

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: March 22, 2017

Name of Responsible Entity [RE]: Mercer County

Address: c/o Mercer County Regional Planning Commission
2491 Highland Rd., Hermitage, PA 16148

Telephone Number of RE: 724-981-2412, x3206

On or about April 3, 2017 the above-named grantee will submit a request to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (PA DCED) to release Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for the following project:

Title: Community Counseling Center of Mercer County Community Facility Project

Location: 2201 E. State Street, Hermitage, PA 16148

Estimated Cost and FY:

FY 2015 Mercer County CDBG cost = \$24,343

FY 2016 City of Hermitage CDBG = \$25,000

Total Estimated Project Cost, including other funding = \$62,100

Description:

The Community Counseling Center (CCC) of Mercer County developed a Psychiatric Rehabilitation (PR) Program at their Hermitage, PA facility. PR is a therapeutic rehabilitative service for individuals who have serious mental illnesses. These services may decrease the need for or shorten the length of a stay in inpatient, partial hospitalization and day treatment settings. The dramatic increase in this program's demand over the past several years (600% in in the last seven years) has seriously strained the ability of CCC to service clients who need PR. The primary mode of treatment for PR is group based services. CCC's current meeting space at their Hermitage facility severely limits the ability to conduct group based treatment services.

CCC will correct the problem by doing an extensive interior construction in a storage room on the east side of their building. This renovation will consist of a complete reconstruction of a current unusable 500 square foot storage room. The project will require re-purposing existing mechanical and storage space into a teaching/rehabilitation residential style kitchen. The new room will be equipped with appliances, cabinets and sinks and will be fully-accessible to the disabled. The scope of work includes a new wall and door, floor, wall and ceiling finishes and mechanical and electrical infrastructure.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded from the NEPA requirements (24 CFR Part 58.35) and there is no requirement for an environmental assessment. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) which documents the Environmental Review of the project has been made by the Grantee and more fully sets forth the reasons why a full Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This ERR is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying, upon request between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Mercer County. All comments received by April 2, 2017 will be considered by Mercer County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Mercer County certifies to the Commonwealth that Matthew McConnell in his capacity as Mercer County Commissioner consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. DCED's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Mercer County to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

DCED will accept objections to its release of funds and acceptance of the certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the grantee's Certifying Officer; (b) the grantee has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DCED; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Department of Community and Economic Development, Office of Community Development, 4th Floor, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120. Potential objectors should contact DCED to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Matthew McConnell
Mercer County Commissioner