

## **Approved Fiscal Year 2017-2018 CDBG Budget Provides Funds for Public Services and Physical Improvements**

The approved Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) totals \$1,200,000. This includes \$352,047 for housing rehabilitation loans for low-to-moderate income homeowners; \$171,250 to support 18 public service programs; as well as funding for physical improvements and roadway construction in income eligible areas of the community. The budget was approved by the Malden City Council and signed by Mayor Gary Christenson. The Malden Redevelopment Authority (MRA) administers this federal program on behalf of the City of Malden.

There are many public service programs in Malden that provide food, housing and jobs to low and moderate income residents and when these providers turn to the City for help, community leaders, when possible, come forward with much-needed financial and humanitarian assistance. The Mayor and City Council direct the MRA to allocate CDBG Program funds to support public service programs that serve Malden's less fortunate residents. Up to 15% of the grant can be spent on public service programs in a given year. Programs slated to receive funding in FY 2018 are:

**Bread of Life:** This program serves meals at BOL food pantry to low income and homeless persons in Malden using CDBG funds along with donations from other local public service providers, churches and synagogues.

**EMARC:** A free family swim program for low and moderate income developmentally disabled Malden children. The program provides recreation and leisure experiences while promoting independence, social interaction, encouraging a fitness lifestyle and enhanced quality of life.

**Housing Families, Inc.:** This agency works to end homelessness by providing safe, temporary shelter, creating affordable housing and providing support services to family members of all ages.

**The Immigrant Learning Center:** This program was designed to meet the English language needs of foreign-born low and moderate income residents. The program emphasizes life skills and instruction in speaking, reading and writing. The English as a Second Language (ESL) program provides language skills needed to apply for and keep jobs.

**Intimate Partner Violence Project:** A service for victims of family violence providing counseling, advocacy, referrals and education.

**Just-A-Start:** This agency focuses on the stabilization of occupied housing, education/training/job placement and the development and retention of affordable housing. CDBG funds will be used to provide legal education and mediation for low income Malden residents at risk of homelessness.

**Malden Boys Youth Basketball:** Youth basketball traveling league for low income Malden youth that combines peer leadership and life skills training along with basketball instruction.

**Malden Elderly/Disabled Transportation Program/SCM Transportation:** This collaborative program provides transportation services for medical appointments and food shopping for elderly and disabled persons. SCM coordinates the ride requests.

**Malden Emergency Center:** Emergency services for income eligible households, pumping of flood water from basements during high rainfall events and/or other acts that result in the emergency mitigation of water in residential units.

**Malden Neighborhood Basketball League:** Community-based basketball program that serves low and moderate income youth who do not play varsity level sports. It provides an organized recreational outlet as well as counseling for high school aged boys.

**Malden Reads:** A city-wide reading program organized by community groups, city leaders and residents in collaboration with the Malden Public Library and MATV. It invites the community to read the same book and participate in a series of events related to the book's themes. The goal is to encourage reading, promote the library and other city resources and build community.

**Malden Teen Enrichment Center:** The center is a welcoming, safe and free place for after-school programs, tutoring and activities for teens, including peer-to-peer workshops, working with Malden's Promise Coalition to decrease the dropout rate, outreach to homeless teens, literacy programs and teen domestic violence counseling. It helps promote leadership skills and community involvement.

**Mystic Valley Elder Services:** CDBG funds will help provide lunch and assistance with social, medical, language and cultural issues two days a week at the Senior Center for Asian Malden seniors.

**North Shore Black Women's Association:** Provides assistance for low and moderate income Malden students for education, and helps finance the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Luncheon.

**The Salvation Army:** This faith-based organization will utilize CDBG funds to operate an emergency services program where Malden residents may seek funds to help pay overdue heat, electric bills and rent in order to maintain their apartments. The program also provides budget counseling and referrals.

**Tailored For Success:** This organization provides employment assistance to low and moderate income Malden residents, job interview counseling and appropriate business attire at no cost.

**YMCA Malden:** Utilizing CDBG funds, the YMCA will continue to serve Malden youth. The Outreach Program provides a number of activities including day care, indoor youth craft, computer instruction, sports and alternative outdoor activities during the summer months.

**YWCA Malden:** The primary focus of the Youth and Teen Programs is to provide after school, educational, social and other activities such as self-defense courses, dances and public information seminars for low and moderate income teen girls. It also provides enrichment/arts classes designed to promote cultural, racial and sexual awareness and sensitivity.