



Today, the City of La Crosse's Community Development Block Grant Committee released its annual report. Last year, the City spent just over \$1.4 million on community development, economic development, and housing programs. The report addresses the results of an annual grant given to the City from US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Its purpose is to help address urgent community needs. Highlights from the report include that the City provided grants to 15 community organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club, the Salvation Army, and St. Clare Health Mission. Together, these 15 organizations provided services to over 5,500 low-income families ranging from health care for the uninsured to after-school programming for teens in the Powell-Hood-Hamilton neighborhood. The City also provided low-interest loans to two area small businesses. The City of La Crosse Housing Program also worked towards improving the city's housing stock and creating affordable housing. The program demolished blighted properties and built new homes and significantly renovated others. Last year, the City sold nine homes, began construction on 10 new properties, renovated seven homes, and acquired five additional blighted properties for demolition. Finally, the City's housing and small business revolving loan programs brought in over \$500,000 in income which leveraged private resources to support these programs. The full report is available on the City's website, <http://www.cityoflacrosse.org/index.aspx?NID=2604>