

PART I - FACE SHEET

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to conform to the Corporation's eGrants System)

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:

Application Non-Construction

2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE: 05-JAN-12	STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER:
2b. APPLICATION ID: 12AC133410	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER: 12ACHKY0010002

5. APPLICATION INFORMATION

LEGAL NAME: Homeless And Housing Coalition of Kentucky DUNS NUMBER: 949811822	NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes): NAME: Kelly Dycus TELEPHONE NUMBER: (502) 223-1834 1115 FAX NUMBER: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: kdycus@hhck.org
ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): 306 W Main St Ste 207 Frankfort KY 40601 - 1895 County: Franklin	

6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 611191524	7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit 7b. Statewide Association
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8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box). <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUATION <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):	9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: <p style="text-align: center;">Corporation for National and Community Service</p>
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10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 94.006 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State	11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Build Corps
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12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Cities, Counties, States, etc): KY	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):
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13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 09/01/12 END DATE: 08/31/13	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant <input type="text" value="KY 006"/> b.Program <input type="text" value="KY 006"/>
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15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: <input type="text" value="1"/> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">a. FEDERAL</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">\$ 598,482.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. APPLICANT</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 639,017.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. STATE</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. LOCAL</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. OTHER</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. PROGRAM INCOME</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>g. TOTAL</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,237,499.00</td> </tr> </table>	a. FEDERAL		\$ 598,482.00	b. APPLICANT		\$ 639,017.00	c. STATE		\$ 0.00	d. LOCAL		\$ 0.00	e. OTHER		\$ 0.00	f. PROGRAM INCOME		\$ 0.00	g. TOTAL		\$ 1,237,499.00	16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? <input type="checkbox"/> YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: DATE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO. PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372
a. FEDERAL		\$ 598,482.00																				
b. APPLICANT		\$ 639,017.00																				
c. STATE		\$ 0.00																				
d. LOCAL		\$ 0.00																				
e. OTHER		\$ 0.00																				
f. PROGRAM INCOME		\$ 0.00																				
g. TOTAL		\$ 1,237,499.00																				
	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES if "Yes," attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO																					

18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.

a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: Kelly Dycus	b. TITLE:	c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (502) 223-1834 1115
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:		e. DATE SIGNED: 04/25/12

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Executive Summary

The Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK)'s statewide Build Corps program serves to eliminate the threat of homelessness and to fulfill the promise of affordable housing for all Kentuckians. Forty-five full time Build Corps members serve each year from September 1 through August 31 to impact their communities by providing assistance to the homeless and precariously housed, accomplished through homelessness prevention, housing placement services, and low income housing construction and repair. Build Corps also works to assist homeless and economically disadvantaged Kentuckians prepare for and recover from disaster. In order to achieve these goals, Build Corps members recruit, train and supervise over 1,000 community volunteers each year. The CNCS investment of \$598,482 will be matched with \$639,017.

Rationale and Approach

Build Corps impacts local communities throughout Kentucky in three ways, by providing: 1) housing services to individuals who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless or inadequately housed 2) disaster preparedness training, and 3) disaster recovery services. For over twenty years, HHCK has been the only statewide homeless and housing coalition serving as the unified voice in Kentucky for the critical housing needs of low income people. HHCK is comprised of nonprofit housing agencies across the Commonwealth and is involved in affordable housing advocacy, providing technical assistance to member sites, and successfully coordinating a statewide AmeriCorps program since 1994. A recent survey of HHCK partner sites reveals that Build Corps members are essential to the continuation of housing services in Kentucky. In addition, HHCK received a request from the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD) to become involved in disaster services for Kentucky's most vulnerable citizens. According to the CCDD, vulnerable populations have historically been underserved in disaster events. Build Corps will partner with the Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB) in order to respond to the need for increased assistance.

DEMONSTRATED NEED: POVERTY IN KENTUCKY

The Commonwealth of Kentucky is experiencing tough economic times. According to the 2010 US Census, the median income of Kentucky residents is \$40,061, compared to a national median of \$50,221. In 2009, 18.4% of Kentuckians lived below the poverty level, compared to 14.3% nationally.

(<http://www.census.gov/popest/>

states/NST-ann-est.html) Kentucky's families are struggling in this difficult economy. According to a January 2011 report completed by the Children's Defense Fund, 25.6% of Kentucky's children live in

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poverty, with over 12% of these living in extreme poverty. (<http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/data/state-data-repository/cits/2011/children-in-the-states-2011-kentucky.pdf>) These statistics underscore the need for homeless services. According to "Why People are Homeless" (2009), published by the National Coalition for the Homeless, "Homelessness and poverty are inextricably linked. Poor people are frequently unable to pay for housing, food, childcare, and health care. Difficult choices must be made when limited resources cover only some necessities. Often it is housing, which absorbs a high proportion of income. If you are poor, you are essentially an illness, an accident, or a paycheck away from living on the streets" (<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/why.html>).

DEMONSTRATED NEED: HOMELESSNESS IN KENTUCKY

The need for homeless services is increasing, but governments and nonprofits are struggling to meet the demand. In a 2009 report, the Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness (KICH) states, "In late 2007, to support efforts initiated by the ten-year plan [KICH], working with [HHCK] began to address issues of homelessness specific to local regions through the creation of regional strategies. Since the origination of this plan, economic challenges have dramatically changed and utilization of homeless services is increasing and the economic crisis poses a threat to federal, state, and local governments and nonprofits that are attempting to respond to this increase" (<http://issuu.com/hhck/docs/10year-plantoendhomelessness> 2009). Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) serves as the state's housing finance agency and conducts a yearly count of homeless persons called a Point in Time Count (PITC). The PITC, conducted in one 24-hour period, serves as a snapshot of Kentucky's homeless population and demonstrates the current need for resources and services for homeless persons across the state. According to the 2010 PITC, 6,623 homeless persons were identified throughout the state. Even this high number may be lower than the reality. Because the PITC was completed in January, under extreme weather conditions, many homeless individuals were not able to be counted. KHC also reports on Kentucky's precariously housed. In 2010, 9,833 precariously housed were identified, an increase of 3,038 or 31 percent over the previous year. In the same year, 8,595 were doubled- or- tripled-up (meaning that several families were living in overcrowded housing), an increase of 2,584 or 30 percent over 2009. Another 680 were facing eviction, an increase of 345 or 51 percent over 2009. 558 individuals were lacking utilities, an increase of 109 or 20 percent more than in 2009. (<http://www.kyhousing.org/uploaded>

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Files/Specialized_Housing/2010%20PITC%20Report%20FINAL.pdf).

It isn't difficult to understand how today's precariously housed may be tomorrow's homeless.

Economic factors, such as the loss of employment and the lack of affordable housing, are playing an increasing role. The "Ten- Year Plan to End Homelessness" (updated 2009), leads KICH to state "The effects of homelessness are extensive and severe. For the individual, homelessness means more than just a loss of self-esteem; they face dramatically higher rates of infectious disease, mental health problems, physical disorders, disabilities and premature death. They also face heightened risks of becoming incarcerated or institutionalized. Homelessness has a dramatic impact on the community as well. Homelessness takes a tremendous toll on family stability by hindering the ability to find and maintain jobs, hampering the learning process of children who are hungry and disoriented, and causing health problems due to stress and exposure to the elements and infectious disease. Because they lack other resources, homeless persons tend to use a variety of public systems in inefficient and costly ways" (<http://www.kyhousing.org>

[/KICH/](http://www.kyhousing.org)). KICH continues by stating "The true cost of homelessness is passed to the community through higher demands on law enforcement, corrections, health care, welfare, education and other systems. Though the chronically homeless make up a smaller portion of the homeless population, they use a disproportionate amount of resources. Studies show that providing adequate housing and access to services is much more cost -effective than leaving the homeless to fend for themselves. The results of a two-year study conducted by the Kent School of Social Work at the University of Louisville showed that it costs nearly \$89 million over a two-year period to shelter and care for just over 7,000 single homeless adults. The study showed that providing permanent housing to these individuals over the two-year period would have saved \$6.4 million. This study demonstrates that providing permanent, supportive housing is the best and most cost-effective way of solving homelessness" (<http://www.kyhousing.org>

[/KICH/](http://www.kyhousing.org)). Gaps exist in service delivery to homeless and precariously housed Kentuckians. Build Corps assists in filling these gaps and making services more affordable for the nonprofits that are charged with this task. "Housing First" is a research based model utilized in Kentucky and throughout the United States to address homelessness. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), ending the homelessness epidemic is possible. "A Plan, Not a Dream: How to End Homelessness in Ten Years" says that increasing the affordable housing stock is the most significant change necessary in the fight to end homelessness. In addition, NAEH emphasizes the "Housing First" model. While most individuals and families are homeless for a short period of time and are assisted

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with finding affordable and suitable housing fairly quickly, a small percentage of homeless individuals take much more time and effort to assist and house. NAEH explains, "This group of people spend more time in the system... [and] are often the chronically homeless and chronically ill. People can be helped to exit homelessness as quickly as possible through a housing first approach. For the chronically homeless, this means permanent supportive housing (housing with services) a solution that will save money as it reduces the use of other public systems" (<http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/585>).

MEMBER ROLES, OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES: HOUSING SERVICES

The Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK) is requesting 45 full time AmeriCorps members to serve homeless and economically disadvantaged Kentuckians and those with disabilities through a combination of housing and disaster services. Approximately 90% of the members' aggregate service hours will be devoted to housing services. The other 10% will be spent on disaster preparedness and recovery activities. Build Corps members will address the lack of housing support services by providing direct service to over 30 nonprofit housing agencies across the state to help economically disadvantaged and homeless Kentuckians stabilize their housing situations through the following activities: building, renovating, and weatherizing low-income housing; helping homeless Kentuckians transition into housing; helping those at risk of homelessness secure the resources to maintain their housing; and teaching financial literacy skills. For the 2012-2013 program year, Build Corps members will provide at least 1800 homeless and economically disadvantaged individuals with housing services. At least 720 of these individuals will successfully maintain or secure safe, healthy, and affordable housing. We developed these targets based upon previous program year outputs. Instruments used in data collection and reporting to KCCVS and CNCS include: housing intake forms and construction activity forms. Monthly, members will add all information collected to a database on the AmeriCorps Member Resources page of the HHCK website. A quarterly report will then be generated by program staff. The database contains a safety mechanism that prevents double-counting of individuals for the same performance measure. At the end of the three year grant cycle, we project that over 2,160 Kentuckians will have achieved stable housing, allowing them to lead happier, healthier lives.

DEMONSTRATED NEED: DISASTERS

Kentucky's homeless and economically challenged families face many obstacles in their daily lives. These obstacles are increased when hit by disaster. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Kentucky has been issued nine (9) Presidential disaster declarations in the past three

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(3) years (<http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=14332>). When disaster strikes, already vulnerable individuals are impacted by the initial event without regard to their status. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the response to their physical and behavioral health needs. These individuals can be impacted by disasters but overlooked by emergency management staff in ways that the general public might not be.

(<http://www.kccrb.ky.gov>

[/NR/rdonlyres/D5545B48-D67A-459D-84A7-69ACB9](#)

[CADEC3/250361/2010AnnualReport.pdf](#)). Vulnerable individuals face significant barriers to service delivery following a disaster arising from the shortage of qualified providers and a community that is often isolated from mainstream media and wary of traditional intervention efforts. According to "Disaster Planning for People Experiencing Homelessness" (Edgington, 2009), offered by the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Inc.,

"People who are homeless have limited resources to evacuate, stockpile food, store medications and shelter in place. For this reason, communities often struggle in their approach to prepare homeless people for disasters. Information leaflets coupled with personal trainings have been effective in helping homeless people prepare for disasters. Trainings might focus on what can be expected physically, mentally and emotionally during a disaster and how to work with first responders to get to safety" (p.5-6). This paper strongly suggests that "Homeless service providers are encouraged to get involved in community emergency planning to increase their community's capacity to respond to the needs of homeless people during a disaster" (p.7). Edgington suggests that recent research offers "compelling evidence of the correlation between poverty and disaster vulnerability. Many people living in poverty have limited literacy, compromising their access to risk reduction information. People experiencing homelessness may be unable to engage in self-protective activities such as choosing a residence in a safe area, stockpiling food and supplies, and early evacuation once a threat to safety is evident. Factors associated with mental illness and substance disorders may interfere with the ability to cope with the trauma of disaster"(p.8-9).

MEMBER ROLES, OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES: DISASTER SERVICES

While housing services will remain our primary mission moving forward during the proposed 2012-2015 grant cycle, we will add two new service components: disaster preparedness and disaster recovery services. Existing emergency management agencies have difficulty reaching homeless and low income community members, and Build Corps members are in a unique position to fill this gap in disaster services because of the strong relationships that members have with low income individuals.

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During the proposed project period, Build Corps members will be trained to deliver disaster preparedness and recovery services that address recipients' physical and mental health needs. The following specific activities and outputs were developed in consultation with Deborah Arnold, KCCRB Executive Director. Forty-five Build Corps members will train at least 800 community members in disaster preparedness. Training will be provided to all interested community members, but will focus on vulnerable individuals and families. The majority of these trainings will occur through regional team service projects. Teams will partner with local community organizations to provide disaster preparedness training and assist individuals in preparing disaster supplies kits. Members will use sign-in sheets and training agendas for all preparedness trainings. This information will be added monthly to the Build Corps database, and quarterly numbers will be used for KCCVS/CNCS reporting requirements. At least 90% of those served through disaster preparedness services will feel more prepared after receiving this training, as evidenced by a post-training survey. In addition to helping vulnerable community members prepare for disaster, some Build Corps members will also provide recovery services after a disaster strikes. By collaborating with the KCCRB, Build Corps members will be trained and credentialed as Disaster Behavioral Health Network Volunteers and become a recognized team within the KCCRB. Through this partnership, KCCRB will provide training, including Disaster Behavioral Health Volunteer Orientation, Psychological First Aid Parts I and II, Basic State and FEMA Disaster Resource Awareness, and Basic Individual and Family Preparedness. By completing this training and becoming a recognized team with KCCRB, AmeriCorps members will be able to provide disaster behavioral health crisis counseling, assistance in identifying needs, and assistance in connecting with local, state, and federal resources made available following disasters. We anticipate that 20 Build Corps members will help 350 individuals recover from local disasters. Recovery services will be provided to all individuals who need them in the event of a disaster, but the Build Corps team will be called upon specifically to fill the gap in aid for vulnerable populations. We will use a disaster response intake form to count numbers of individuals served. Our goal is that 75% of the 350 served will feel psychologically better able to cope and will be able to identify resources for long term recovery. A Quality of Life Rating Scale will be used to determine the long term outcome of the disaster survivor. At the end of the three year grant cycle, we anticipate that more than 2,000 individuals will be better prepared for disaster and hundreds more who have survived disaster will have been connected with needed resources. AmeriCorps members are ideally suited to fill both the housing and disaster services roles described above.

In these troubling economic times, the non-profits with which we partner are struggling to meet

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increased need with fewer dollars. While our partner agencies effectively mobilize volunteers to assist with many functions, the particular activities Build Corps members perform require a more consistent presence than most volunteers are able to provide. Disaster services agencies also rely heavily on volunteer support, but so far, KCCRB has found it challenging to locate and gain the trust of homeless and low-income community members in the aftermath of disaster. Because our Build Corps members serve this population on a daily basis, they have a chance to build rapport before disaster strikes and will therefore have a greater chance of reaching and assisting economically disadvantaged community members to help them prepare for and recover from an emergency.

In addition to the consistency they provide, our Build Corps members are an invaluable source of enthusiasm, creativity, dedication, and leadership. Largely due to the fact that we recruit a highly diverse corps, each member brings a unique perspective to the service site. Every year, we recruit at least some members who have lived in poverty or experienced firsthand the trauma of floods, fires, or other disasters. Some have experienced homelessness, addiction, or domestic violence and, having overcome these hardships, are passionate about helping others do the same.

AMERICORPS MEMBER EXPERIENCE

The Build Corps program strives to provide members with powerful service experiences that increase community impact and lead to continued civic participation and connectivity with other national service participants. The training we provide our members, described in more detail in the next section, is designed to prepare them for success at their service sites, contribute to their overall professional development, connect them to other members, and foster a sense of pride in national service. According to the survey results of an external evaluation completed by Scot Davisson Consulting during the 2010 program year, an overwhelming majority of Build Corps members enjoy the AmeriCorps experience and are highly satisfied with their service activities and believe they are making a difference in the community. In addition to providing quality training opportunities, we seek to place members at service sites that craft meaningful roles for their members and provide the support and on-site training the members will need to excel in their roles. When applying to become a Build Corps service site, an agency must address how they plan to train and support their member. Reapplying agencies that have provided enriching service experiences for previous members are prioritized over sites that have not mentored their members as effectively.

All Build Corps members are responsible for completing at least one special service project and one public speaking engagement over the course of the program year. These requirements help members to develop planning, leadership, and community outreach skills. Though challenging, the skills and

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confidence members gain empower them to be more effective community leaders. In their final quarterly reports, the vast majority of Build Corps members indicate that they will continue to be involved in service. Build Corps provides program participants structured opportunities throughout the year to reflect on and learn from their service experiences. Quarterly conference calls allow members to share challenges, accomplishments, reflections, and suggestions with their fellow corps members. Written quarterly reports also prompt members to reflect on their service experience and describe any meaningful developments. In addition, reflection time is an essential component at our in-person trainings.

In order to advertise program participants' unique role as AmeriCorps members to our partners, the community, and the public in general, we request that AmeriCorps members identify themselves as such within their agencies and communities. We also ask that they wear AmeriCorps gear to all service projects and--when appropriate--their service sites and other public events. Finally, we require our service sites to display AmeriCorps signage and to utilize the AmeriCorps logo in publications, acknowledging CNCS and KCCVS support.

Though our members are dispersed throughout the Commonwealth, connecting them with each other and members of other national service programs is a Build Corps priority. Our members serve a challenging population and witness distressing situations. It is thus imperative for them to have a solid support network. Teambuilding is an important component of our trainings. During the months when we are unable to come together in person, conference calls, Skype, and our Facebook page help members keep in touch with each other. To help members form a support network closer to home, we assign them to regional teams, comprised of those Build Corps members serving in closest proximity to them. We encourage members to collaborate with their teammates--and other national service participants--on special service projects. Some of our members serve alongside VISTAs or members of other AmeriCorps state programs. During the 2010-11 program year, we held several trainings in conjunction with the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association's Economic Empowerment Corps, and we will gladly partner with other programs again when our training needs overlap.

Build Corps fosters a sense of connection to the broader AmeriCorps community by training members on the history and purpose of AmeriCorps, teaching them about the broad spectrum of AmeriCorps programs in Kentucky and the nation, and asking them to attend the KCCVS Launch and participate in other KCCVS activities, such as the Make a Difference Day Food Drive.

Thanks to the valuable and extensive training they receive, the professional relationships they develop, and the poignant interactions they have on a day to day basis with service recipients, members leave

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the program with a better understanding of housing, poverty, and disaster services, as well as personal and professional fulfillment. Members indicate an increased understanding of service and citizenship, and leave the program with leadership skills that they may otherwise never have the opportunity to cultivate.

A strong testament to the success of the Build Corps program in fostering powerful service experiences and an ongoing commitment to community involvement is the fact that our AmeriCorps Program Director, HHCK Programs Assistant, and 20% of our current site supervisors are alumni of the HHCK AmeriCorps program, as are some of the Commonwealth's most passionate and effective advocates for families and individuals threatened by homelessness. Many others continue to volunteer at community food banks, Habitat for Humanity affiliates, domestic violence crisis centers, and other community agencies.

AMERICORPS MEMBER SELECTION

Build Corps is proud to have a tremendously diverse corps. Each year, the program enrolls members from every region of the state, rural as well as urban. Build Corps members come to us from diverse socioeconomic, racial, and religious backgrounds. Members also vary greatly in age. In any given year, Build Corps has membership in every age group ranging from 18 to 80. Build Corps members are recruited through various venues, including colleges and universities, faith-based organizations, local agencies and nonprofit groups, newspaper advertising, and through word of mouth.

Members also often find the program after bearing witness to the impact of service on a current or previous Build Corps member or service recipient. Members are selected based upon the needs of the HHCK partner site, and the needs of the Build Corps program. All prospects must apply through the AmeriCorps portal before being screened by Build Corps staff and sent on to partner sites. Partner sites conduct individual interviews with promising applicants and then nominate their top candidates to participate in a group interview conducted by Build Corps staff. Group interviews consist of responding to questions about skills, hopes for the experience, and commitment to service. Candidates also participate in a small teamwork exercise. Program staff and a second-year Build Corps member present on expectations and benefits of service. Candidates then have a chance to ask follow-up questions. Program staff and host sites select candidates who best fit program and site requirements, have the necessary interpersonal skills, and have a passion and commitment to serve. Members are required to read and sign the Build Corps member agreement, submit all required paperwork, and have all completed background checks submitted before beginning service.

BUILD CORPS TRAINING

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The first week of September is spent becoming acquainted with and oriented to the service site. Build Corps program staff approves a member position description and orientation schedule before the member is placed with a partner site. During the second week of September, members attend a week long pre-service orientation with the Build Corps staff. Members learn about the history of national service and are introduced to the broad spectrum of national service programs. The member participation agreement is read verbatim, which includes the term of service, direct service activities, prohibited activities, grievance procedures, expectations and responsibilities, and other important information about being a member of an AmeriCorps program. Members also learn about Build Corps' specific performance measures and reporting procedures and deadlines.

Members participate in a poverty simulation, which allows participants to better understand the day-to-day struggles of living in poverty. Next, the HHCK Executive Director provides information on homelessness and housing issues, and members are trained in case management best practices. Ice breakers and teambuilding activities are interspersed throughout the training. A third day is spent learning volunteer recruitment, construction skills, and OSHA safety protocol. The last day is spent on disaster preparedness and recovery training provided by the Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB). The focus is on "Psychological First Aid," which focuses on the application of three basic concepts: protect, direct and connect. It entails addressing immediate physical needs, comforting and consoling affected individuals, providing concrete information about where to turn for help, and normalizing stress reactions to trauma and sudden loss, and reinforcing positive coping skills.

Members will continue disaster training in regional KCCRB training sessions throughout the year and will be trained in CPR and First Aid.

In the fall, Build Corps members take part in the KCCVS Launch, where they receive training on various topics that allow members to grow personally and professionally. Since this training is provided to all AmeriCorps programs in the state, members get the added benefit of meeting others who serve and building relationships and partnerships across the state. During the Launch, members are sworn in on the State Capital steps. Members report feeling a sense of inclusion, purpose, and commitment because of this activity. Because several hundred AmeriCorps members from across the state are sworn in together, members gain the understanding that they are part of something much larger than themselves.

During the spring, Build Corps holds a training that features a group service project to benefit a Kentucky community. During the 2010 program year, Build Corps served the Owensboro Habitat for Humanity. Those members who serve in a construction capacity assisted by building walls and other

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structures for new Habitat for Humanity (HFH) homes, while members who normally served as housing services providers were able to learn construction skills and provide painting assistance. The Executive Director of HFH also provided volunteer management training. The spring event allows members to visit an area of the state that they may not otherwise have the chance to visit and to learn about areas of service with which they may not otherwise become familiar.

Each year, Build Corps holds an end of service celebration. Members are provided with resume writing and job search tips, and post AmeriCorps service opportunities. Members and staff spend the evening reflecting upon their year of service. The second day is spent in celebration with HHCK staff and board members, service site supervisors, KCCVS staff and commissioners, and members' families. Other training is provided regionally throughout the year. KICH has implemented a new case management training that can be utilized by Build Corps members in an online format to increase their knowledge of statewide resources and best practices for serving vulnerable populations. This curriculum is the first of its kind in the state and will be free to service providers across Kentucky, including AmeriCorps programs. The Build Corps Program Director was involved in the development of this resource. Asset based tax preparation training is also offered, through which members become certified volunteer tax preparers. The training focuses specifically on how low income filers can maximize their Earned Income Tax Credit to build assets and achieve financial stability. Finally, members are encouraged to attend SOAR (Stepping Stones to Recovery) training in order to better help qualified individuals with disabilities receive the income needed to secure housing.

MEMBER SUPERVISION

All members have a site supervisor who serves as the first line of support and who provides training on the member's individual service site activities. All site supervisors must attend site supervisor training, provided by Build Corps staff before the program year begins and sign a site agreement, which outlines expectations, requirements, and grievance procedures. Site supervisors are contacted regularly by Build Corps staff, so that everyone understands expectations and stays up to date about member progress and any issues that need to be resolved. Site supervisors directly supervise full time members at least 40 hours per month. Three months into the program year, all members are surveyed about levels of site supervision and service satisfaction. Site supervisors are required to submit two performance evaluations per year for each Build Corps member. The evaluation is a tool used to identify strengths and areas of needed growth to support the member in achieving his or her professional goals. In addition to the regular supervision provided by service site supervisors, Build Corps program staff provides member supervision and support as well. At pre-service orientation, we

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assure members that our most important duty is to support them as they serve their communities, and we urge them to contact us as often as needed with questions, concerns, suggestions, and success stories. Program staff visits each site at least two times per year and more often, when needed. During these visits, staff reminds members and site supervisors of CNCS prohibited activities and appropriate service activities. We discuss member progress, satisfaction, service activities and performance measure documentation. Mediation is provided when needed, and member files are audited. During the months when no training or site visits take place, members are required to meet with other Corps members and Build Corps staff via Skype or conference call. These calls provide members with the opportunity to ask questions, discuss challenges, and provide members and staff with updates on service activities. The HHCK Facebook page is also utilized for member discussion and resource and information sharing.

VOLUNTEER GENERATION

Build Corps members recruit and supervise volunteers in building and repairing low income housing, and protecting the affordability of each new or improved unit. In addition, when members conduct team service projects, they are required to recruit volunteer assistance to expand the project's impact on the community. During the first two complete years of the current grant cycle, our members leveraged 6,659 volunteers who contributed 100,129 hours of service to the community.

Organizational Capability

The Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK) was established in 1987 with the mission of eliminating the threat of homelessness and fulfilling the promise of affordable housing for all Kentuckians. HHCK is a coalition of nonprofit organizations, advocates, housing professionals, AmeriCorps members and alumni, and engaged citizens working together to promote safe, healthy, and affordable housing with appropriate supports for all Kentuckians. HHCK's 80 organizational members include nonprofit housing and service organizations. In 1993, HHCK successfully led the effort to establish a statewide Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). In 2006, HHCK led the quest for a dedicated revenue stream for AHTF, which brings in millions of dollars in additional funding for affordable housing annually. HHCK has received recognitions, including a Governor's Citation for AmeriCorps Excellence and an Outstanding Nonprofit of the Year Award from the Governor's Conference on Housing. In 1994, HHCK was approved to administer the Getting Things Done for Kentucky's Homeless AmeriCorps program as part of the first federal AmeriCorps grant cycle. Now called Build Corps, the program is in its 17th year. Its mission is to build homes and build opportunities for homeless and economically disadvantaged Kentuckian. In addition to AmeriCorps,

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HHCK administers a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant relating to Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) Technical Assistance. Over the past several years, HHCK has been designated by HUD as the lead technical assistance organization for the state of Kentucky. HHCK staff and member organizations frequently participate in advisory boards and planning commissions relating to affordable housing in Kentucky and on the national level. For over 20 years, HHCK has continuously served as the statewide representative for agencies and organizations that work to meet the housing needs of Kentucky's diverse communities -- communities that Build Corps strives to support. HHCK is governed by a 20 member volunteer Board of Directors that represents state and local housing and human services agencies, private sector developers, veterans' services and advocacy groups. The Board of Directors meets quarterly and provides fiscal oversight for the financial piece of the Build Corps program. The Board also reviews the current status of the program and participates in its ongoing development in an advisory capacity. The CNCS and the KCCVS, through the provision of funding and oversight, are critical partners in the Build Corps program and provide 47% of HHCK's funding. HHCK currently has four full time employees: Executive Director, AmeriCorps Program Director, AmeriCorps Member Coordinator, and Finance and Grants Manager. HHCK also employs two part time staff members: Technical Assistance Specialist and Programs Assistant.

The Build Corps Program Director and primary contact for CNCS and KCCVS is responsible for overall programmatic development, implementation, and improvement. Specifically, this includes designing, evaluating and improving administrative systems, creating and managing the program budget, ensuring compliance with state and federal requirements, recruiting host sites and members, attending state commission meetings, conducting site visits, addressing day-to-day policy issues, planning HHCK training events, and supervising the Member Coordinator. The current AmeriCorps Program Director, Kelly Dycus, will continue in this position. Ms. Dycus is completing a master's degree in mental health counseling and is a Build Corps alum, previous AmeriCorps Member Coordinator, and Program Director. Ms. Dycus has directed a seven county transitional housing program for victims of domestic violence and directed the Bourbon-Scott-Woodford CASA program for abused and neglected children. Ms. Dycus is currently managing her second AmeriCorps grant under the HHCK Build Corps program.

The Member Coordinator is responsible for general member support, assisting with member training, providing childcare assistance information, compiling reports on Build Corps performance measures, and conducting site visits across the state. Rachel Harrod is in her second year in this position and

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previously served as the Build Corps Administrative Assistant. Ms. Harrod holds a bachelor's degree from Centre College and has an extensive volunteer background with organizations such as Bluegrass Literacy, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Danville Housing Authority, and the Frankfort Climate Action Network. Ms. Harrod has worked as a teacher in Namibia and served as a seminar leader for the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program.

The HHCK Finance and Grants Manager is responsible for preparing the monthly expense reports, quarterly federal financial reports, coordinating member benefits and processing the member living allowances, expense reimbursements and all other expenses related to AmeriCorps. Michelle Singer, the current Finance and Grants Manager will continue this role with Build Corps. Ms. Singer has a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Georgetown College and worked for the Department of Justice as a Financial Specialist for several years prior to beginning with HHCK in September 2005.

The HHCK Executive Director, and secondary contact for the CNCS and KCCVS, will be responsible for oversight of the program, ensuring that the design and direction of the program continue to meet the needs of low-income Kentuckians and partner sites. The position supervises the Program Director and Finance and Grants Manager and is ultimately responsible for proper fiscal management of the program. The Executive Director raises the visibility of the AmeriCorps program on a statewide level, provides support to the program, and serves as a presenter at trainings. HHCK Executive Director Fran Alvis holds a Master of Arts in Applied Behavioral Science from Wright State University and has over 20 years of experience in housing for low-income and homeless individuals and over 12 years of experience in top level nonprofit management.

HHCK practices continuous assessment in an effort to improve program structure, effectiveness, and direction. Program staff participates in formal annual performance reviews and ongoing informal reviews as needed to identify strengths and areas of improvement for program oversight. Build Corps members and site supervisors are surveyed each year in order to understand changing site and member needs and satisfaction with Build Corps. Further, HHCK's Board of Directors provides ongoing assessment of the program and offers advice and guidance for improvements. Information gathered from these assessment techniques are used to maintain a sound and well-managed AmeriCorps program.

SUSTAINABILITY

Build Corps creates impact that is sustainable for service recipients, Build Corps members, service sites, and the community at-large beyond the presence of federal support. The sustainability created

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for service recipients is best illustrated through the stories of some of those served, such as the woman trapped in a domestic violence situation who lost her children to state custody because of a lack of housing, but who, with assistance from a caring Build Corps member, is reunited with her children in safe, healthy, permanent housing. A ninety-year-old woman who has lived in a house with no heat and no indoor plumbing for months, because of a lack of resources, is now able to live in a warmer, safer, home, and is able to live out her golden years with dignity, because of an AmeriCorps member's care and service. A family facing foreclosure because of a loss in income was able to refinance and stay in their home thanks to the efforts of a Build Corps member. The impact of Build Corps is dramatic and changes the lives of Kentucky families for the long term. More tangible examples of sustainable community impact include the 26 new homes that were built, the 50 homes that were made safer and more energy efficient, and the 272 residents that now have new or improved housing thanks to the efforts of Build Corps during the 2010 program year.

In addition, weatherization of existing homes reduces the amount a family pays for energy consumption, which in turn leaves additional money to spend on rent/mortgage payments. Home repairs also "help to mitigate substandard living conditions that lead to health problems and eventual relocation" (Oppenheim and MacGregor, 2007). Build Corps also increases sustainability through volunteer recruitment, training, and management. During the 2010-11 program year, Build Corps members recruited, trained, or managed 3,979 volunteers, who contributed 44,237 hours of service to their communities. Many of these volunteers will continue to serve the community long after AmeriCorps members are gone. Without the services provided by AmeriCorps members and the many volunteers that each member recruits, trains and manages during the year of service, small nonprofit agencies could not reach many of the economically disadvantaged and homeless families that desperately need immediate assistance. The training and utilization of volunteers makes increasing the affordable housing stock in Kentucky much cheaper than it otherwise might be.

Disaster preparedness training is an additional area where sustainability is important and can be achieved. Once a family gains needed information--what to expect, how to react, where to go and how to prepare--each member of the family is safer than they were before they received this knowledge.

ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

During the first two years of our current three-year grant, our program enrolled a full corps. For the current program year, we have filled 50 of the 52 slots we were awarded. Though we have received 92 applications from individuals interested in serving with our program since July 1, 2011, we were

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unable to identify enough strong service sites to host 52 members. We have lost several partner sites due to the poor economy and cuts to many of the revenue sources on which shelters and housing non-profits depend. As much as they could use the additional help, many of them simply do not have the capacity to support an AmeriCorps member at this time. Because we expect this trend to continue for the next few years, we are requesting funding for 45 AmeriCorps members for each of the next three years.

Member retention was a challenge for the 2010-11 program year. In some cases, uncontrollable life circumstances prevented members from being able to complete their year of service. A few of the members who exited early, though, simply lacked the maturity and commitment needed to spend a year serving challenging populations while receiving just a modest living allowance, and several turned out to simply be using AmeriCorps service as a stopgap until they could find actual employment.

To address this challenge, we have added a group interview component, described earlier in more detail, to our member selection process. The group interviews allow program staff to assess candidates' interpersonal skills and motives for joining a service program. They also allow candidates to learn more about the program and how it differs from a job and to ask questions of exiting second-year members prior to making a commitment. Our hope is to impart to candidates more realistic expectations about both the challenges and rewards of serving in the Build Corps AmeriCorps program and in understanding the importance--to the program, our service sites, and the clients we serve--of committing to a full year of service. Based upon feedback received from members and site supervisors, we expect to have higher retention this year.

PERFORMANCE TARGETS AND DEMONSTRATED COMPLIANCE

During the last full year of operation, Build Corps members sought to meet targets in three areas: homelessness prevention and housing placement services; construction and repair of low-income housing; and skill and asset building. Through housing services, we projected that we would help 1,560 Kentuckians secure safe, affordable housing and another 3,250 maintain their current housing. In response to the foreclosure crisis, however, many housing non-profits channeled more of their resources into homelessness prevention activities. Consequently, after writing our performance measures, the focus of our AmeriCorps Housing Services Coordinators shifted more towards preventing homelessness. We thus fell short of our first goal, assisting 1,340 people with securing housing, but we greatly exceeded our second goal, assisting more than twice as many people (6,725) with maintaining their housing than we had projected. Of the clients' receiving housing services, we

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hoped that 5,130 would meet their goals. We are pleased to report that we again exceeded our target, with 5,837 clients meeting their housing goals.

Our ten Build Corps Construction Coordinators completed work on 88 homes, exceeding our target of 8 homes per Construction Coordinator. We are proud to report that we completed work on more units than we projected and that 272 Kentuckians are now living in new or improved housing.

In order to help "build opportunities," our AmeriCorps members devoted a portion of their time to helping clients achieve self-sufficiency through skill and asset building activities. Skill building activities include financial literacy and budgeting assistance, life skills training, and job search support. Asset building includes those activities designed to help clients start a savings account, achieve homeownership, start a small business, or--when appropriate--apply for disability benefits. Some Build Corps members were also trained and certified as volunteer tax preparers, allowing low-income filers to have their taxes prepared for free and receive advice on how to use their Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to build assets and increase financial stability. During the 2010-11 program year, Build Corps members prepared taxes for 159 low-income households, which was a bit short of our goal of 175 households. While this service was a welcome addition in some communities where our members serve, fewer service sites than anticipated chose to have their members trained in asset based tax preparation, noting that in some of their communities, this service is already offered by other agencies.

We were unable to help as many individuals with disabilities apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits as we had hoped. The primary reason for this shortfall is that many people in Kentucky who intend to apply for SSI or SSDI benefits seek help from attorneys. The SOAR process is relatively new in Kentucky and, never having heard of it, most people do not realize that they can receive free assistance with their disability applications at some nonprofits. The amount of time and effort spent on each application should also be noted. SOAR is an incredibly lengthy process that typically takes place over a series of meetings with each client. Significant time is spent tracking down documentation from medical practitioners. Many clients served through the SOAR process are individuals with mental illnesses or intellectual disabilities. Some of these clients may not even be able to recall which physicians or hospitals have treated them in the past, so tracking down the necessary documentation can be an extraordinary challenge that can cause the process to stretch on for a year or more.

Due to the challenges described above, we fell shy of achieving our original asset building goal. While we did not achieve our goal of assisting 3,380 Kentuckians with asset and skill building activities, we

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did assist 3,146 individuals with these activities. In the upcoming grant cycle, we intend to offer SOAR and asset based tax preparation training to our members, but these activities will no longer guide our performance measures, which will instead focus on many types of housing services and our new disaster preparedness and recovery efforts.

The Build Corps program is dedicated to upholding the integrity of AmeriCorps and other CNCS funded programs by ensuring that our operations adhere to all CNCS rules and regulations. We thoroughly train members and site supervisors on acceptable and prohibited activities at the beginning of each program year, and we periodically issue reminders throughout the year via email and conference calls. Program staff conducts site visits twice a year to ensure that the members are engaged in approved activities and that they are properly documenting their service activities. We focus on building trusting relationships with our members and site supervisors so that they are comfortable asking questions and reporting problems to us. Within our own office, we devote a great deal of time and attention to ensuring the accuracy and completeness of our own records. The KCCVS Program Officer has found Build Corps to be in compliance at each of her compliance visits during the current three year grant.

In our most recent KCCVS risk assessment, Build Corps received a rating of "medium risk," just missing "low risk" by only a few points. On indicators such as compliance monitoring, timeliness and effectiveness of reporting, accuracy of member time records, responsiveness to requests for corrective actions, history of meeting or exceeding performance measures, staff/member ratio, and participation in KCCVS-sponsored activities, we received ratings indicating the lowest possible risk. The two factors that elevated our risk level most were staff turnover and the size of our program. Though our previous program director left during the summer of 2010 after only a year, she left to join KCCVS staff as their training officer. We were quickly able to find Kelly Dycus, who has extensive AmeriCorps experience, as a replacement. Around the same time, our member coordinator left to pursue a law degree, and Rachel Harrod, Build Corps' previous administrative assistant, stepped into her position. While technically the program has experienced high staff turnover, we do not feel that Build Corps has suffered as a result, since both Ms. Dycus and Ms. Harrod were already familiar with the program and their respective duties when they took on their current positions.

Build Corps staff is aware that operating a large, statewide program comes with its own set of challenges, but despite this, we believe we excel at providing quality member training, supervision and opportunities to connect and collaborate with other members. At the end of her AmeriCorps experience, one member who served from 2009 to 2011 wrote, "AmeriCorps provided me with both an

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extremely supportive Build Corps staff and a service site that wholeheartedly mentored me every step of the way. AmeriCorps has introduced me to lifelong friends with whom I will always be able to network, laugh, and share resources!" Such comments are not at all atypical. We believe that our program's statewide model enhances members' service experiences. Many comment that they enjoy learning about and visiting different parts of the state through program trainings, and for members wishing to pursue careers in the nonprofit housing sector, the opportunity to learn about their fellow corps members' service sites--which vary greatly in size, structure, and approach to poverty and homelessness issues-is invaluable.

SERVICE SITE SELECTION AND MONITORING

Build Corps is a multi-site, statewide program. If funded, HHCK's 45 members will continue to serve at 30-35 different sites throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Service sites are selected in May, based on the scoring of the Service Site Application and, if applicable, evaluation of past performance as a Build Corps service site. Service site applicants submit a description of the following: their area's need for AmeriCorps member(s); proposed member service activities; member recruitment, orientation, supervision, and safety plans; and programmatic compliance considerations. In evaluating applications, HHCK considers the quality, innovation, community involvement, quality of leadership, and sustainability of the proposed interventions, as well as the degree to which the site applicants will use members to mobilize community volunteers. HHCK gives special consideration to distressed communities, including counties in Kentucky that have higher than average unemployment rates, rural communities, and severely economically distressed communities. The applications with the highest scores overall receive AmeriCorps members. Selected service sites provide a site match in the amount of \$6,350 per AmeriCorps member to HHCK. Service sites are required to provide to HHCK a statement of financial position to ensure they have adequate funding for the site match and a waiver from any federal funding sources, if federal dollars are used as any portion of the match. HHCK trains and monitors service sites to ensure compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations. Site supervisor training covers the history and purpose of AmeriCorps, prohibited activities, appropriate member roles, non-displacement of staff and volunteers, and reporting requirements. Following the site supervisor training, HHCK maintains open communication with service sites and ensures program compliance via telephone conversations, e-mail correspondence, and site visits. Site Supervisors receive reference materials containing the Service Site Agreement, Site Match Guidelines, Recruitment Guidelines, and Member Participation Agreement. All documents utilized by the Build Corps program are available on the HHCK website

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(hhck.org). Site supervisors are responsible for submitting an "In-Kind Donation" form to assist the program with documentation of program resources.

Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

HHCK is requesting \$13,300 from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) for each AmeriCorps member service year (MSY) approved for the Build Corps program. The total request for the Build Corps program of 45 AmeriCorps MSY is \$598,482. Build Corps is not requesting an increase in overall program support above that of the last three year grant cycle, but requests the full allowable MSY per member. The increase per MSY is due to increased costs in worker's compensation and healthcare coverage. The total budget for the program is \$1,2347,499. While CNCS currently funds 51% of our AmeriCorps budget, the CNCS portion requested for the 2012-2015 grant cycle reflects only 48% of the total program budget. HHCK will raise the non-Corporation resources to support Build Corps. Thirty to thirty-five service sites will contribute a site match of \$6,350 per AmeriCorps member, totaling \$285,750. The Kentucky Housing Corporation will provide \$10,000, HHCK will match with \$1,425. and reimbursements will be received from service sites for state background checks in the amount \$1,575. We estimate that each site supervisor will spend an average of 40 hours per month supervising their member. This time will be provided to HHCK as an in-kind donation and will be valued at \$331,200. In addition, the specialized training that Build Corps members receive will be provided by the Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB) and other community organizations and will be valued at \$10,000. The proposed budget is designed to support HHCK's AmeriCorps program, which is broadening the scope of its mission to include disaster services. It is inclusive of all member and personnel costs associated with the Build Corps program. The budget will support the proposed training of 45 AmeriCorps members to prepare them for their roles in housing and disaster services and to enhance their personal and professional development. The federal portion of the Build Corps budget funds member living allowances and related benefits. The living allowance provides members a basic subsistence-level standard of living while participating in the program.

Through the monetary and non-monetary support provided for the AmeriCorps members, they are able to emerge from the program as leaders and citizens committed to volunteerism and service for a lifetime. At the same time, through their efforts, Kentucky's nonprofit organizations are able to help thousands of families meet critical housing needs and prepare for and recover from disasters. HHCK is confident that the budget presented in this grant application is sufficient for a successful program.

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Evaluation Summary or Plan

Build Corps' most recent (2010) external evaluation is on file with KCCVS.

Amendment Justification

N/A

Clarification Summary

1. Build Corps members are recruited through various venues, including colleges and universities, faith-based organizations, local agencies and nonprofit groups, newspaper advertising, and through word of mouth. Build Corps partner sites place advertisements on local cable channels, on college web sites, in local newspapers, and on business, nonprofit, and college bulletin boards. Build Corps program staff attend college career fairs and place program information in newspapers and on various web sites. We also utilize Facebook and the HHCK website to recruit a diverse group of applicants.

2. "Staff Training" should not have included Site Supervisor Training. This has been changed in the program budget. Site Supervisor Training materials are taken from the "supplies" line item. "Staff Training" is available to allow two AmeriCorps staff members to attend an educational training or conference one time per year.

Performance Measure Clarification:

Economic Opportunity

3. Performance measure language has been changed. Please see O11 performance measure.

4. The target of 350 has been changed to 720 within the performance measure section of the grant application to reflect a more adequate number, which represents 40% of individuals transitioning into safe, healthy, affordable housing. We have adjusted the previous figure to better reflect what the program has been able to accomplish thus far in the current year and to make certain that we are striving to meet an attainable, yet aggressive goal. While Build Corps members work hard to transition each individual we serve into permanent housing, there is a serious shortage of safe, healthy, affordable housing in Kentucky, particularly in rural areas. Because of this shortage, many economically disadvantaged Kentuckians end up having to move into overcrowded situations with friends or relatives or into substandard housing. We cannot count these individuals as having been transitioned into safe, healthy, affordable housing. In its 2012 "State of Housing in Kentucky" report,

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Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) states that there is a large gap in availability of affordable rental housing (http://www.kyhousing.org/uploadedFiles/Data_Library/Publications_and_Reports/HousingStudyBrock906.pdf?n=2719). Until Kentucky significantly increases its stock of safe, healthy, affordable housing, it is inevitable that many very low income Kentuckians will have to live in overcrowded conditions, places not meant for human habitation, shelters, transitional housing units, or on the streets. The affordable housing shortage is the reason that Build Corps continues to utilize some AmeriCorps members in the construction and rehabilitation of low income housing across the state. Increasing the affordable housing stock in the Commonwealth, though, is a long, slow process.

Disaster Services

5. Preparedness training components are now included in the "Strategy to Achieve Results" section of performance measure D1.

6. The "Results" and "PM Statement" have been revised. Please see performance measure portion (D1) of the application.

7. To effectively measure the outcome of the disaster preparedness training, pre- and post-tests will be given to all. Please see these additions in the performance measure section of the application. Training objectives are listed in the "Strategy to Achieve Results" section.

8-10. D3 has been deleted from the Build Corps performance measures. Members will still be trained and available to assist with psychological first-aid after a disaster, and the program will measure impact and count numbers of individuals assisted.

Continuation Changes

N/A

Required Documents

Document Name

Status

Evaluation

Sent

Labor Union Concurrence

Not Applicable