



# FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME X NUMBER 5

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## **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program FY 2016**

Once again it is time to start planning for the next application cycle of the Utah Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The 2016 program year will be the thirty-fourth year in which the Small Cities CDBG Program has been administered by the state of Utah. The purpose of Community Development Block Grants is *"To assist in developing viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income (LMI)"*.

This program funnels allocations of federal Housing and Urban Development funds through the Utah State Department of Workforce Services, Division of Housing and Community Development, to communities of less than 50,000 and counties of less than 200,000 in population. Since the program's inception in 1982, the CDBG program has injected over \$19 million into our region's local infrastructure, community facilities, and urgent health and safety needs.

Local projects have included water system improvements, fire stations, sewer systems, senior citizen centers, housing projects, ambulance garages, etc. Additionally, \$5.6 million in CDBG funds has been used regionally to: 1) Foster the region's economic growth by capitalizing the regional Revolving Loan Fund to provide supplemental financing to growing businesses; 2) Allowed the AOG to provide extensive planning and technical assistance to eligible local governments coping with community planning and zoning challenges; and 3) To construct the Five County AOG office building located in St. George, UT.

The Steering Committee reviews and approves the rating and ranking matrix for the upcoming funding cycle on an annual basis during their August meeting. The application cycle, which begins with two "How-to-Apply" workshops in early November, will cover the 18-month contract period of June 2016 through December 2017. Applications will be due January 30, 2016, and will be submitted through the state of Utah Webgrants system. Application Policies and Procedures will be distributed at the workshops.

**Important!! See information on the back page of this newsletter for CDBG "How-to-Apply Workshop" dates & locations.**

As you begin the process, please remember some important points:

- \* Projects must meet one of three "national objectives": 1) Benefit to individuals with low or moderate incomes; 2) The alleviation of slums or blight; or 3) Urgent health and safety needs.
- \* Capital Improvement projects must be included in your community's capital improvement list to be submitted to the AOG.
- \* Applicants other than local governments must be sponsored by a local government entity.
- \* Communities should contact the AOG to determine if an income survey of residents is necessary.
- \* AOG staff is available to assist in the preparation of applications.

Each year the Five County region receives an allocation based upon a statewide formula utilizing a base amount and a per capita population distribution. Last year's total regional CDBG allocation was \$738,302. FY 2015 funding was awarded to the following projects: **1) Five County Association of Governments, \$90,000--** Program administration, Consolidated Plan update, Housing planning; and RLF Program technical assistance and program delivery; **2) Milford City, on behalf of the Beaver Housing Authority, \$227,554--** Acquisition and rehabilitation of existing multi-family housing units; **3) Hatch Town, \$78,440--** Improvements at the Community Center and fire station; and **4) LaVerkin City, \$200,000--** Expansion and rehabilitation of existing fire station. Funding in the amount of \$262,446 will be committed from FY 2016 funding for the second year of two multi-year projects and the Association of Governments for program administration, technical assistance and housing planning.

Projects must be mature - ready for timely implementation within the contract program year with secured funding commitments from other sources. In addition to the above, projects must be prioritized by local elected officials and the region Rating and Ranking system.

The CDBG "How-to-Apply" workshops are held for any town, city, county, special service district or non-profit agency in the Five County region that is considering applying for CDBG funding. Attendance at the workshop is required to be eligible to apply. (Note: all special service districts and non-profit agencies must arrange to have a city or county sponsor their project in order to be eligible to receive CDBG funding).

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Jurisdictions may formally designate a third party representative (i.e., other city/county staff, consultant, engineer, or architect) to attend the workshop on their behalf. However, said designation by the jurisdiction must be in writing. The letter of designation must be provided to the Five County Association no later than at the beginning of the "How-to-Apply" workshop.

Examples of some of the types of eligible CDBG project activities:

**Affordable Housing Projects**

Property acquisition for multi-family and rental housing units; construction of homeless shelters; rehabilitation of rental housing units; clearance and demolition; relocation expenses; site improvements; development hard costs

**Community Development Projects**

Culinary water/sewer improvements; solid waste disposal improvements; flood drainage improvements; fire stations/equipment; street improvements; historic preservation; ADA accessibility for public buildings; acquisition of real property; community & senior centers; rehabilitation of slums & blighted areas; parks, recreational facilities; public services

**Economic Development Projects**

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program; Micro-Enterprise assistance; industrial parks and commercial centers

***Examples of Previous CDBG Projects:***



**Mountain View Suites II Housing Project in Cedar City**



**Minersville Library**



**Alton Town Fire Station**



**Hatch Community Center**



**Erin Kimball Memorial Foundation - Erin's Home**

***Five County Association of Governments/ Senior Corps Programs Presents "Gilligan's Gala"***

For over 33 years, the Five County Association of Governments (AOG) has strived to maintain and expand a variety of programs and services to the community. The Senior Corp programs, administered by the Five County AOG, with federal funds from the Corporation of National and Community Service relies on matching funds, gifts, and contributions to help in supporting and maintaining the program.

The Senior Corp programs in Southern Utah consist of low income volunteers (55 and over). Annually, the Foster Grandparent program serves over 250 students in 19 Elementary schools throughout the region providing one-on-one tutoring and mentoring to students. The Senior Companion Program serves over 90 elderly or disabled individuals annually; assisting them in maintaining independence, enabling them to remain living at home or receive respite services.

On Thursday, October 1, 2015 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., Gilligan's Gala will take place at Brookside Southgate, 135 W. 2025 S. Circle in St. George. There will be a \$35.00 per person cost for this island theme, Gilligan's Gala. The event includes live music, dancing, and hors d'oeuvres. There will also be a special appearance by award winning past KSL newscaster, Dick Norse. Join in the fun dressed as your favorite Gilligan's character or Hawaiian shirt.



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Please support these programs by attending this affair, offering a monetary donation, and/or donating a gift certificate from your business for multiple opportunity drawings. In addition, you can purchase individual and group tickets for sponsorship and receive special recognition. This year, our goal is to raise at least \$30,000 in matching funds for these programs.

We look forward to greeting you at our Gilligan's Gala on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 starting at 7 PM. Tickets can be purchased at the Five County AOG office at 1070 West 1600 South, Building B, or at Brookdale Southgate or Zion's Way. If you have any questions regarding this event, please call Sheryl Gardner at (435) 673-3548. (Sheryl Gardner)

### **Medicare Open Enrollment**

The Medicare Open Enrollment period is just around the corner. Each year between October 15<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>, Medicare beneficiaries can make changes to Medicare prescription drug plans and Medicare Advantage plans. By reviewing these plans annually, some clients are able to save over \$500 a year. Drug plans and Advantage plans can change deductible amounts, premiums and coverage from year to year so clients on these plans are encouraged to review their coverage to see if a different plan may better meet their needs.

Five County Aging Services provides free assistance in reviewing coverage during Open Enrollment. During this period, look for our staff at your local Senior Center and Meal Site or in our St. George and Cedar City offices.

The advantage of this service is that we do not earn commissions and can provide information and enrollment assistance for every plan available in our area, ensuring that you find the best plan to meet your needs. To schedule an appointment in Washington, Kane or Garfield counties, contact Tom Everett at (435) 674-5757. For an appointment in Iron or Beaver counties, contact Amy Brinkerhoff at (435) 867-6020. (Amy Brinkerhoff)

### **"Hats Off"**

Nancy Morrill has been a case manager in the Aging Department at Five County for almost two years. Shortly after she started working at Five County she was diagnosed with breast cancer; two words no women should ever have to hear. However, Nancy amazed everyone with her positive attitude and resilience. Stating: "I'll beat this" in an e-mail to co-workers regarding her diagnosis. As a Five County employee we discussed options for time off, extended medical leave and other accommodations, as needed, to help her through the coming months of potential surgeries and treatments. Nancy expressed her appreciation and gratitude; but stated she loved her job, and being at work gave her a sense of purpose and a much needed distraction. So throughout the coming months of treatment, that is just what she did, taking very little time off and continuing to come to work with the same positive attitude and happy demeanor. And, by the way, she rocked a bald head like no other.

What an example she was for those of us with the privilege of being able to work beside her. What an honor to know such a brave and beautiful woman. We are truly blessed to have Nancy as part of our Five County Team. She is an amazing person and a great example of the type of employees who work for Five County.

To show our appreciation of Nancy's strength and dedication, she was honored at a "Hat's Off" celebration marking the end of her c a n c e r



treatment. Some of the staff made quilt squares which were quilted together by Carolyn Moss. Case managers, Jerna Watson and Heather Cox, crocheted around 20 pink hats for everyone to wear and other co-workers made yummy but healthy treats to accommodate Nancy's special diet. The Hats were later donated to the Cancer Center in St. George.

### **Staff Spotlights**



**Sheri Reber** comes to Five Counties with nine years of experience working with the aging population in a skilled nursing/rehab setting. Prior to that, ten years experience working with people with disabilities. She is a SSW, Certified Dementia Practitioner and Therapeutic Recreation Technician. Sheri loves to be a resource to others.

She is happily married to Dino for 20 years, and has two children, Jessica and Cameron. Jessica is attending Dixie State University and is highly involved in their dance company. Cameron is a senior at Pine View and plays for their football team. Hobbies include spending time with family, reading, scrapbooking and cooking. If you're lucky you may get to taste her salsa!!



**Kristina Raner** is the newest member of the Five County AOG Aging team. In addition to her role as the Long Term Care Ombudsman for Washington County, she also coordinates both the ESHA nutrition program and the Senior Volunteer Program.

Kristina's passion for working with the aging population started while she was a student and Service Leader at Southern Utah University. After graduating with a Bachelors of Science in Sociology at SUU, Kristina pursued a career in aging services. She has greatly enjoyed her time with FCAOG so far, and looks forward to continuing to serve the aging population.

## **CDBG HOW-TO-APPLY WORKSHOPS**

**Thursday, November 5, 2015 - 6:30 p.m.**  
Five County AOG Office, Conference Room  
1070 West 1600 South, Building B, St. George, UT

**Friday, November 6, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Panguitch City Fire Station, Training Room  
40 North 100 East, Panguitch, UT

Any jurisdiction that is contemplating applying for CDBG funding must assign at least one elected official from their governing body to attend one of the two scheduled workshops, whether you are applying directly, or if you are sponsoring another entity through your jurisdiction. A representative of the "other entity" must also be in attendance with the elected official. A post card will be mailed in October reminding jurisdictions of the upcoming workshops.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions or to obtain further details. Additional information regarding the Community Development Block Grant Program can be found on the Five County website at:  
<http://fivecounty.utah.gov/programs/community/cdbg.php>

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail to ([dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov](mailto:dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov)) or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550.

For other information or services, please call (435) 673-3548 or visit our website at: <http://fivecounty.utah.gov>

Five County Association of Governments is now  
on



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of Governments on



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