

## STARK COUNTY'S FY 2021 HOME FUNDING

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners to administer the Stark County HOME program. Stark County receives this federal funding as a direct entitlement grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Last year, the County received \$853,392 in HOME funding; this was a 13% increase from the previous year. It is expected the County will receive approximately this same amount in FY 2021 funding. This funding will be available for use between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

HOME eligible activities are housing-related projects that benefit low-and moderate-income persons/households. Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) are encouraged to apply as 15% of the overall HOME allocation is required to be allocated to qualified CHDO projects. As such, the Consortium plans to provide approximately \$128,000+ of HOME funding to such activities.

Stark County participates in the HOME program as a consortium with both of the cities of Massillon and Alliance, thus a portion of Stark County's HOME funding will be provided to each. The cities will each receive 20% of the HOME grant balance after CHDO apportionment for use in their jurisdictions.

Major regulation changes took place with the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program a few years ago, and as these amendments were very significant to the overall program, potential HOME applicants are asked to familiarize themselves with the 2013 "HOME Final Rule" document and the changes it made to the overall HOME program.

A HOME "Request for Proposal" workshop will be held on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, with applications for this upcoming HOME program being due by Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at Noon. After the applications are received, they will be reviewed. A decision in regard to the 2021 program is expected to be presented to the public by mid-March, with a public hearing to take place in late March/early April presenting the proposed program to the Board of Stark County Commissioners. For questions about the HOME program, please contact either Katie Puleo, Planner, at 330-451-7031 or Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development at 330-451-7774.