tim Brown
Madison Township Lake Co. Ohio
tbrown@madisontownship.net

Total Project Cost: \$113,516.54
CDBG: \$70,000.00
Madison Township: \$28,516.54
Dr. Robert & Candice Barr Donation:
\$15,000.00

Problem or need addressed: Prior to 2020 there was no outdoor exercise trail available to residents of north Madison Township. In 2020 Madison Township installed an asphalt grinding trail. The mile long trail was difficult for those with mobility issues to use due to a rough and uneven surface. Finishing the trail with a smooth asphalt surface allows for those with mobility issues, as well as the able-bodied, to use the trail.

Solution: Madison Township entered into a partnership with a private donor (Podiatrist Dr. Robert & Candice Barr pictured below) and the Lake County Board of Commissioners to secure funding for surfacing the trail.

Results: Trail construction was completed within the anticipated schedule and budget. Although no survey data is available, use has increased and now includes those with mobility issues. Additionally, families with small children using bikes and strollers is observable on a regular basis. This project will continue to positively impact our residents' mental and physical well-being.



CDBG Success Story

Storefront Improvements

City of Painesville

Lake County Planning and
 Community Development

Fiscal Year 2017

Total Project Cost: \$50,000

CDBG: \$35,000

Matching Funds: \$15,000

Problem or need addressed: An outdated storefront deters potential customers and fails to attract much attention. Lacking in modern accessibility features, an older storefront makes a building less welcoming to customers. Additionally, it can contribute to a decline in property values, affecting the overall business and surrounding community.

Solution: Modernizing the storefront with a fresh design and updated signage attracts more customers and enhances the brand's identity, resulting in more foot traffic and sales. Implementing accessibility features such as ramps and clear signage makes the building more welcoming to all customers. Furthermore, these improvements enhance property values, positively impacting the business and the surrounding community.

47 S. State Street



70 N. St. Clair Street



113 Main Street



134 S. St. Clair Street



CDBG Success Story

CDBG-CV: Willow Praise Church Lake County

Larry Bogenrief,
Senior Pastor
Willow Praise Church
32901 Vine Street
Willowick, Ohio 44095

Total CDBG Awarded:
\$22,000

Problem or need addressed:

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted supply chains and caused economic instability, leading to increased food prices and reduced availability of essential goods. Job losses and reduced incomes left many households unable to afford sufficient, nutritious food, exacerbating food insecurity.

Solution:

Provide weekly meals and produce distributions supported by registration to identify how to serve the community better with demographic information. The goal was to provide emergency food services to those who are impacted by COVID-19 and serve the Western Lake County seniors and food insufficient families.

Results:

Installation of a walk-in-freezer to support emergency food distribution services. Willow Praise Church and their volunteers provided over 23,000 free lunches to children in need during the COVID-19 pandemic and government lockdowns. The transformative impact of their work was recognized with a formal Certificate of Recognition by Lake County Commissioners.



 Willow Praise



CDBG Success Story

WRCDC Home Rehab Program

Lake County

Western Reserve

Community Development
Corporation

Fiscal Year 2022:

\$224,100

Problem or need addressed: Low-income homeowners in Lake County often face deteriorating housing conditions, including structural issues and outdated systems, which lead to health and safety hazards, and result in high utility costs and decreased property values. These challenges impact both the homeowners' well-being and the overall community stability.

Solution: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds address these issues by financing critical repairs, improving health and safety, enhancing energy efficiency, and increasing property values. This financial assistance enables low-income homeowners to maintain and improve their homes, fostering more stable and vibrant communities.

Photo 1 – Before Renovations



Results: During the program year, the WRCDC Home Rehabilitation program financed 19 full repairs, 6 mobility accessibility program repairs, and 19 emergency protection repairs.

“Due to our small bathroom and my husband in a wheelchair, a larger bathroom was a necessity. Even the workers wondered how we managed! The modifications made spilled into wall changes, closets added and more space than ever. It feels like we have moved into a new house. Things are so much easier for me now thanks to the wonderful people at the Western Reserve Community Development Corporation.” Joanna – Wickliffe

“Thank you for the wonderful work on our home. We had a bathroom redone with mobility safeguards and safety railings added in the front and the back of the house. I will always remember Lauren’s smile when she saw the new bathroom. The quality of our life has been improved.” Nancy – Madison



Photo 2 – After Renovations

