

St. Lawrence County
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
48 Court Street, Court House
Canton, New York 13617-1169
(315) 379-2276
FAX (315) 379-2463

RUTH A. DOYLE
County Administrator

DAVID W. FORSYTHE
Chair, Board of Legislators

Public Hearing

5:50 pm, Monday, August 4, 2025

Board of Legislators Chamber, County Courthouse

48 Court Street, Canton, NY 13617

***CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE PLANNING
AND DESIGN OF A NYS CDBG APPLICATION***

INTRODUCTION

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a federal community revitalization and development program that is administered by the New York Office of Community Renewal (OCR). The NYS CDBG program provides financial assistance to eligible cities, towns and villages with populations of less than 50,000 persons, and to counties with an area population under 200,000 persons, in order to develop viable communities by providing decent affordable housing, create suitable living environments, and enhance economic opportunities across the state. Eligible communities may apply for funding on their own, or they may ask the County to apply on their behalf.

Applicants to the NYS CDBG program must ensure that 70% of all activities principally benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons.

AMOUNT OF CDBG FUNDS AVAILABLE

On July 17, 2025 the NYS Homes and Community Renewal Housing Trust Fund Corporation Office of Community Renewal announced the availability of approximately \$17 million of State and Federal funds for NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for housing activities.

The available CDBG funds may be used for housing rehabilitation or infrastructure in support of existing housing. Beneficiaries of these funds must be primarily LMI persons.

Applications for CDBG funds must be made through the Community Development Online (CDOL) Application System. For further information about CDOL, see

<https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-online>

For further information about funding opportunities under the NYS CDBG Program, see

<https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant>

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF CDBG FUNDS PROPOSED FOR ACTIVITIES THAT BENEFIT LMI NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

CDBG activities must meet a **National Objective**, to provide benefit to persons with low and moderate incomes (defined as household income at or below 80% of County Median Household Income, adjusted for household size; see attached for current LMI limits).

Applicants that propose to provide Area Benefit must provide data to demonstrate that at least 51% of persons who will benefit from CDBG assistance are LMI.

Applicants that propose to provide Direct Benefit must exclusively serve LMI persons.

Applicants that propose to provide Limited Clientele Benefit must provide assistance to persons presumed by HUD to be principally LMI persons. Abused children, elderly persons, battered spouses, homeless persons, disabled persons, and others are presumed by HUD to be principally LMI.

FUNDING LIMITS FOR 2025 NYS CDBG PROGRAM FOR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

The total amount of funding available to NYS non-entitlement communities for this application round is \$17 million. Counties, towns, villages, and cities may apply for a maximum of \$750,000 for home rehabilitation and \$1.5 million for infrastructure in support of existing housing.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PROPOSAL

St. Lawrence County proposes to use approximately \$675,000 in NYS CDBG funding to help 14 LMI households rehabilitate their homes. Based on actual expenses from the County's almost completed Countywide Housing Rehabilitation Program, Round #5 (CHRP 5), the County anticipates each participating household will receive grants of approximately \$40,000 per housing unit for repairs to bring the home up to standard condition. The CHRP will exclusively serve LMI persons. The County anticipates an overall Direct Benefit to LMI persons of more than 90%.

The County intends to distribute these CHRP funds to clients on a countywide basis, as the need for housing rehabilitation assistance exists throughout the County. This approach allows the CHRP to be flexible enough to provide assistance where the demand for rehabilitation assistance is high, and to have access to an adequate pool of eligible participants to consider.

The County has operated a housing rehabilitation program since 1982, and has assisted over 665 households to make repairs to their homes.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Households may be eligible to participate in the County's CHRP 6 if they:

- Earn less than 80% of the County's Median Household Income Limit (see attached);
- Own their home, and have lived in it for one year or more;

Prospective applicants must complete an application, verify household income and ownership of the home, have homeowners insurance, etc., in order to receive assistance.

The County is committed to assisting those households with the greatest need.

Persons interested in participating in the Program are encouraged to contact the St. Lawrence County Planning Office at 315-379-2292 to be placed on the Program's waiting list. The waiting list currently has over 200 qualified applicants.

PROJECT TIME LINE

- Application Deadline: 4:00 PM on Friday September 19, 2025.
- Grant award is anticipated to be made by the end of 2025.
- Program start-up typically commences within 90 days of the grant award.
- Maximum of two years to complete the project from the date of grant award.

PROPOSED CDBG ACTIVITIES LIKELY TO RESULT IN DISPLACEMENT / ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY DISPLACEMENT & RELOCATION PLAN

St. Lawrence County maintains an Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan for its housing activities. In the event a Community Development Block Grant funded project demolishes or converts low- and moderate-income housing, the County will implement its Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan. This Plan outlines the procedures to provide relocation and displacement assistance to households, as well as preventative steps to minimize displacement from occurring.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

As an applicant for CDBG funds, St. Lawrence County is committed to provide technical assistance to groups representative of persons with LMI that request assistance in developing proposals in accordance with procedures developed by the State. However, such assistance does not include providing funds to such groups.

FAIR HOUSING STATEMENT

The County of St. Lawrence is an equal opportunity housing provider. The County and its subrecipient do not discriminate against applicants for housing assistance based on their race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, familial status or disability.

WRITTEN COMMENTS on this proposed application may be submitted by mail to Jason Pfothenhauer, Director of Planning, St. Lawrence County, 48 Court Street, Canton, NY 13617 or by email to jpfotenhauer@stlawco.gov until September 5, 2025.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Sam Joseph, Planner II
St. Lawrence County Planning Office
48 Court Street, Canton, NY 13617-1169

(315) 379-2292
Fax: (315) 379-2252
E-mail: sjoseph@stlawco.gov

FY 2025 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income
St. Lawrence County, NY	\$89,100

FY 2025 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)*	\$18,750	\$21,400	\$26,650	\$32,150	\$37,650	\$43,150	\$48,650	\$54,150
Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	\$31,200	\$35,650	\$40,100	\$44,550	\$48,150	\$51,700	\$55,250	\$58,850
Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	\$49,950	\$57,050	\$64,200	\$71,300	\$77,050	\$82,750	\$88,450	\$94,150