

5-Year PHA Plan (for All PHAs)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing	OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires: 03/31/2024
-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

Purpose. The 5-Year and Annual PHA Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA’s operations, programs, and services, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public of the PHA’s mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families

Applicability. The **Form HUD-50075-5Y** is to be completed once every 5 PHA fiscal years by all PHAs.

A.	PHA Information.																																
A.1	<p>PHA Name: <u>Rockford Housing Authority</u> PHA Code: <u>IL-022</u></p> <p>PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): <u>10/01/2022</u> The Five-Year Period of the Plan (i.e. 2019-2023): <u>FY 2022-2026</u> PHA Plan Submission Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5-Year Plan Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Revised 5-Year Plan Submission</p> <p>Availability of Information. In addition to the items listed in this form, PHAs must have the elements listed below readily available to the public. A PHA must identify the specific location(s) where the proposed PHA Plan, PHA Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan are available for inspection by the public. Additionally, the PHA must provide information on how the public may reasonably obtain additional information on the PHA policies contained in the standard Annual Plan, but excluded from their streamlined submissions. At a minimum, PHAs must post PHA Plans, including updates, at each Asset Management Project (AMP) and main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official websites. PHAs are also encouraged to provide each resident council a copy of their PHA Plans.</p> <p>Rockford Housing Authority 223 South Winnebago Street Rockford, IL 61102</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete table below.)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Participating PHAs</th> <th rowspan="2">PHA Code</th> <th rowspan="2">Program(s) in the Consortia</th> <th rowspan="2">Program(s) not in the Consortia</th> <th colspan="2">No. of Units in Each Program</th> </tr> <tr> <th>PH</th> <th>HCV</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lead PHA:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Participating PHAs	PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program		PH	HCV	Lead PHA:																							
Participating PHAs	PHA Code					Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program																									
		PH	HCV																														
Lead PHA:																																	

B.	Plan Elements. Required for <u>all</u> PHAs completing this form.
B.1	Mission. State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years.
B.2	Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years.
B.3	Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.
B.4	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan.
C.2	<p>Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.</p> <p>(a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the 5-Year PHA Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the 5-Year PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations.</p>
C.3	<p>Certification by State or Local Officials.</p> <p>Form HUD-50077-SL, <i>Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan</i>, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.</p>
C.4	<p>Required Submission for HUD FO Review.</p> <p>(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, include Challenged Elements.</p>

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

D.1

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. (Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

Provide a statement of the PHA’s strategies and actions to achieve fair housing goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5). Use the chart provided below. (PHAs should add as many goals as necessary to overcome fair housing issues and contributing factors.) Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA is not obligated to complete this chart. The PHA will fulfill, nevertheless, the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) enacted prior to August 17, 2015. See Instructions for further detail on completing this item.

Fair Housing Goal:
<i><u>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</u></i>

Fair Housing Goal:
<i><u>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</u></i>

Fair Housing Goal:
<i><u>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</u></i>

Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-5Y - 5-Year PHA Plan for All PHAs

A. PHA Information. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR § 903.4)

A.1 Include the full **PHA Name**, **PHA Code**, **PHA Fiscal Year Beginning** (MM/YYYY), **Five-Year Period** that the Plan covers, i.e. 2019-2023, **PHA Plan Submission Type**, and the **Availability of Information**, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table.

B. Plan Elements.

B.1 Mission. State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years. (24 CFR § 903.6(a)(1))

B.2 Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families for the next five years. (24 CFR § 903.6(b)(1))

B.3 Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5- Year Plan. (24 CFR § 903.6(b)(2))

B.4 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. (24 CFR § 903.6(a)(3)).

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

C.1 Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan. For modifications resulting from the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, refer to the 'Sample PHA Plan Amendment' found in Notice PIH-2012-32, REV 2.

C.2 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments.

(a) Did the public or RAB have comments?

(b) If yes, submit comments as an attachment to the Plan and describe the analysis of the comments and the PHA's decision made on these recommendations. (24 CFR § 903.17(b), 24 CFR § 903.19)

C.3 Certification by State or Local Officials.

[Form HUD-50077-SL](#), *Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.

C.4 Required Submission for HUD FO Review.

Challenged Elements.

(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?

(b) If yes, include such information as an attachment to the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

(Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

D.1 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The PHA will use the answer blocks in item D.1 to provide a statement of its strategies and actions to implement each fair housing goal outlined in its accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) that states, in relevant part: "To implement goals and priorities in an AFH, strategies and actions shall be included in program participants' ... PHA Plans (including any plans incorporated therein) ... Strategies and actions must affirmatively further fair housing" Use the chart provided to specify each fair housing goal from the PHA's AFH for which the PHA is the responsible program participant – whether the AFH was prepared solely by the PHA, jointly with one or more other PHAs, or in collaboration with a state or local jurisdiction – and specify the fair housing strategies and actions to be implemented by the PHA during the period covered by this PHA Plan. If there are more than three fair housing goals, add answer blocks as necessary.

Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will not have to complete section D.; nevertheless, the PHA will address its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in part by fulfilling the requirements at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(3) enacted prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its own programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintain records reflecting these analyses and actions. Furthermore, under Section 5A(d)(15) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, a PHA must submit a civil rights certification with its Annual PHA Plan, which is described at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1) except for qualified PHAs who submit the Form HUD-50077-CR as a standalone document.

This information collection is authorized by Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act, which added a new section 5A to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, which introduced the 5-Year PHA Plan. The 5-Year PHA Plan provides the PHA's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families and the progress made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 1.64 hours per year per response or 8.2 hours per response every five years, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Privacy Act Notice. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.

B.1	Mission. State the PHA’s mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA’s jurisdiction for the next five years.
------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

MISSION: To continue to create strategic partnerships with community stakeholders, design a diverse housing portfolio, leverage social service programming to unite and ensure residents are provided with safe and nurturing environments that lead to self-sufficiency, responsibility, and individual empowerment.

VALUES: Leadership, Quality, Accountability, Integrity, Consistency, Resourcefulness, Care, Collaboration, Respect, Professionalism

VISION: RHA provides pathways for people to enhance their quality of life through inclusive, affordable, and innovative housing initiatives while investing in the education, training, and personal development of our residents through strategic programming and partnerships while serving as a facilitator for neighborhood restoration by investing in our community and remaining committed to creating an atmosphere that promotes overall health, wellness, and economic growth, for a greater quality of life.

B.2	Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA’s quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years.
------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Please see the attached spreadsheet of RHA’s 5 – Year Strategic Goals and Objectives.

B.3	Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.
------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

RHA continues to achieve its mission and stated goals by expanding the supply of quality affordable housing, promoting economic opportunities and consistently seeking to ensure equal opportunity for affordable housing in our community.

Current Programing

Further, RHA has been approved for the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program (RAD). Under RAD, multiple RHA conventional public housing units may be converted to project-based vouchers. Therefore, a need has been identified to provide a continuum of service provisions to HCV participants focusing on self-sufficiency directives. An administrative decision has been made to extend the FSS program to participants living within RAD replacement housing developments.

One of the most frequently visited topics is the need for more training and employment opportunities. Resident’s share that they feel disengaged, and that being connected and having access to employment resources and other educational training opportunities would help improve their level of self-sufficiency and success drastically. We find that family financial security is

often inconsistent for residents, which is a major contributing factor to poverty and centralized poverty. It often lends itself to an inability to meet immediate needs and eliminate barriers. For these reasons, RHA had developed programming under the theme: Launch My Future in 2018 to help residents benefit from a streamlined platform that allows for goal setting, service coordination, case management, collaboration, networking, training, and support. Over the last 2 years, Launch My Future has continued to enhance its opportunities and revamp its approach to best assist residents who are interested in taking advantage what the programs has to offer them and their community.

The Launch My Future platform brings training resources, employment opportunities and focus back to the table for our RHA residents and the Rockford community. Constant and consistent program enhancement and planning is crucial to the success of the Launch My Future Programming. New community partnerships are being explored and innovative ideas are being discussed on a weekly basis. Residents will have new opportunities to engage and connect to one-another while learning to believe and empower themselves as members of a strong, growing community while focusing on the main goal of improving their overall level of self-sufficiency and well-being. This is precisely what Launching My Future aims to accomplish. With proper support and investment, this model has the potential to improve RHA families' financial stability and quality of life substantially. See updated topics below:

Empowerment & Life Skills Building:

- Personal Empowerment & Goals
- Health & Wellness
- Housekeeping & Independent Living
- Parenting & Early Learning

Educational Development & Networking:

- Financial Empowerment & Planning
- Employment & Education
- Digital Empowerment
- Leadership Development
- Homeownership

Special Programs & Initiatives:

- ConnectHome
- Grow with Google
- Microsoft Office Certification
- Resident Leadership Council

ConnectHome:

Public Housing Authorities and The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have collaborated to connect children and families in HUD-assisted housing with access to high-speed Internet through an initiative called “ConnectHome”. As a ConnectHome pilot community, the ConnectHome Project Initiative of the Rockford Housing Authority is working to build a bridge over the digital divide by partnering with internet service providers to bring low-cost, high-speed internet access to RHA residents in their homes. We are also working to

help our residents complete free digital literacy training, and opportunities to provide them with a free desktop computer and other devices. As technology becomes an integral part of our lives, it is important to help RHA residents and their families enrich their lives through technology. Since the start of the RHA ConnectHome Initiative, 300 + residents have been connected to internet broadband services, free digital literacy training opportunities and device access. RHA has Digital Inclusion Instructor tasked with building the capacity of the ConnectHome initiative to link the residents to the services available to them by developing outreach, funding, sustainability, partnerships, and training opportunities.

Resident Opportunities & Self-Sufficiency

ROSS is a HUD initiative program that links residents to supportive services and activities, enabling them to make progress towards economic independence and housing self-sufficiency. Grantees can identify additional goals based on the needs of the communities they serve.

For families, the ROSS program is intended to enable participants to:

- Make progress toward economic independence and housing self-sufficiency.
- Reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance; and
- Increase earned income.

For elderly (age 62+) participants and persons with disabilities, the ROSS program aims to:

- Enhance the quality of life by connecting residents to services and activities.
- Enable participants to age/remain in place; and
- Avoid more costly forms of care, such as nursing homes or other institutional facilities.

Through needs assessments, case management, and referrals to community- and web-based services, ROSS Service Coordinators help each participant advance towards the above goals in ways that best fit their needs, personal priorities, and interests. RHA currently serves 136 ROSS participants.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

FSS is a HUD-initiated program that encourages communities to develop local strategies to assist families receiving any type of government subsidy with the tools to increase job opportunities, obtain, and maintain employment and provide life skills enhancements designed to promote economic independence and self-sufficiency. Public housing agencies (PHAs) work in partnership with welfare agencies, schools, businesses, and other local community partners to develop a comprehensive program that provides participating FSS family members with the opportunity to develop the skills and experience to enable them to obtain employment that pays a living wage (i.e., suitable employment).

Previously, the FSS program was structured to only include a single track and all participants were required to establish an escrow account to be in “good standing” and focus on homeownership as a desired goal. The re-designed FSS program offers four (4) distinct paths to self-sufficiency. This restructuring also allowed FSS staff to look at more targeted efforts for requirement as well as the ability to pilot new programs that residents voiced; they need in order

to be successful. RHA has organized Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) workshops centered around essential services for self-sufficiency in Education, training, employment, and Money Management.

New Resident Orientations

In November of 2016, Rockford Housing Authority produced a comprehensive orientation for new move-in residents of housing. Since its start, 300 + residents have attended New Resident Orientation monthly seminars. The program is designed to educate new RHA residents on their tenant and community responsibilities as well as share resources and available opportunities. Orientation begins with a presentation from the RHA Operations team covering the main points on their management lease: rent payments, violations, expectations, etc. Residents are encouraged to get to know their neighbors and to treat their new community with respect.

The second part of orientation discusses both the internal and external programming and resources available to RHA residents. The goal is to offer attendees a personal point of view and to help them make a connection to their new neighborhood, buildings, services, and available programming options.

Rockford Housing Authority believes the orientation program is a successful way to educate residents before problems and issues occur as well as expose them to available opportunities for success and self-sufficiency. By having this program in place, RHA can ease the resident's transition to their new home, answer questions about and encourage participation in life and help develop strong relationships, all while improving the lives of clients.

RHA Bridges out of Poverty

Reducing the social costs of poverty, strengthening the workforce, and building a more prosperous and sustainable community are goals on which most communities agree. RHA Bridges Out of Poverty community support program provides a family of concepts, workshops, and products to help address and reduce poverty in a comprehensive way. Bridges bring people from all sectors and economic classes together to improve job retention rates, build resources, improve outcomes, and support those who are moving out of poverty.

The four major components of the program are:

- **Removing Barriers for Under-Resourced Clients**
- **Building Community Sustainability**
- **Getting Ahead**
- **Transition to Success**

The Bridges Out of Poverty community support program helps:

1. Move individuals from poverty to self-sufficiency
2. Reduce social costs related to crime, poor health, and welfare
3. Strengthen educational attainment and job skills
4. Enhance economic development
5. Improve on-the-job productivity
6. Revitalize neighborhoods
7. Build sustainable communities

Lifeforce Development Institute:

A preparation course teaching vital job skills & professional development that will increase employability opportunities. Job/Career Readiness Skills- based training to both RHA Residents and community members. The LDI Curriculum addresses the foundational skill gap in the workforce with a 12-week, hands-on learning program covering Job/Career Readiness Skills meeting the community's workforce goals.

RHA Financial Wellness Program:

RHA Financial Empowerment classes teach residents the basics of money management: budgeting, saving, debt, investing, and giving. That knowledge lays a foundation for residents to build healthy money habits early on and avoid many of the mistakes that lead to lifelong money struggles. Financial Sessions teaches the skills and knowledge that allows the resident to make informed and effective decisions with all of their financial resources. Statically people with appropriate economic empowerment training make better financial decisions and manage money better than those without such training.

Senior Wellness Initiative Program:

Rockford Housing Authority's W.I.S.D.O.M. (Wellness Initiative for Seniors meeting the Demands of Maturity) Program; is a health and wellness program that aims to help seniors increase their knowledge and awareness of issues related to health and the aging process. Wellness is a conscious, deliberate process that requires being aware of and making choices for a more satisfying lifestyle. This program improves function and promotes successful living among older adults.

Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board:

(WCCMHB) on helping residents with Mental Health concerns find opportunities to engage in the services needed for better mental stability.

Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board offers support to any residents suffering from serious mental illness and addictions. The use of clinical, evidence-based practices allows individuals with serious mental illness and addictions to remain in the community while accessing their care needs.

Family Counseling Services of Northern Illinois:

Family Counseling Services of Northern Illinois, to help any resident struggling with any type of concern, rather major or minor. The goal is to strengthen the residents to strive within the community by providing individuals and their families with quality counseling at an affordable rate.

Jobs Plus Initiative:

RHA will implement the HUD Jobs Plus Initiative the Jobs Plus program develops locally based, job-driven approaches that increase earnings and advance employment outcomes through work readiness, employer linkages, job placement, educational advancement, technology skills, and financial literacy for residents of public housing. The place-based Jobs Plus program addresses poverty among public housing residents by incentivizing and enabling employment through

earned income disregards for working residents and a set of services designed to support work including employer linkages, job placement and counseling, educational advancement, and financial counseling. Ideally, these incentives will saturate the target public housing projects (referred to as "projects" hereafter), building a culture of work and making working residents the norm.

The Jobs Plus program model comprises these three core components (further described below):

1. Employment-Related Services
2. Financial/Rent Incentive – Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (JPEID)
3. Community Support for Work

We connect participants with any other needed services to remove barriers to work. An Individualized Training and Services Plan (ITSP) is developed for each participant to establish goals and service strategies, and to track progress.

Blackhawk Boys & Girls Club: The Blackhawk Unit was founded in 1988 and is located within Blackhawk Courts community, which consists of over 300 low-income subsidized units. Blackhawk serves 650 members annually and nearly 100 members 6-18 daily. The Club's members are primarily from the Blackhawk neighborhood and Beyer School. The Blackhawk Unit collaborates with the Rockford Housing Authority and runs an after-school program that offers recreational activities, life skills, homework assistance, digital literacy training and computer access. A daily program operates during the summer providing structured activities, the summer food program, and field trips.

Goal 1: Establish meaningful Partnerships with up to 25 agencies that will assist families with becoming economically self-sufficient

Objective A: Enhance community collaboration by creating up to 25 MOUs with agencies

throughout the county.

Objective B: Build alliances with appropriate community partners to increase access to education (early learning/PreK through college) job training, social services,

mental health, physical health, financial security, and economic opportunities.

Objective C: Conduct quarterly community meetings to establish new potential partners.

Objective D: Link participants to services and programs that help to improve parental engagement, effective supervision, and school involvement.

Goal 2: Reduce Dependency on HUD Grant Funds

Objective A: Identify other sources of tax credit and grant funding including state and local dollars, and public and private foundation funds. Diversify.

Objective B: Create business opportunities including consulting and training activities.

Goal 3: Establish meaningful partnerships with key educational institutions, including Rock

**Valley College, Rockford University, Northern Illinois University,
Rockford Public Schools District, and other school districts throughout the county**

Objective A: Work closely with local educational institutions to ensure that the diverse needs of RHA's low-income populations are addressed.

Objective B: Support the development of programs that can educate college students about

housing, including internship programs through Rock Valley College, Northern Illinois University & Rockford University.

Objective C: Work with local colleges to develop unique partnerships that can benefit both

students and residents of public housing, including scholarships and matching programs.

Objective D: Implement data sharing agreement with local school districts to provide better data and supports to families in our housing.

Goal 4: Streamline and Improve the Process of Identifying and Applying for Funds

Objective A: Create internal tracking and monitoring systems

Objective B: Develop boilerplate proposals for PHAs and non-HUD funder

Goal 5: Develop, sustain, and manage programs that support programs that support self-sufficiency through education & employment training- for families in public housing and those with vouchers

Objective A: Review and evaluate existing Resident Services programs to determine the effectiveness and to institute appropriate changes.

Objective B: Design, implement and sustain exceptional programs that invest in residents

and program participants to become self-sufficient through an array of educational, economic, and health-related platforms

Objective C: Create and implement (and/or contract for) programs that address the distinct

and diverse needs of the voucher and public housing households such as:

- Financial empowerment
- Job training
- Youth development
- Employment
- Childcare
- After-school programs
- Asset building

Goal 6: Bring in Sufficient Funds from Grants, Consulting, Training and/or Other Activities Each Year to Fully Support Operations – includes Fee for Service with

RHA.

Objective A: Develop a full cost of operation

Objective B: Establish budget and funding targets annually

Objective C: Internally track and monitor the flow of funds

Goal 7: Enhance the quality of life for residents, specifically youth and seniors, by establishing ongoing programming.

Objective A: Establish a community garden by partnering with the University of Illinois Extension that will be managed by Senior Residents.

Objective B: Partner with community agencies that work with youth to implement after school or summer programming

Objective C: Conduct safety education programs for youth residences & their parents.

Objective D: Partner with organizations that will conduct monthly activities for Senior Residents

Objective E: Maintain and expand supportive services to increase independence for the elderly or families with disabilities

Objective F: Partner with other agencies and/or create programs that provide unique experience for Housing Authority youth, including field trips, college visits, and enrichment activities.

Goal 8: Streamline and Improve the Process of Reporting Progress to Funders

Objective A: Automate case management information

Objective B: Automate the Logic Model for each HUD grant award

Objective C: Automate and track goals and objectives for all other awards

Goal 9: Increase the Percentage of Bridge and RHA Residents That Are Served by RSD

Objective A: Establish an HSD presence on-site, funds allowing

Objective B: Increase the number of successful partnerships with local service provider organizations, and encourage them to provide services in RHA communities.

Keys to Success

1. Successfully transition the team and internal functions from a unit within the Rockford Housing

Authority to the nonprofit spin-off

2. Aggressively seek cash flow producing housing and human service opportunities

3. Aggressively pursue alternative sources of funding

4. Expand activities to reach more people

5. Implement program management controls and accountability.

Summary

In an ongoing accomplishment, the HSD is engaging residents, community, and staff to align our efforts to make sustainable change in our community. By following this strategic plan, RHA will offer a “campus of learners” environment that will be accessible to all residents. Families will be provided holistic wrap-around services, which will decrease barriers, promote empowerment and self-sufficiency. Residents will be better prepared when they move out of public housing and into the private market.

Residents now have opportunities and/or receive benefits to become empowered and self-sufficient, such as:

- Financial stability through our FSS & ROSS programs
- Training & education through our new Launch My Future Programming
- Digital Empowerment and Connectivity through our Connect Home Program
- Leadership opportunities through our Resident Council Training
- Employment with our new Section 3 Initiative & Lifeforce Development Institute
- Homeownership with our Path to Homeownership Program

While the programs offered by HSD are high quality and effective, they serve a small percentage of RHA residents and participants. A significant task of Bridge Rockford is to expand its activities to reach more residents through more programs and ser

B.4	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA’s goals, activities, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

RHA has a robust VAWA Plan, including policies within the Administrative Plan, the ACOP, and the RHA website. In addition, a notice is provided to all applicants and residents during the initial in-take of application, move-in, and annually during the recertification process. Chapter in the ACOP and Admin Plan in which VAWA policies are mentioned include but are not limited to: Types of Resident requested Transfers/High Priority Transfer Request (Ch.11-III.B.); Fair housing and equal opportunity (Ch. 2) Non-Discrimination 2-I; Admin Plan (Ch. 10-II.B. Initial PHA Role/ Participant Families).

At any time throughout the application process or tenancy, if a staff member has reason to believe that there is a need to initiate a referral due to domestic violence, a referral to our resident services team is initiated, along with the presentation of VAWA forms. If for any reason, it is believed that this referral would put the client at risk, another meeting will be requested, or another method of contact will be utilized to determine the need of the client.

The RHA resident Services team has built strong relationships with local service agencies that focus on and provides shelter for those who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. By connecting victims to appropriate local community agencies and

having policies in place that can expedite relocation, if necessary. RHA has a proven track record of providing the necessary services for victims.

C.1	Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan.
-----	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Significant Amendments/Substantial Deviation/Modifications

It is the intent of the Housing Authority to adhere to the mission, goals, and objectives outlined in the five-year capital and PHA plan. The plan, however, will be modified and re-submitted to HUD should a substantial deviation from program goals and objectives occur.

In accordance with 24 CFR 903.7 (r) (2) which requires public housing Authorities to identify the basic criteria the agency will use to determine a substantial deviation from its 5-Year Plan and significant amendments or modification to the 5-Year Plan and Annual Plan, the following definitions are offered:

Significant Amendments/Substantial Deviation/Modifications

- An addition or deletion of a strategic goal(s) identified in the 5-Year Plan. For example, checking or unchecking a PHA goal box.
- Changes of a significant nature to the Admissions and Occupancy Policy or Section 8 Administrative Plan
- Any change with regard to demolition or disposition, designation, homeownership programs or conversion activities outlined within the plan, with the exception of RAD conversion.
- Any change in the planned or actual use of federal funds for activities that would prohibit or redirect the Housing Authority’s strategic goals of increasing the availability of decent, safe and affordable housing for the citizens of the City of Rockford and Winnebago County.
- Any single or cumulative annual change in the planned or actual use of federal funds as identified in the five-year plan that exceeds 20% of the RHA’s annual program budgets for Section 8 or public housing activities; with the exception of those changes caused by Federal funding modifications.
- A mandate from local government officials, specifically the governing board of the Housing Authority, to modify, revise, or delete the long-range goals and objectives of the program.

A Substantial Deviation does not include:

- Any changes in HUD rules and regulations, which require or prohibit changes to activities listed herein.
- A need to respond immediately to Acts of God beyond the control of the Housing Authority, such as earthquakes, tornadoes, or other unforeseen significant events.
- Changes to the Capital Fund Value and Budget produced as a result of each approved RAD Conversion, regardless of whether the proposed conversion will include use of additional Capital Funds.
- Changes to the construction and rehabilitation plan for each approved RAD conversion; and
- Changes to the financing structure for each proposed and approved RAD conversion.