



**Inc. Village of Hempstead Community Development Agency
Annual Report
June 1, 2022- May 31, 2023**

Introduction

Inc. Village of Hempstead Community Development Agency (CDA) Mission Statement- To plan, execute, and effectuate projects, programs, and policies which address community revitalization; prevent and/or arrest conditions that create blight and deterioration; develop a viable community; create opportunities for economic development, affordable housing, and a better quality of life for the residents of the Village of Hempstead.

Agency Organizational Chart

Agency Chairman

Mayor Waylyn Hobbs, Jr.

Agency Members and Officers

Mayor Waylyn Hobbs, Jr., Chairman

Ubah Mohammed, Vice-Chairperson

Keria L. Blue, Member

Rosanne Small-Morgan, Member

Curtis Watts, Member

Danielle Oglesby, Commissioner

Sarian Parker, Executive Assistant/Acting Secretary

Melva Morales, Community Resource Officer

Committees

Audit and Finance Committee:

Mayor Waylyn Hobbs, Jr., Chairman

Keria L. Blue, Member

Ubah Mohammed, Member

Governance Committee:

Mayor Waylyn Hobbs, Jr., Chairman

Rosanne Small-Morgan, Member

Curtis Watts, Member

Major Initiatives

CDBG Program Accomplishments

The Agency applies every year on behalf of the Village of Hempstead to Nassau County Office of Community Development for U.S. Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funding. The Agency is a member of the Nassau County Consortium. Funding is available annually to communities that are awarded from September 1st to August 31st. Agency staff attends the Nassau County Office of Community Development public hearing annually to be informed of any changes to the program. CDA applied for the Village of Hempstead's 49th year CDBG funding including a budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Agency's proposed agreement is prepared by the Commissioner and approved by the Board after a CDA Public Hearing. Activities included in the application must meet the national objectives of the program (benefiting low- and moderate-income person defined as below 80% of Nassau County's median income) and/or aiding in the prevention or elimination of blight. Nassau County has reviewed the Village of Hempstead's application and has made suggestions to HUD for funding. CDA anticipates receiving our 49th year CDBG funding contract award in September 2023. CDA staff works closely with our public services to provide services to the community. CDA schedules meetings to prepare public service providers for the federal requirements under the community development block grant every year in February and March. The Agency held a CDBG public hearing and Workshop in February 2023. Starting in 2022, the Agency requires all public service organizations to sign a funding agreement with the CDA. The Agency staff performs site visits in order to monitor the progress of each funded program.

Residential Rehabilitation

The Village of Hempstead Community Development Agency (CDA) is pleased to offer Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for income eligible senior citizens age 60+ and/or handicapped persons for home repairs, energy conservation, remediation of code violations and to make handicap accommodations for homes in the Village of Hempstead. Funding is available only to homeowners who have lived in their homes to be improved for a minimum of one (1) year who meet income guidelines and are current in the payment of Nassau County and Village of Hempstead taxes. Applications can be found on the Agency's website. CDA has assisted eleven homeowners in the reporting period.

Commercial Rehabilitation

Ongoing maintenance and improvement to businesses within the Village of Hempstead is key to the Community Development Agency. CDA's goal is to encourage merchants to renovate or spruce-up their storefronts, attract new businesses, and strengthen existing ones creating a pleasant walkable community for everyone. To help achieve these goals CDA offers a Sign and or Awning Grant, up to a maximum of \$2,500.00 per business, as a contribution towards a new sign and or awning available to businesses. Applications are available on the CDA website.

Acquisition

CDA continues to work towards removing blight and providing affordable housing to Hempstead residents. In 2023, CDA was awarded HOME funds through the Nassau County Office of Community Development to rehabilitate a home. CDA is currently implementing plans to rehabilitate 40 Byrd Street, Hempstead. CDA strives to create safe and affordable housing in the

Village of Hempstead. Once fully rehabbed, 40 Byrd Street will be sold to a first-time homeowner through an affirmative marketing plan with the help of Long Island Housing Partnership. The public is informed of ongoing projects via the Agency's website, CDA Board meetings, through newspaper publications and social media.

Community Beautification

CDA uses Community Development Block Grant funding to perform clean up events in the Village of Hempstead. In coordination with Village of Hempstead Beautification, the Department of Public Works, the Police, and many volunteers, we are able to create and maintain flower beds, clean up litter, and paint equipment around the community. Some of our annual volunteers include the Adelphi University Freshman Community Action Program, the Adelphi Gives Back Committee, Village of Hempstead Beautification, and local public service organizations.

CDA received a NYS Urban Forestry Council (NYSUFC) Quick Start Grant to hold a Village of Hempstead Arbor Day Celebration in April 2023. The Village of Hempstead Arbor Day Celebration consisted of planting three Swamp White Oak trees at the Village of Hempstead Park, Denton Green located on James A. Garner Way in Hempstead, New York. The three Swamp White Oak trees were funded by the NYS Urban Forestry Council (NYSUFC) Quick Start Grant in efforts to becoming a designated Tree City USA Community. The Arbor Day event provided community members and students an opportunity to become involved in improving the environment. The Inc. Village of Hempstead partnered with the Hempstead Union Free School District, Economic Opportunity Commission (EOC) of Nassau County Community Action Program, and the Adelphi University STEP/LPP Program. The Village of Hempstead Arbor Day Celebration consisted of a total of forty-six K-12 students, along with many parents, and local teachers and school administrators.

Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA)

The Village of Hempstead has received the NYS Department of State Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) designation. CDA has been selected to continue planning efforts in the Downtown Overlay Zone through the NYS DOS Brownfield Opportunity Area program for pre-development activities to establish an innovation district known as the Empowerment District. CDA is working with AKRF and MUD to market up to three locations in the Village of Hempstead for an incubator space to provide workforce development.

Restore NY

The Village of Hempstead received an award from Restore NY to provide economic development funds to assist with the Conifer development on Main Street. This project will create 228 workforce units and new commercial space in the downtown.

Anti-crime, Anti-gang, and Anti-violence Programs

The CDA applied for a grant on behalf of the Village to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services to hold events that promote anti-crime, anti-gang, and anti-violence programs. This grant request is a Legislative Initiative by Assemblymember Darling. CDA assisted the Hempstead Police Department to provide three anti-gang community events at different locations throughout the Village.

Long-Term Financial Planning

The revitalization of the downtown along with the potential of affordable housing projects village-wide are key components of the Agency’s commitment to long-term fiscal responsibility, accountability, and efficiency. The financial plan includes projections of the Agency’s activities, related sources and uses of funding, including but not limited to CDBG and grant assistance. The goal is to encourage, sustain and develop economic stability and growth.

Relevant Financial Policies

To achieve the goal of providing outstanding, cost-effective services, the Agency applies best management practices and policies. Such financial management practices have been identified by the Authority Budget Office (“ABO”) and the Office of the State Comptroller. The Agency’s policies include the following: Procurement, Investment, Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Employee Compensation Policy, and Whistle Blower Policy. Additional information regarding these policies may be found on the Agency’s website.

Annual Plan

The Board reviews, approves, amends, and publishes an annual budget. The budget provides the Board, the Village, members of the public, and other interested parties with an overview of the Agency’s status of budgeted revenues, expenditures, and adjustments. The CDBG Agreement and the Annual Budget reflect the Agency’s approach to the fiscal management process.

Financial Reporting and Compliance

The Audit and Finance Committee oversees the financial reporting activities, results of operations, internal controls, and planned and long-term Agency commitments. The Audit and Finance Committee oversees and monitors the Agency’s compliance with current laws and regulations and applicable ethical standards, as well as conflicts of interest and fraud policies. The Audit and Finance Committee is composed of the Chairman and two board members.

Inc. Village of Hempstead Community Development Agency List of Properties

Section	Block	Lot(s)	Street Address
34	401	70	38 Thorne Avenue
34	378	192 and 14	21-27 Linden Avenue
34	378	88, 89, 90, and 91	Linden Avenue
34	360	717	172-174 South Franklin Street
34	248	140 and 141	34-36 James L.L. Burrell Avenue
34	244	1360, 1361, 1362, and 1363	1 Remsen Avenue
34	224	21	40 Byrd Street
34	289	158	118 Terrace Avenue