

CITY of AMARILLO

HOME ARP Allocation Plan

HOME ARP Allocation Plan
2023

SUMMARY	3
CONSULTATION	6
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	27
NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAPS ANALYSIS	35
HOME-ARP ACTIVITIES	58
HOME-ARP FUNDING	59
HOME-ARP PRODUCTION HOUSING GOALS	60
PREFERENCES	60
REFERRAL METHODS	61
LIMITATIONS IN A HOME-ARP RENTAL HOUSING OR NCS PROJECT	62
HOME-ARP REFINANCING GUIDELINES	62
APPENDIX A: RESOURCES	63
APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHICS	65

SUMMARY

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into law, which provides over \$1.9 trillion in relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The **HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP)** is a part of ARP. It provides \$5 billion in ARP funds to HOME Participating Jurisdictions (PJ) and States to address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services. HOME ARP funding allows PJs and States to perform four activities that must primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations.

These activities include:

1. Development and support of affordable housing,
2. Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA),
3. Provision of supportive services; and
4. Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

ARP defines qualifying individuals or families as those that are:

1. **Homeless**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 11302(a)) ("McKinney-Vento");
2. **At risk of homelessness**, as defined in section 401 of McKinney-Vento;
3. **Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;**
4. Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would **prevent a family's homelessness** or would **serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;** or
5. **Veterans and families** that include a veteran family member that meets the criteria in one of (1)-(4) above.

To receive its HOME-ARP allocation, the City of Amarillo must develop a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan that includes:

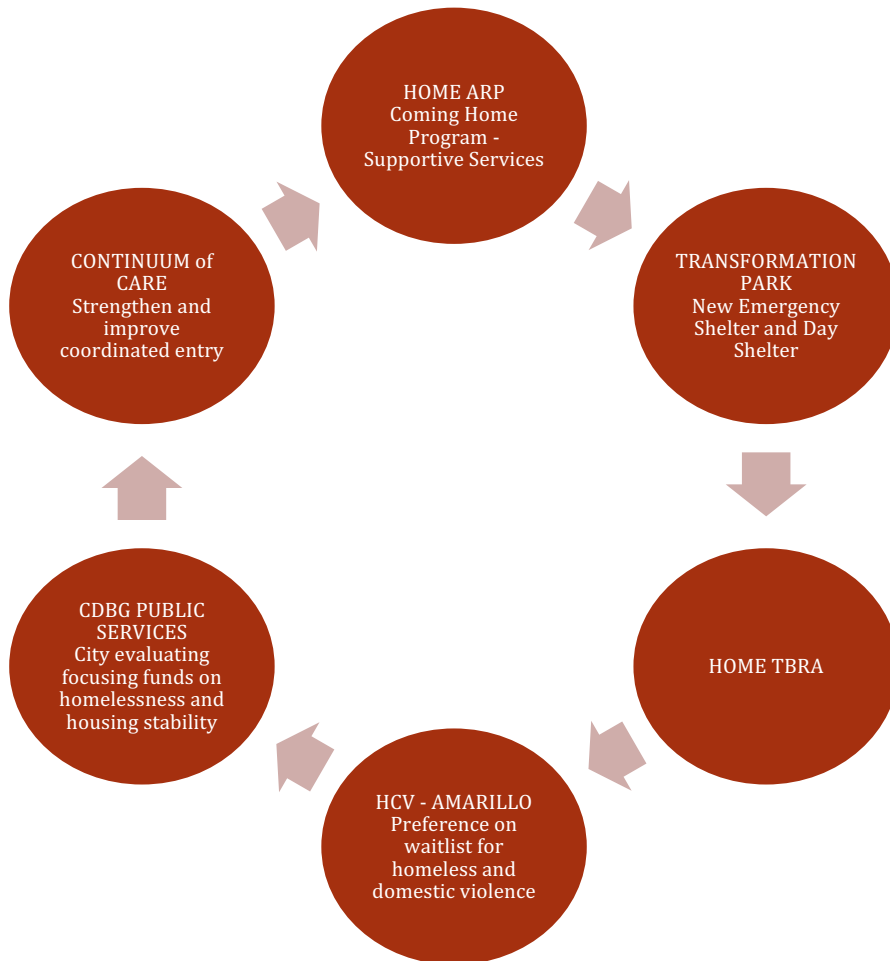
- Consultation with organizations required by HUD and community stakeholders;
- A public comment period of at least 15-day public and one public hearing;
- A needs assessment and gap analysis for HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations;
- A description of proposed HOME-ARP activities, including the amount of funding planned for each activity;
- An estimate of the number of affordable rental units that will be produced for HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations;
- Preferences, if any;
- Refinancing guidelines, if any; and
- Certifications that the Consortium members will affirmatively further fair housing and comply with all applicable cross-cutting federal regulations.

HOME ARP FUNDING SUMMARY

The City of Amarillo will receive **\$2,560,840.00** as an **American Rescue Plan Act HOME Supplemental Allocation**. The City plans to spend the funding on supportive services to help the City's HOME ARP qualifying populations. The HOME ARP supportive services will help augment the programs that the City already has in place or are in development to address homelessness and housing instability.

Eligible Activities	85% of the funding will be used for supportive services. (\$2,176,714.00) 15% will be used for program administration and planning. (\$384,126.00)
Preference Methods	The City will not use any preference methods to determine who will access supportive services first. All eligible residents who meet the requirements of a qualifying population will be served.
Referral Method	The City's homelessness community outreach team, Coming Home, will provide intake and eligibility screening for all program participants . The Coming Home team will take referrals from the Coordinated Entry (CE) for Continuum of Care participating organizations and outside referrals.
Waitlist	The City will not have a waiting list that has preference for one qualifying population over another. If the City does establish a waitlist, the eligible applicants will be served in chronological order .

The City of Amarillo has developed a comprehensive plan to address homelessness and housing instability. The plan of approach includes various activities and funding sources that will help provide comprehensive momentum in the community to create more stable housing options.



HOME ARP - Coming Home – The City has a community outreach team that helps residents who are homeless or in need of assistance to access services. Coming Home team members do coordinated entry intake, refer eligible residents to the City's HOME TBRA program and HCV, and access social services.

Through the Coming Home program, the City has been able to begin a pilot program titled the PREP Academy which has been successful. This program allows the City of Amarillo to employ people experiencing homelessness and those who have recently transitioned out of homelessness.

- **Transformation Park** – This innovative program is slated to open in 2024. Transformation Park will include a day shelter, emergency shelter in tiny homes, meeting rooms for participants to access social services. The emergency shelters will be low barrier.

Transformation Park is estimated to cost \$10m. The City is supporting the project with \$1.1m in ARPA SLFRF and \$3.9m from the general fund. The project will be located near multi-modal transit center.

- **HOME TRBA** – The City currently funds it's Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) utilizing HUD HOME funding.
- **CDBG Public Services** – The city is the process of evaluating whether to focus public services activities to those centered around homelessness and housing instability.
- **Housing Choice Voucher** - The City's Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) is managed by the City's Community Development Department. Residents who are experiencing homelessness or domestic violence are placed on a priority waitlist for an HCV voucher.
- **Coordinated Entry** - The Continuum of Care is working to reevaluate and improve coordinated entry.

CONSULTATION

The City of Amarillo consulted with agencies and service providers whose clientele includes the HOME-ARP qualifying populations to identify unmet needs and gaps in the housing or service delivery system before developing its HOME-ARP allocation plan. In addition, the City of Amarillo used the consultation to determine the HOME-ARP eligible activities currently taking place within its jurisdiction and potential collaborations for administering HOME-ARP. This consultation provided a basis for the city's strategy for distributing HOME-ARP funds for eligible activities to best meet the needs of qualifying populations.

The City consulted with;

- CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction's geographic area,
- Homeless and domestic violence service providers,
- Veterans' groups,
- Public housing agencies (PHAs),
- Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations,
- Public or private organizations that address fair housing,
- Public or private organizations that address civil rights,
- Public or private organizations that address the needs of persons with disabilities.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The City reached out and had **41 organizations** and conducted individual interviews with organizations that were required as part of the HUD HOME ARP notice. The individual consultation sessions included a brief overview of HOME-ARP qualifying populations and eligible activities. Participants were asked for input on what they see as the most significant barriers and gaps in services for their clients. The City also presented information on the HOME ARP Plan and gathered feedback at **January 12, 2023, Continuum of Care** board meeting and general membership meeting.

ARP defines qualifying individuals or families as those that are:

1. **Homeless**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 11302(a)) ("McKinney-Vento");
2. **At risk of homelessness**, as defined in section 401 of McKinney-Vento;
3. **Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;**
4. Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would **prevent a family's homelessness** or would **serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;** or
5. **Veterans and families** that include a veteran family member that meet the criteria in one of (1)-(4) above.

Note: Each of the qualifying population are noted below in the "services provided to which qualifying population" as the assigned number above. For example "Homeless" qualifying population is the numeral 1.

ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo Continuum of Care – TX-611 Continuum of Care board meeting and general membership meeting
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Continuum of Care
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 The Amarillo Continuum of Care (CoC) provides community-wide planning and coordination among both homeless and mainstream service providers to ensure individuals and families get the help they need to leave homelessness and become stably housed.
	Method of Consultation	Presentation and attendance at a board meeting Presentation and attendance at a general membership meeting
	Feedback	Continuum of Care board members and general membership supported the City's plan to provide continued funding to the Coming Home program with HOME ARP funding.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo Independent School District (AISD) - Families in Transition/Homeless Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1 AISD provides support and service for students and their families who qualify as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	AISD stated that many families who are experiencing homelessness struggle with accessing emergency shelters. There are only a handful of family rooms at the Salvation Army, and they are often full. Like other stakeholders, they said that the age and condition of the rental housing stock mean that families are living in substandard conditions.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Another Chance House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 5

		Another Chance House provides case management services for homeless men and homeless vets and people in various stages of drug/alcohol recovery. Clients receive assistance obtaining ID, birth certificates, and drivers licenses. Case managers provide counseling, employment services, assistance with budgeting, transportation services, and assistance with paying old debt.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Clients at Another Change house are most in need of shelter, weather-appropriate clothing, assistance getting IDs, education services, and transportation. They report that the most significant barrier is accessing mental health resources for clients.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Coming Home – City of Amarillo
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	All: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Coming Home has five main components: street outreach, housing navigation, case management, peer support, and prep academy. Outreach teams meets individuals where they are, physically and mentally, in order to provide life-saving supplies, address vital needs, and seek out individuals that may be ready for transition to long-term housing. They provide assistance on the front lines and build rapport and trust that will allow the City of Amarillo and other organizations to effectively engage with individuals in our city.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Client face challenges with language barriers and translation services. A lack of housing for the elderly continues to be a significant obstacle.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Downtown Women's Shelter
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	3 Downtown Women's Shelter works to provide women with housing and services to overcome homelessness and addiction. They manage and run transitional housing for 78 women and 40 children. They provide onsite daycare, a youth rehabilitation program, and a comprehensive drug/alcohol treatment program.

	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The Downtown Women's Shelter stated that there is a need for behavioral and substance abuse treatment for children in Amarillo. There is a general lack of service and support for kids and young adults. Currently, many families only have access to in-patient programs that are out of the area – making it challenging to participate in family treatment and counseling.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Support Services (FSS)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	3, 5 FSS serves over 25,000 people each year, including victims of sexual assault, family violence, and human trafficking; at-risk children, families, and individuals; people in need of individual, group, marital, and family counseling; and veterans, family members of veterans, and surviving spouses. FSS services include crisis and emergency housing services for victims of family violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, individual and family counseling services, prevention services, and a wide variety of services for Veterans, their families, and surviving spouses.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	There is an ongoing challenge with not having enough beds for families experiencing domestic violence to meet demand. Additionally, families that are transitioning out of emergency shelter into house are also moving into homes with no appliances and no air conditioning. AC is not a requirement, only heat.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	No Boundaries
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	3 No Boundaries is working to reduce human trafficking in Amarillo. They provide services to 150 families are week. Their program includes a food pantry, clothes closet, outreach in the strip clubs, and inner healing classes for victims of sex trafficking. They provide immediate assistance with whatever the individual needs to get away from their trafficker. During the interview they stated that at any point in time, anyone can go online and find 100 advertisements for "companionship" in Amarillo.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview

	Feedback	The biggest problem is the number of people who are willing to pay for sex, and fear that victims have of getting help. Clients also struggle to access services at No Boundaries due to the city bus not running in the evening.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Panhandle Adult Rebuilding Center (thePARC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1 thePARC serves 35 to 45 people experiencing homelessness each day. thePARC has a day room that hosts projects and activities focusing on relationships, art classes, business classes, budgeting, and financial management.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	thePARC center reports that their clients' most significant issue is accessing transportation. There is also a need for people to have someplace to shower and use the restroom. Businesses often run them off. They also need assistance getting their IDs and getting access to the internet.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Patsy's Place
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1 Patsy's Place is a Christ-centered transitional home in Amarillo, Texas. The volunteers and staff nurture and mentor women as they struggle to cope with the overwhelming obstacles they face almost immediately upon release from county jail or prison.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Patsy's Place currently has capacity for 12 women. They report that there is a need for a larger facility.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Salvation Army of Amarillo
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 5 Salvation Army of Amarillo has a 160 bed capacity emergency shelters. There are dorms for homeless men, families, women with children, a dorm for addictions, and veterans. Currently 60 beds are filled due to strict requirements. Programs include shelter and food, empower your youth summer camps and after school programs, and music and art programs.

	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The biggest challenge for clients is the lack of transportation; city buses are costly. There is also a need for more services to address drug/alcohol addiction. Clients also often have no access to affordable health care.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Saint Francis Ministries - Texas
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 3 Saint Francis Ministries offers foster care in Texas for children in need of a safe place to stay and a family to provide for their emotional, educational, medical, and special behavior needs. They also have facility in Lubbock that serves youth dealing with mental health and behavioral issues, survivors of human trafficking, and adults with intellectual and development disabilities.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Families often lack food and need assistance with housing services. They refer families to other local agencies for additional assistance.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Randall County Juvenile Rehabilitation - Youth Center of the High Plains
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 2, 3, 4 The mission of the Youth Center of the High Plains is to provide quality secure pre-adjudication services and a continuum of quality post-adjudication residential services. These services are to be provided in a way that assures a safe, structured, secure yet positive environment for youthful offenders while promoting the safety and welfare of the community in a professional, healthy workplace so that those served will have a better opportunity to become self-sufficient, productive, law-abiding citizens upon their release.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Clients need mental health services upon being released. They mostly need a stable home environment; kids thrive in long-term placement because they respond to the structured environment. Then they are released to a home environment that is not stable, and many will relapse into destructive behaviors. These kids need mentors/adults who will remain in their lives upon release. Someone who can give guidance and support long-term

13	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo VA Health Care System – HUD VASH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Veterans' groups
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>5</p> <p>Ending Veteran homelessness is a top priority of VA and the Biden-Harris Administration. Earlier this year, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness released All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, which set forth President Biden's ambitious goal to reduce all homelessness by 25% by 2025.</p> <p>Amarillo VA's U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) staff helped Veterans find housing in apartments or houses. The HUD subsidy is used to make housing affordable.</p> <p>The Amarillo VA Health Care System permanently housed 72 homeless Veterans in the Amarillo and Lubbock communities during 2022, providing them with the safe, stable homes they deserve.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Mental health issues are the biggest issue for helping veterans experiencing homelessness. It is challenge getting and keeping them on the proper medication. Transportation is also a problem. Transit program does not run after 6 pm and limits access to jobs.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Veterans Resource Centers (VRC) – Family Support Services of Amarillo (FSS)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Veterans' groups
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>5</p> <p>The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is a veteran-staffed drop-in facility that provides veterans, family members and surviving spouses with the opportunity to make their lives better.</p> <p>The VRC partners with local organizations that help military veterans and family members, including Socks for Soldiers, VetStar, Texas Workforce Solutions, West Texas Legal Aid, Texas Panhandle Centers, Panhandle Honor Flight, the Amarillo VA, and many others.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The VRC reports that they sometimes see female vets are too proud to ask for services. They find that these women, who don't have drug dependence issues or domestic violence history, will often fall through the cracks. There are no services for female vets with kids who lost their income.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Amarillo – TX 472

		Public Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public housing agencies (PHAs)
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	All: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 The City of Amarillo PHA has 1,157 housing choice vouchers (HCV). The waitlist has a priority for people who are experiencing homelessness and/or domestic violence.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The City of Amarillo Housing Authority reports that their clients struggle to find housing before their voucher expires, pay for rental deposits/criminal background checks, and locate rental units that will pass the HUD housing quality standards (HQS). There is a desperate need for more landlords to participate in the housing choice voucher program.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo College
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	All: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Amarillo College is a public community college. Career Ready You is Amarillo College's innovative new program that puts adult learners on a fast track to rewarding careers. The program combines college courses with High School Equivalency (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	There is a great need for tuition assistance, transportation, child care, and groceries. The college campus offers Hagg Day Care, but there's always a wait list. Some Student are resistant to ask for help/assistance.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo Police Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	All: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Amarillo Police Department receives calls from businesses and hospitals throughout the city with complaints about homeless people loitering around their places of business. Officers provide rides to day shelters around town, or hospitals if medical attention is needed. Sometimes officers will

		contact Texas Panhandle Centers Behavioral & Developmental Health (TPC) or Pavilion if mental health issue is suspected. If a crime has been committed, the person will be arrested.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The Amarillo Police Department reports that many of the people they encounter who are experiencing homelessness have mental health issues. Additionally, some have physical injury and need access to medical treatment.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Amarillo Department of Public Health (COADPH)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>COADPH is a public health provider. They distribute immunizations (for a fee), provide complete services for STD's, address communicable diseases, administer the RESET program (health, recreation, and nutrition), help with refugee resettlement, and communicate community health alerts.</p> <p>COADPH has an STD/HIV Street Outreach Team provides mobile services. The team offers STD/HIV risk reduction counseling, referrals to services, linkage to medical care, free risk reduction supplies (condoms, lubricant etc.), STD/HIV prevention education, testing for gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis and HIV.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	COADPH says that their biggest concern or unknown is COVID and flu season. All their services are popular and utilized. They only serve Potter and Randall Counties.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo Transitional Treatment Center (ATTC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Amarillo Transitional Treatment Center (ATTC), also known as Plainview Serenity Center, Inc., is a halfway house designed to provide supervised residential treatment for up to 59 men and women paroled through the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The facility is licensed for outpatient counseling for anyone recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.</p>

	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Transportation is badly needed to help them get to and home from work. ATTC is located 9 miles outside of city limits so the nearest bus stop is miles away. Also, Texas Panhandle Centers Behavioral & Developmental Health will not treat inmates who are not from Amarillo, so inmates who live out of town will not receive badly needed mental health services while at the treatment center. Regence health network helps with other medication.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Buckner Family Place
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Buckner Family Pathways provides single-parent families the opportunity to live in a safe, secure environment while completing their educational or vocational goals and learning the skills they need to be self-sufficient. Families are provided support through access to affordable housing, financial assistance, counseling, spiritual growth and case management services.</p> <p>Facility provides 16-unit housing (1 vacancy) for their Family Pathways Programs--individuals (with children) pursuing a college education.</p> <p>Transition programs</p> <p>Buckner transition programs are provided for current and former youth in state foster care. The goal of the program is to provide training, support and guidance to youth graduating from foster care that will enhance their ability to transition into independent living.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Clients using services with Buckner Family Place struggle with food insecurities as food stamps are limited or nonexistent. Food is not provided by Buckner.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Buckner Foster Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>1, 2, 3, 4</p> <p>Buckner Foster care provides foster care and youth intervention services in the Texas Panhandle. They provide after-care "aging out" services at age 18. Individuals are provided a voucher to assist with living expenses, rent, and groceries. They utilize local agencies including but not limited to: foodbanks, and nurse family partnerships. They also work with the Texas Workforce Commission which has an internal staff member to assist individuals with jobs and educational opportunities.</p>

		Clients can also use services at Buckner Family Pathways (housing program for individuals attending full-time college).
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Barriers for clients include transportation for young adults for work and mental health services. The greatest need for "aged-out" population is support and access to resources.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Cal Farley's Boy Ranch
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 2, 3, 4 Cal Farley's Boys Ranch is a community that provides basic to moderate care for children who are referred by their parent or guardian and who are in need of more supervision than can be provided at home. The program is not part of the juvenile justice system. They are residents of the ranch until they are 18 and graduate or unenrolled by their parent/guardian. The Boys Ranch also has an independent living program for graduates who would have no other place to live upon graduating. This program provides furnished apartments, pays the rent, and teaches them life. The rent collected is placed in a savings account and given back to the participants upon graduating from the program.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The biggest challenge clients in the transitional housing is lack of credit, a public bus system the stops running at 6pm, and lack of access to medical and mental health services.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Catholic Charities provides legal services, refugee resettlement, food pantry and prenatal care in Amarillo.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Catholic Charities stated that there is a substantial challenge in reaching and providing resources for chronically homeless veterans. Additionally, there is a need for more free dental services for low-income resident. Catholic Charities also noted that the community would benefit from having a drop in youth shelter or providing assisted living options for unaccompanied youth.

24	Agency/Group/Organization	Heal the City
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	1, 2, 3, 4 Heal the City is no cost health clinic. Programs include an acute care clinic, dental, pharmacy, vaccines, medication management, and spiritual care. The organization's goal is to provide quality healthcare to the uninsured community/population. Heal the City does not provide care to veterans due to the access to the VA Hospital.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Transportation continues to be a big concern for Heal the City clients. They will provide bus passes for clients as needed.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Northwest Texas Health Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Northwest Texas Health Hospital provides enough treatment to stabilize patients who are experiencing homelessness. Patients come in with illnesses and physical trauma. When they are ready to be discharged, all of the local shelters are contacted. They will either be dropped off at Salvation Army, Guyon Saunders Resource Center, Faith City Mission, or thePARC. If no discharge plan can be completed, the patient will have to stay until a discharge plan can be written up. The cost is around \$2000 a day for these patients.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Patients who are experiencing homelessness need someplace to discharge that will provide wound care if needed, or rehab through PT, or some other type of skilled nursing until they are able to independently complete their ADLs. There is no place that will provide basic outpatient services so they stay at the hospital racking up huge bills that will most likely never be paid.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Northwest Texas Health System – Behavioral Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

		<p>NWTHS Behavioral Health offers treatment services for children, adolescents, adults, seniors, and uniformed service members.</p> <p>NWTHS Behavioral Health is honored to serve those brave individuals who serve the public every day. The Uniformed Services Program is designed for active-duty military, veterans, law enforcement, fire fighters, emergency medical technicians and uniformed first responders who work in dangerous situations, including some healthcare professionals and those who work in security.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Potter County Jail
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Upon being released, if they cannot find anybody to give them a ride, the police will drive them wherever they want to go.</p> <p>If the inmate is a patient of Texas Panhandle Centers Behavioral & Developmental Health, then they will be contacted. When releasing inmates with protective orders against them, the victim will be notified, and upon notification, a 4-hour clock starts when the inmate will be released. Currently, the jail has 548 inmates, and 35% have mental health issues. He states that NWTH, Pavilion, and BSA will sometimes have the homeless criminally trespassed, and someone will come to pick them up. A lot of fires have started in vacant buildings from people trying to keep warm. They will work with the public defender's office as long as the crimes are not violent.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	No feedback was provided.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Potter County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Potter County does not provide any services for the evicting court. Court is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are two to five evictions each week. There is no more contact with the evicted family once the eviction hearing is held.</p>

	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	No feedback was provided.
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Randall County Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4-A
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	Evictions are primarily due to a lack of payment of rent and other lease violations. On average, 40 families are evicted each month. No other services are provided.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Randall County does not document the outcomes of the families upon eviction. Contact with these individuals ends upon eviction.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Randall County Sheriff's Office
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Upon being released, inmates are offered a bus ticket or a ride downtown, but most of the time, they will leave on foot. Sometimes they are taken to the Tyler Street Resource Center. Almost all of them have some sort of mental health issue. They are required by law to contact victims of protective orders when the perpetrator is about to be released.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Most of the inmates are repeat offenders. Businesses contact the authorities to have someone picked up, and the circle continues.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Texas Panhandle Community Services (PCS)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Panhandle Community Services is a nonprofit, community-based organization offering various programs and services to assist low-income individuals and families. Community Action equips low-income citizens with the tools and potential for becoming self-sufficient. The program's structure is unique—federal dollars are used locally to offer specialized programming in communities.

		PCS programs include: healthcare navigation, housing assistance, Panhandle transportation, retire and senior volunteer program, tax preparation and ACE education, utility assistance, veterans assistance, water assistance, and weatherization.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	PCS reports that their clients with a rental housing stock that is some of the oldest in the state. Additionally, many of their clients struggle to pay for trash and sewer. They have programs that can pay for the water bill, but the program is not permanent, and it can be challenging to get billing information in a timely manner.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) is a voluntary association of cities, counties, and special districts in the Texas Panhandle. Established in 1969, the Planning Commission assists local governments in planning, developing, and implementing programs designed to improve the general health, safety, and welfare of the citizens in the Texas Panhandle.</p> <p>PRPC runs a variety of key programs that are available to qualifying populations in Amarillo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Agency on Aging • Dispute Resolution • Economic Development • Regional Transportation Planning • Workforce Development
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	PRPC had a variety of recommendations that would help residents in Amarillo who are in the greatest need. They recommended that there is a need for a comprehensive list of senior affordable housing and a need for ADA upgrades for residents with disability. They also stated that many residents struggle with getting the necessary documents (birth certificates, etc.) that are needed to participate in the program and receive supportive services.
33	Agency/Group/Organization	Wesley Community Center

Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Wesley Community Center programs for low-income families include childcare, overnight childcare, a youth modeling/mentoring program, youth and adult counseling, play therapy, and a wrestling program.</p> <p>Programs for seniors include senior citizen outreach, transportation assistance, housing assistance, nutritional assessment and assistance, and translation/document preparation assistance.</p> <p>Los Barrios del Amarillo raises scholarship money for students graduating high school and also for older individuals who want to go back to school. Many of the kids in the childcare program have no primary address because they are staying with relatives while they get on their feet.</p>
Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
Feedback	<p>The senior citizen population is overlooked, and many senior citizens have bounced around between different family members' households. Some seniors are Salvation Army living in emergency shelter. Many of the senior citizens need translating and document preparation assistance. There are many low-income apartment communities for seniors, but the waitlist is very long.</p> <p>Overnight childcare is desperately needed. Many families need assistance with after-school pick-ups for their kids so they do not have to leave work to pick them up. Transportation services are also greatly needed.</p>
34 Agency/Group/Organization	Workforce Solutions Panhandle
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Workforce Solutions Panhandle assists employers and job seekers and partners with the Texas Workforce Commission to provide the largest job-matching database in the State of Texas.</p> <p>Workforce Solutions Panhandle provides education for low-income individuals/families, childcare assistance, SNAP E&T training, unemployment services for low-income individuals, and workforce training programs and workshops. They also work with employers, have a referral list of resources, and provide vocational rehabilitation for individuals with disabilities.</p>
Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview

	Feedback	Workforce clients' biggest challenges are having reliable transportation, finding a good paying job, and accessing skills training/education. It can be difficult for a client to increase their monthly income. Many have challenges with disabilities that make it difficult to find and maintain employment.
35	Agency/Group/Organization	Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas (LANWT)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public or private organizations that address fair housing
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas (LANWT) is a nonprofit organization that provides free civil legal help to low-income residents. Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas works to advance and protect the rights of low-income people in North and West Texas by providing free civil legal help through representation and advocacy that meets our mission of ensuring equal access to justice.</p> <p>LAWNT has a free legal clinic in Amarillo that focus on general civil intake, including family law, wills and estates, landlord/tenant cases, public benefits, federal tax, and real property matters. Veterans and their families are welcome.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	LANWT reports that renters face substantial challenges with eviction court. The court system in Potter and Randall Counties would benefit from an eviction prevention program that would help residents resolve their eviction proceedings. Landlords often are unwilling to participate in the dispute resolution center, and it is also difficult to get landlords to remedy building code violations. LANWT has also seen incidence where clients are being evicted because of damage to a rental unit by an abuser.
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Amarillo NAACP
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public or private organizations that address civil rights
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>Amarillo NAACP works to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.</p>

		NAACP offers resources/services regarding discrimination in housing, workplace, etc. They assist all citizens (all ages) and promote inclusiveness. They offer a complaint process (application) through their legal division with some assistance/recommendations. They service other populations as a youth chapter with additional resources, including ACT-SO, which promotes students who compete in various programs (math, science, poetry, etc.) and voter registration application processes. The greatest need is information and knowledge of the wide variety of community resources available to everyone.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The greatest needs are transportation to medical, voting facilities, etc.
37	Agency/Group/Organization	Texas Panhandle Centers Behavioral and Developmental Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public or private organizations that address the needs of persons with disabilities
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 TPC serves individuals with behavioral health needs (mental illness), intellectual and developmental disabilities, and children with developmental delays. Costs are on a sliding scale. Programs include a suicide/crisis hotline, CPR/First Aid/AED classes, parenting classes, a parent support group, and an early childhood intervention. Services are available to help patients with autism, ADHD, conduct/defiance disorders, and mood disorders. NWTSH provides behavioral health services, intellectual and developmental disability services, Family and Youth Success Program (FAYS), and diversion/parole/probation services. Additionally, there is a veteran's services program.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	The ongoing challenge is how to assist clients when patients feel better. They stop taking their meds, and fall into relapse. Long-term treatment/care is needed for patients with mental illness. Clients also need transportation to therapy and doctor appointments.
38	Agency/Group/Organization	Panhandle Independent Living Center (PILC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public or private organizations that address the needs of persons with disabilities
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

		All services are exclusively for people with physical, mental, intellectual, and emotional disabilities. PILC works with people with disabilities on a case management level. They provide transportation training, housing assistance, employment, independent living skills, and resources.
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	Clients continue to have challenges with accessing transportation services. There are areas of town that have sidewalks and that are not wheelchair accessible or easily accessible for people with limited mobility (cannot safely access). The community needs more veterans' services. Youth summer and after-school programs are in great demand.
39	Agency/Group/Organization	Don Harrington Discovery Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>The Don Harrington Discovery Center and Space Theater makes science exciting, relevant, and interesting to all types of learners by providing interactive exhibits and programs that actively engage children, adolescents, and their families.</p> <p>They serve Amarillo Independent School District (AISD) students with memberships and under-served communities and families. They provide above the basic care/needs, focusing on literacy and dignity so that all children can be afforded the same developmental/educational opportunities. They also offer a program called, Beyond, which is a community center for refugee language barriers.</p>
	Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
	Feedback	
40	Agency/Group/Organization	BSA Health and BSA Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations
	Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>ALL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</p> <p>BSA Health System is an extensive hospital system providing clinical excellence to the Texas Panhandle and the tri-state area. BSA is acclaimed for its superior quality and customer service.</p>

	<p>BSA is the fourth largest employer in Amarillo, with a medical staff of more than 450 physicians and about 3,000 employees. BSA fosters an environment that allows employees to provide superior patient care in alignment with our mission.</p> <p>BSA Health resources include case management, transportation, substance abuse/mental health services, medications, food, utility assistance, 211, etc. They have a clothing closet from community donations and will provide free taxi rides home or to local shelters. They promote a wellness fair with free lab work and assistance with medications. Individuals can apply for medical financial aid programs (RCA). Personnel will assist with Medicare/Medicaid applications, 100% medical charity assistance, and write-offs. APS/CPS information/concerns as needed.</p>
Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview
Feedback	<p>BSA Hospital reports that the most significant barrier that see is the need for patients to have follow-up care and medications. Amarillo also needs additional medical/dental needs, as the area has limited health resources.</p> <p>Patients consistently tell clinicians that their greatest need is a safe place to stay. Many complain that their items are stolen in shelters and/or the shelters are filled with disease, and they don't want to go there.</p>
41 Agency/Group/Organization	Guyon Saunders Resource Center (GSRC)
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Homeless and domestic violence service providers
Services Provided to which Qualifying Population	<p>1</p> <p>Guyon Saunders Resource Center (GSRC) Community Day Room is a safe daytime refuge offering basic services in a respectful environment that fosters dignity, trust, and hope for those experiencing homelessness and poverty.</p> <p>GSRC also offers a separate Children and Families Day Room. The Children and Families Day Room provides a day shelter to parents and their children – giving them the opportunity for a safe place to play, learn, and interact with others and access basic needs.</p> <p>Services include: some case management, day services (8 AM to 4:30PM) including showers, laundry, breakfast foods, daily lunch, snacks, a computer room with 6-7 computers, and monthly haircuts. They also provide assistance in applying for food stamps, employment, and housing (Amarillo Housing First). They are adding a legal kiosk and legal aid assistance to their facility.</p>
Method of Consultation	Individual consultation/interview

Feedback	The most significant barrier is food insecurity. There is a growing concern about the lack of healthcare and a low-barrier emergency shelter. Many GSRC clients have needs and challenges that disqualify them from using high barrier emergency shelters in Amarillo.
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The consultation process showed that there is a need for;

- **More supportive services.** In particular, respondents consistently mentioned that the lack of reliable transportation was a challenge for their clients to access services, travel to employment, and meet the needs of daily living. Many also mentioned that their clients struggle with getting identification. Access to behavioral health continues to be a significant challenge. Many clients need more comprehensive case management to help them achieve housing stability.
- **More shelter beds.** Providers of emergency shelter operations stated that they are almost always at capacity. Other social service providers said they have difficulty finding shelter space for their clients. This is especially acute for people discharged from institutions such as the hospital, jails, etc.
- **More affordable housing.** At the heart of it all is a lack of housing that is affordable for people who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability. The City of Amarillo administers that local housing choice voucher program (HCV). They report that they have a sizable number of unused vouchers because residents cannot find property owners willing to take the voucher/or who charge rental rates that meet HUD standards.
- **Better housing.** Amarillo has a sizable amount of rental housing that was built before 1979 and has substantial deferred maintenance. Community service providers report that residents are living in housing that lacks heating/air conditioning, running water, or has broken windows.

The City considered the feedback when deciding how to allocate HOME-ARP funds among eligible activities. The information was also part of the review process of determining preferences, methods of prioritizations, or limitations on the eligibility of qualifying populations for a HOME-ARP activity. The City also integrated this feedback into deciding how to use the referral process.

The feedback demonstrated the need to address instability within all qualifying populations (QP) in Amarillo. The concentration of resources on any one group comes at the cost of another population. Housing and financial stability within all qualifying populations have a downstream impact on reducing homelessness and housing instability. Resources that help Amarillo residents most at risk of becoming unhoused and unsheltered have lasting and long-term benefits to the households. The City used this information to determine that preferences and prioritizations might limit resources to a household facing the imminent risk of homelessness.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City of Amarillo encouraged citizen participation in developing the HOME-ARP allocation plan. Before submitting the HOME-ARP allocation plan to HUD, the City of Amarillo provided residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of no less than 15 calendar days.

The City followed its adopted requirements for "reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment" for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan. In addition, the city held one public hearing during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan before submitting the plan to HUD.

The City of Amarillo provided the following required information to the public:

- The City of Amarillo will receive **\$2,560,840.00 as an American Rescue Plan Act HOME Supplemental Allocation.**
- The City plans to spend the funding on supportive services to help the City's most vulnerable residents. The HOME ARP supportive services will help augment the programs the City already has in place or have in development to address homelessness and housing instability.
- HOME ARP will fund \$2,176,714 in supportive service and \$384,126 in program administration and planning.

The City considered and recorded all comments and/or views of residents received in writing or orally at a public hearing when preparing the HOME-ARP allocation plan.

Throughout the HOME-ARP allocation plan public participation process, the City followed its applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements and procedures for effective communication, accessibility, and reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and providing meaningful access to participation by limited English proficient (LEP) residents that are in its current citizen participation plan as required by 24 CFR 91.105 and 91.115.

- Public hearings were held in ADA-accessible places, and residents were provided a way to have reasonable accommodations
- Amarillo residents were provided a way to have translation services for the HOME ARP Plan and public hearing
- The community needs survey was published in Spanish and English
- Public notices for the public hearing and public comment period were published in Spanish.

The Public Participation section of the HOME ARP plan outlines;

1. Dates of the public comment period and public hearings
2. The public participation process
3. Efforts to broaden public participation
4. Summary of public comments and community feedback
5. Summary of any comment or recommendations not accepted

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- Date(s) of public notice: February 29, 2023
- Public comment period: start date – 2/28/2023, end date – 3/15/2023
- Date(s) of public hearing:

January 5, 2023 – A public hearing and information session was held at the Amarillo Public Library. A presentation on the HOME ARP funding, qualifying populations, and eligible activities was given and public input was accepted.

January 11, 2023 – A public meeting and opportunity for public comment was held during the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) meeting. A presentation on the HOME ARP funding, qualifying populations, and eligible activities. City staff reviewed the proposed HOME ARP activities with CDAC and the public.

March 14, 2023 – A public hearing and opportunity for public comment was held during the Amarillo City Council session. A presentation on the HOME ARP funding, qualifying populations, and eligible activities. City staff reviewed the proposed HOME ARP activities with CDAC and the public.

DESCRIBE THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS:

The City led a grassroots participation process to solicit public and stakeholder input to develop the Consolidated Plan goals, strategies, and priorities. The City created a survey that gauged public needs for the activities of the HOME-ARP Plan.

The City had information on the HOME ARP program available and distributed community surveys at community events. Surveys were available in English and Spanish. The survey outreach focused on gathering information for residents who were part of the qualifying populations. Paper surveys were distributed. Participants also had access to an online survey.

Event	Notes
Bethesda Outreach Center	Event sponsored by Trinity Fellowship
Book sale and open enrollment	Amarillo Public Library
City of Amarillo's website	An online survey was available on the City's website
City of Amarillo, Community Development Department	Surveys were available at the front desk
ESL Classes	Amarillo Public Library
Housing Choice Voucher Waitlist	Over 3,000 emails were sent to residents who are currently on the HCV waitlist
Hygiene Closet	Event held by Panhandle Community Service
Lunch and Learn	Presentation on HOME ARP and Transformation Park
Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta	Amarillo Civic Center
Television Interviews	Information on Amarillo's HOME ARP funding was aired on several local TV channels, including Spanish language channel

EFFORTS TO BROADEN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The City ensured that broad public participation was a significant part of the HOME ARP planning process.

The outreach effort specifically targeted the following residents;

- **Spanish speakers.** Surveys were available in Spanish. Outreach and surveys were available at Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival and ESL classes.
- **Qualifying populations.** Surveys were emailed to people on the HCV waiting list. Surveys were distributed at events providing social services and resources to the community.
- **Public hearings** were held in ADA-accessible buildings and at various times (day and evening) to help encourage broader participation.
- **Local media** covered the HOME ARP planning process with television news segments.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The City distributed a community needs survey to help understand the needs of the qualifying populations in Amarillo. There were a total of 531 responses.

Respondents were generally comprised of renters. There was a high percentage of respondents who identified as experiencing homelessness.

- 50% renters
- 47% work in Amarillo
- 30% experiencing homelessness
- 12% own a primary residence
- 1% own commercial property

Most survey respondents were White (65%). 20% were Black/African American, and 12% were multi-racial. 34% of respondents were Hispanic/Latino. Most respondents were between 30 and 49 years old (60%). An overwhelmingly large percentage were women (81%). Most had not served in the US military, only 5%. A little over 26% of respondents stated that they were living with a disability. A majority of respondents were low- to moderate-income (55%).

Do residents in Amarillo have substantial challenges finding and maintaining affordable housing? (Affordable housing is housing which costs less than 30% of monthly income.)

It was nearly unanimous on this response to this question. 94% said yes, there is a problem with affordable housing.

Do residents of Amarillo have substantial challenges with homelessness?

Again, the survey responses were in unison. 94% said there is a substantial challenge with homelessness in Amarillo.

What type of activities would help reduce homelessness and provide better housing stability for residents at risk of homelessness in Amarillo?

- Affordable rental housing (80%)
- Rental assistance (78%)
- Supportive service and case management (51%)
- Assistance to local nonprofits (39%)
- Construction of non-congregant shelters (38%)

Residents heavily favored affordable housing and rental assistance activities. The comments in the survey spoke of the need for case management and individual assistance for residents.

Survey respondents could write in information about their own lived experiences and provide input on priorities. Many respondents noted many reasons for having housing instability or homelessness and the need to help address the specific challenges for each individual.

All responses were reviewed and considered when developing the HOME ARP Plan.

Generally, the comments from the survey listed below are unedited unless minor edits are needed to make a comment easier for the reader to understand. This is a sampling of those survey responses.

How well do you understand the challenges that residents of Amarillo face who are homeless or at risk of homelessness?

1. I lost a son due to being homeless.
2. I became homeless 2yrs ago when my boyfriend died, and I was evicted during covid. A friend was gracious enough to allow me to live in his RV, but it is falling apart due to rotting. I have been working two part-time jobs, and it has been almost 15 months, but I don't see any positive changes in my life. I am running in circles trying to keep my head above water, paying what I can and the few bills I currently owe. I cannot begin to pay any of my back debts due to increases in groceries etc. I was taken off of county assistance because I live out of city limits and acquired blue cross blue shield of Texas medical insurance with deductibles that must be met. So I am acquiring more debt and have no way to pay it or get ahead.
3. Housing cost vs. rate of pay makes it extremely challenging as it is. If you're a single parent, it is much worse. Having very little "affordable" housing or HUD housing makes it even more of a challenge. Not to mention when wait lists are extremely long, oftentimes being homeless is the only option many of us have or residing in a shelter.
4. I am currently homeless, and it has become one of the hardest obstacles to overcome because since this has happened, I seem to be losing everything along with it. Like a domino effect. It is a very dangerous place to be homeless, especially to be a female out on the streets.
5. I have always had somewhere to go up till now. I have dogs, and no shelter accepts dogs. I've never been homeless in Amarillo. It's way different than a small town and a whole lot more dangerous.
6. I'm about to be homeless. In the three years I have rented my place, I had five roommates that were homeless before they stayed with me. But my electricity is shut off right now. It has been for a week, and it's cold, but I still owe 160 bucks for December rent. I've been evicted from here once before. We worked it out, and he didn't kick me out. I am just a step away from losing it all.
7. I am living on the streets. I was robbed, so they took every important paper I had to identify myself. I'm struggling with a job cause I have no id. I'm in the process of getting my kid back. It's been a real struggle. Someday I will get lucky and rent a room. Some days I'll sleep at the park.
8. It's an experience you never think will happen to you. . . from my divorce to a long-term relationship that completely drained me of everything. . . mentally, physically, and financially. Then to be held up at gunpoint in a hotel for three days, losing your job due to covid and then ultimately homeless. . . It's been a hard three years. . .and I'm trying to keep going. . .
9. I've been homeless with my daughter in Lubbock, Texas. Then we moved here, and if it weren't for my parents helping us, we would be homeless again here.

10. Me, my husband, and my two kids are homeless living with family, but they want us gone ASAP after Christmas or before Christmas. ASAP cause my mom is moving out of town.
11. I'm a disabled single mom, and it's EXTREMELY hard for me to keep a home. I always end up losing my home, including ALL of my belongings. I've now been experiencing homelessness for over ten years now.
12. My partner and I currently live in Hereford, Texas. We are homeless, and we have a disability. We are disabled, and we have a dog. I am on oxygen, and we really need to find a place.

Do residents in Amarillo have substantial challenges finding and maintaining affordable housing?

1. We pay half of our combined income to rent, and we live in a rather poor neighborhood and in an outdated, almost rundown house.
2. As a disabled elder living on Social Security, I assure you it is difficult!
3. My rent takes up most of my income.
4. As an individual that lives on social security/disability of \$1300.00 per month solely...without panhandle community services paying part of my rent...I would be homeless! My rent is \$328 plus gas and electricity. I know so many people who make triple a year what I do...and can't find affordable housing. With gas to heat my home and electricity and food...I generally have about \$10.00 a month left over. High Plains food bank is not taking any more applications for food assistance...so I have turned to other resources for help. It's a whole picture that needs to be assessed...basics...food, shelter, clothing, utilities, and transportation. Needs...not wants!
5. I am familiar with many young people and young parents. They can afford a vehicle or an apartment but not both.
6. The money that we do make is barely enough to cover rent.
7. My rent is about 1/2 of my income.
8. I don't have all the documents needed to get on housing.
9. The jobs are really hard to find.
10. As a single mother who makes too much to qualify for government aid but not enough to be able to work a 40hr week to afford all my bills at times. I have to choose between working so many extra hours and missing out on raising my son.
11. Move-in costs are impossible to meet.
12. Deposits make it impossible. Move-in cost puts it out of reach
13. The apartment costs have increased substantially even after COVID. The apartments are going to do more credit and history checks before allowing anyone to move in.
14. Recently there has been inflation in every market, housing being one of them. The market costs are so high that you could basically own a house for what most pay in rent nowadays. Buying isn't even an option.
15. I never made more than \$10/hr making it impossible to pay rent, car, and bills. Something always goes.
16. We can't find anything in our price range. Then everybody wants 45 dollars for application fees just to deny us, so we are out of that money.
17. I am on a fixed income and pay over \$700 a month plus bills. This does not leave much for food and medicine.
18. I've had many times when I couldn't afford my rent and had to go to churches for help.
19. I'm living with family and friends back and forth from house to house. . .
20. I'm struggling to get a job because of taking care of my mom 24/7.

Do residents of Amarillo have substantial challenges with homelessness?

1. I'm on 1/4 of teachers' pay for retirement and social security. I have many doctor's appointments and health problems. Paying 30% of my monthly income isn't possible
2. Families are getting evicted because their wages have not increased, and they cannot afford their bills any longer without help. There are no programs that are helping those that are living just above low-income wage, forcing people to quit their jobs or not work just to qualify to receive help.
3. I work downtown, and we regularly have challenges with the homeless community. Coming into our business, camping out on the sidewalk, littering excessively, exposing themselves, etc. Building maintenance is cleaning up after them nearly daily.
4. Bus route stops and starts time make it so that I can't work the early morning or overnight shift.
5. Homeless do not respect our community. They trash it out. They are turning it into a filthy city.
6. Not only is it difficult to be homeless you also lose all your belongings because with nowhere to put them. What else is there to do with them? Not to mention the challenges women face being homeless because of our safety. Also, it has become challenging to try to overcome it when it's impossible to find a job when you have nowhere to sleep or shower. And since there are so many people facing homelessness, everyone is tired of helping the few that really need help because so many people take advantage of the help.
7. No place to get job skills.
8. Because most of them choose to be that way, it's all about choices.
9. I have a 70-year-old vet living with me who would probably be dead or homeless right now.
10. Those who have mental health and drug abuse challenges have trouble staying anywhere due to one size fits all rules. Those with pets have nowhere to go at all and cannot access services.
11. Multi-generational families have to dwell together in order to meet basics. Without this...many more would be homeless.
12. Amarillo has some of the largest numbers in the state proportionately to population. Part of the problem in Amarillo is that there isn't a no-barrier shelter that accepts all. A place where our homeless neighbors can transition from where they are, possibly in a camping or outside situation to something transitional, like a dormitory-style space... then receive services, transition to being housed, and then be able to launch toward self-sufficiency. One place in the city that can handle everything, giving service providers like myself a place where we can easily access folks in need.
13. Homelessness and homeless people are becoming an epidemic here in Amarillo.
14. Significant challenges with available night emergency shelter. Salvation Army has placed significant barriers, so many of our homeless population are left out and are unsheltered.

What type of activities would help reduce homelessness and provide better housing stability for residents at risk of homelessness in Amarillo?

1. Bus route stops before the early shift and before the late night shift.
2. Fixing up many places in Amarillo that can be remodeled to get people off the streets.
3. From what I've personally seen downtown, most of the homeless community appears to have some sort of mental health issue and/or substance abuse. These issues have to be handled properly, or the person is likely never going to rehabilitate successfully. I also can't help but think no amount of assistance or outreach is going to solve the problem if the individual has no desire to help themselves.
4. I think case workers are very important.

5. There needs to be more affordable housing in the area or HUD housing, without a doubt. There should be agencies specifically for single-parent households that advocate for them in terms of housing, housing assistance, college assistance, and jobs. As a single mother of 4 children, it is extremely challenging trying to find something I can afford. The waiting lists are months or years out, which means we have no choice.
6. Actually, making rental assistance available and keeping rental housing affordable in order to maintain housing.
7. Stricter laws against slum lords. Safer reporting against a landlord for tenants. Protection against landlords making false claims about a tenant's character on social media platforms. Bullying of tenants on social media has become a trend here in Amarillo, and that needs to be stopped.
8. More money needs to go into supportive services and staff.
9. Mental healthcare and rehab services.
10. When you're homeless, you get to a point where you don't care anymore. You don't think you will ever get off the streets.
11. Sometimes people need that little bit of help so they can get a grip on their life and get it right again. Not everybody is an addict and wants to live the lifestyle. Sometimes people lose themselves without even knowing till it's too late.
12. Make panhandling for money illegal, and I think most of those 'homeless' people would leave town.
13. The waiting list is too long. You could be evicted before help is available.
14. Rental assistance is available. It's the supportive services that are lacking.
15. Amarillo needs more assistance overall. The population is growing daily. People are suffering every day from waiting months and months for housing assistance.
16. I think with more help with housing, people like myself and my children could get help with housing and have a safe, affordable home.
17. Actually, housing people instead of putting them on endless wait lists. I'm not sure why you're so short-sighted that you can't see the solution. A tiny home village could end all this, but the city of Amarillo prefers to keep residents entangled in bs.
18. Resources for people who have lost their homes to a disaster (natural disaster, house fire, etc.). My house burned down, and I had no direction at all. I never did find an agency that would help me, either. Because of that, I am still homeless a year later.
19. I believe the lack of non-congregant shelter is the most needed resource. We have over 300 unsheltered people in our community. Low-barrier shelters with supportive services and case management would be very helpful and fill in this major gap.
20. Need better quality housing at an affordable price.

COMMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS NOT ACCEPTED

The City of Amarillo accepts and records all comments. All comments and results from the online survey, public hearings, and public comment period were recorded and utilized in helping to form the activities for the HOME ARP Plan.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAPS ANALYSIS

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed ARP into law, which provides over \$1.9 trillion in relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, public health, State and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

To address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services, Congress appropriated \$5 billion in ARP funds to be administered through HOME to perform four activities that must primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations.

ARP defines qualifying individuals or families as those that are:

- **Homeless**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 11302(a)) ("McKinney-Vento");
- **At risk of homelessness**, as defined in section 401 of McKinney-Vento;
- **Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;**
- Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would **prevent a family's homelessness** or would **serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;** or
- **Veterans and families** that include a veteran family member that meets the criteria in one of (1)-(4) above.

The **Needs and Gap Analysis** section of the HOME ARP Plan provides the following information;

1. **Overview of the demographics** of the City of Amarillo, including population, income, and housing data
2. **Housing needs inventory and gap analysis**
3. **Size and demographic composition of qualifying populations**
4. **Current resources**
5. **Unmet needs**
- 6.

The City of Amarillo evaluated the size and demographic composition of **all four** of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assessed the unmet needs of each of those populations.

The City also identified any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. Current data were utilized, including point-in-time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.

HOUSING NEEDS INVENTORY AND GAP ANALYSIS

The HOME ARP Plan will provide the following;

1. The definition of each subgroup of persons experiencing homelessness,
2. Explanation of how the City of Amarillo determined the needs and gaps in the shelter and housing inventory and service delivery services for persons experiencing homelessness
3. Size and demographic composition of the population of residents experiencing homelessness
4. Gaps in the shelter, housing inventory, and service delivery for homeless persons

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds local homeless assistance and prevention networks called Continuums of Care (CoC). HUD requires each CoC jurisdiction to conduct a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on one night in the last ten calendar days of January. Amarillo's most recent annual Point-In-Time (PIT) count was conducted on **January 27, 2023**.

The data from PIT Counts helps determine the amount of funding awarded for homeless programs, reports changes among the homeless population, and raises public awareness of homelessness. Data from the one-night PIT count and the longitudinal data collected by the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) are the primary sources used to measure the progress in meeting the national strategic goal of preventing and ending homelessness.

The primary goal of the PIT Count is to provide a one-night "snapshot" of the number of homeless persons who live on the streets, in places not meant for habitation, or are currently residing in emergency shelters or homeless transitional housing projects.

The focus of the PIT Count is to identify those already experiencing homelessness. HUD's definition of homelessness for the PIT count does not include persons staying with friends or relatives, in a hotel/motel, in a treatment facility, or in jail. At the same time, persons in these circumstances may be at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Due to the nature of a one-night count, the uses of the PIT Count data and its limitations should be noted. It is understood that a one-night point-in-time count has limitations and, in any given year, may under-count or over-count the homeless population compared to data collected over a more extended period or at other periodic intervals. **The greatest value of the PIT Count is that it is an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness on one night.** Decreases or increases in the number of persons counted from year to year may indicate a change in the homeless population or external circumstances, or both.

GAP ANALYSIS

The following chart shows current numbers of households experiencing homelessness as well as current housing inventory based on the Point in Time counts and Housing Inventory Count. **IMPORTANT NOTE: Data listed represents the point-in-time count for all of the Continuum of Care.** The data listed is for the entire Amarillo Continuum of Care – TX-611 geographic area and not solely for the City of Amarillo. The PIT count does not provide data specifically for the City of Amarillo.

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	111	21	227	#	229								
Transitional Housing	159	11	74	#	50								
Permanent Supportive Housing	16	7	156	#	84								
Other Permanent Housing	#	#	2	#	#								
Sheltered Homeless						154	111	15	13				
Unsheltered Homeless						3	367	5	0				
<i>Current Gap</i>										+18	3	19	19

Data Sources: 1. 2022 Point in Time Count (PIT); 2. 2022 Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC); 3. Consultation

- Amarillo had a total of 584 emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and rapid rehousing beds.
- The 2022 PIT Count counted 661 people experiencing homelessness.
- Amarillo has a sizable unsheltered population. 380 people were counted as unsheltered: 68% of the people experiencing homelessness in the Amarillo Continuum of Care.

The City recently completed the 2023 Point In Time Count. There were 692 residents who were counted as homeless. There was a dramatic increase in persons counted who were unsheltered, from 380 in 2022 to 421 in 2023.

PIT January 27, 2023	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Totals
Total Persons	271	421	692
<i>Adults (18+)</i>	218	412	630
<i>Children (Under 18)</i>	44	0	44
<i>Young Adults (18-24)</i>	9	9	18
<i>Female</i>	60	129	189
<i>Male</i>	210	290	500
<i>Transgender</i>	1	2	3
<i>Non-Binary</i>	0	0	0
<i>Chronically Homeless</i>	3	99	102
<i>Veterans</i>	29	22	51

Housing Inventory Count Report	Available Units	PIT Count	Utilization
<i>Another Chance House</i>	43	34	79%
<i>Downtown Women's</i>	125	62	50%
<i>Faith City Mission</i>	*86	65	76%
<i>Family Support Service</i>	14	14	100%
<i>Martha's Home</i>	35	35	100%
<i>The Salvation Army</i>	147	62	42%
<i>COC-Coming Home</i>	4	2	50%
<i>ESG- Rapid Re-Housing</i>	14	13	93%
<i>HCV- EHV</i>	26	24	92%
<i>HCV- SPC</i>	9	18	200%
<i>HVC- Homeless at entry</i>	113	105	93%
<i>HCV-VASH</i>	129	93	72%

HOUSING NEEDS INVENTORY TABLE

Non-Homeless			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	30165		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	17%		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	41%		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		81%	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		88%	
<i>Current Gaps</i>			10,115

Suggested Data Sources: 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

In 1990, Congress passed the National Affordable Housing Act, which required that State and local governments participating in selected HUD grant programs prepare a **Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)**. The CHAS was meant to serve as the strategic guide for housing and community development activities, particularly activities funded by HUD grants and targeted to low- and moderate-income households.

The CHAS data combines ACS microdata with **HUD-adjusted median family incomes (HAMFI)** to estimate the number of households that qualify for HUD assistance. The CHAS data also incorporate household characteristics (race/ethnicity, age, family size, disability status) and housing unit characteristics (such as the number of bedrooms and rent/owner costs).

The Community Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) evaluates the conditions of families in the area's lower 80% of the Housing Affordability Median Income. On September 9, 2022, HUD released updated CHAS data based on 2015-2019 ACS 5-year estimates. These recently released data tables are for 2015-2019.

Income Category

Extremely low-income	30% HAMFI
Very low-income	>30% - 50% HAMFI
Low income	>50% - 80% HAMFI

Low- and middle-income	<100% HAMFI
Upper income	>100% HAMFI

Amarillo Extremely low-income households (=30% HAMFI)

- 6,160 Amarillo households are extremely low-income renters. This group accounts for 20% of all renters in Amarillo.
- Almost all extremely low-income renters have one or more housing problems. 4,960 extremely low-income households have one or more housing problems. This account for 80% of all extremely low-income renters.
- 4,835 extremely low-income renter households have a housing cost burden of >30%. This account for 78% of all extremely low-income renter households.
- 4,180 extremely low-income renter household shave a housing cost burden of >50%. This account for 68% of all extremely low-income renter households.

Amarillo Very low-income households (>30% to <50% HAMFI)

- 5,885 Amarillo households are very low-income renters. This group accounts for 19% of all renters in Amarillo.
- Almost all very low-income renters have one or more housing problems. 5,155 very low-income households have 1 or more housing problems. This account for 88% of all very low-income renters.
- 4,975 very low-income renter households have a housing cost burden of >30%. This account for 85% of all very low-income renter households.
- 1,740 extremely low-income renter household shave a housing cost burden of >50%. This account for 30% of all very low-income renter households.

NOTE: The four housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, and a cost burden greater than 30%. The cost burden is the ratio of housing costs to household income. For renters- housing cost is gross rent (contract rent plus utilities)

SIZE AND DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION OF QUALIFYING POPULATIONS

ARP requires funds to benefit individuals and families in the specified "qualifying populations." Any individual or family who meets the criteria for these populations is eligible to receive assistance or services funded through HOME-ARP without meeting additional criteria (e.g., additional income criteria).

ARP defines qualifying individuals or families as those that are:

1. **"Homeless"**, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 11302(a)) ("McKinney-Vento");
2. **"At risk of homelessness"**, as defined in section 401 of McKinney-Vento;
3. **"Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking"**;
4. Part of **"other populations"** where providing supportive services or assistance would **prevent a family's homelessness** or would **serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability**; or
5. **"Veterans and families"** that include a veteran family member that meet the criteria in one of 1-4 above.

QUALIFYING POPULATION: HOMELESS

The HOME ARP program broadly defines homelessness utilizing several federal definitions of homelessness. In particular, this definition includes unaccompanied youth and families with children/youth who are experiencing extreme housing instability. Additionally, the HOME ARP definition also includes individuals and families who are at imminent risk of losing their nighttime residence.

The HOME ARP definition allows for qualification as homelessness for any of the three subgroups:

1. Lack of nighttime residence,
2. The imminent loss of nighttime residence, and
3. Unaccompanied youth under 25/families with children and youth.

HOMELESS SUBPOPULATION: LACK OF NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE

An individual or family who **does not have a nighttime residence** includes:

- People whose nighttime **residence is not designed for regular sleeping accommodations**. This may include sleeping in a car, park, abandoned buildings, train stations, or camping ground.
- People who are sleeping in a shelter designed to provide **temporary living arrangements**. This may include homeless shelters, transitional housing, and hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations or government programs.
- People who are exiting an institution where they have been for 90 days or less and who lived in an emergency shelter of place not designed for regular sleeping accommodations before they entered that institution.

DEMOGRAPHICS: LACK OF NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE

The Amarillo Continuum of Care counted 383 people who were unsheltered during the 2022 Point In Time County. In Amarillo, 68% of the homeless population is unsheltered.

- 367 persons were counted as unsheltered in households without children
- 3 persons were counted as unsheltered in households with at least one adult and one child
- 13 persons were counted in households with only children.

People experiencing homelessness and unsheltered generally reflected the overall demographics in Amarillo. ¹ However, the population of people who are Black/African American was higher than the over population. Men were also far more likely to unsheltered than women.

- 30% of people who were unsheltered homeless were Hispanic/Latino; the City of Amarillo's population is 34%.
- 16% of people who were unsheltered homeless were Black/African American; the City of Amarillo's population is 7%.
- 71% of the unsheltered population were men.

People who were unsheltered were struggling with substantial life challenges.

- 37 unsheltered people were chronically homeless
- 25 unsheltered people had severe mental illness
- 20 unsheltered people had chronic substance abuse
- 5 unsheltered people were veterans
- 3 unsheltered people had HIV/AIDS
- 26 unsheltered people were unaccompanied youth

HOMELESS SUBPOPULATION: INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY WHO IMMINENTLY LOSE THEIR PRIMARY NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE

An individual or family who **imminently may lose their primary nighttime residence** includes people who:

- Will lose their nighttime residence within 14 days of application of homeless assistance;
- Have no subsequent residence has been identified; and
- Have no support networks or resources.

DEMOGRAPHICS: THE IMMINENT LOSS OF NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE

One of the ways to evaluate the number of residents at imminent risk of losing their nighttime residence is to evaluate how many cases are being held in the eviction courts. The City of Amarillo straddles two Counties; Potter and Randall Counties. Each one holds its own eviction court.

¹ US Census Population Estimates, July 1, 2021, (V2021)

Randall County Justice of the Peace reports that they process the **eviction of 40 households each month**. They do not track the outcome of the eviction proceedings past the court order. There are no eviction services offered.

Potter County Justice of the Peace, reports that they process the eviction of 8-20 households each month. There is no contact with the evicted household after the hearing is held.

The City of Amarillo reached out to local hospitals and county jails. Both the jails and hospitals noted that they often see unsheltered homeless individuals repeatedly cycling in and out of their systems. They did not have data on the demographics or number of people who were being discharged into homelessness; but did state that this is not an uncommon occurrence.

HOMELESS SUBPOPULATION: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH UNDER 25 YEARS OR AGE, OR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:

- Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
- Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
- Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
- Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect), the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment.

McKinney-Vento Definition of Homelessness

Anyone who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including:

- Sharing the housing of others due to lack of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, and camping grounds due to a lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Awaiting foster care placement
- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live

- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, public train stations, etc.
- A migrant child who qualifies under any of the above

DEMOGRAPHICS: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH UNDER 25 YEARS OR AGE, OR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

2022 Point In Time Count

Families with children and youth accounted for 58 households in the 2022 Point in Time County. There were 26 households with only children; half of these households (13) were unsheltered.

The household breakdown for youth and families with children:

- 89 children under 18 were counted. 73 were in transitional housing. 13 were in emergency shelter. And one child was unsheltered.
- 6 youth were counted in households with at least one adult and one child. 5 were in emergency shelter and 1 was unsheltered.

There were also 19 persons aged 18-24 in households without children.

The 2022 Point In Time Count also separated out unaccompanied youth and parenting youth into subcategories.

- 44 unaccompanied youth were counted. 9 were sheltered, 9 were in transitional housing, and the remaining 26 were unsheltered.
- 6 parenting youth were counted. 5 were in emergency shelter and 1 was unsheltered.

McKinney-Vento Youth

Amarillo Independent School District (AISD) reports that **778 students in the school year 2022 met the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless.**

- 62 were in shelter
- 617 were doubled up with other households
- 35 were in hotels
- 64 were unsheltered

The number of homeless students in AISD is one of the highest per capita in Texas.²

- 1,803 homeless enrolled students in 2020-2021
- 1,898 homeless enrolled students in 2019-2020
- 1,930 homeless enrolled students in 2018-2019
- 1,829 homeless enrolled students in 2017-2019
- 2,236 homeless enrolled students 2016-2018
- 2,174 homeless enrolled students 2015-2016

² US Department of Education, ED Data Express

The major causes of homelessness for children in the U.S. involve both structural and individual factors, including:

1. the nation's persistently high rates of poverty for families;
2. a lack of affordable housing across the nation;
3. continuing impacts of the Great Recession;
4. racial disparities in homelessness;
5. the challenges of single parenting; and
6. the ways in which traumatic experiences, especially domestic violence, precede and prolong homelessness for families.

"America's Youngest Outcasts - A Report on Child Homelessness" American Institutes for Research, 2014.

Homelessness can have a tremendous impact on children – their education, health, sense of safety, and overall development. Fortunately, researchers found that children are also highly resilient. Differences between children who have experienced homelessness and low-income children who have not experienced homelessness typically diminish in the years following a homeless episode.

When compared to low-income and homeless families, children experiencing homelessness have been shown to:

- Have higher levels of emotional and behavioral problems;
- Have increased risk of serious health problems;
- Are more likely to experience separations from their families; and
- Experience more school mobility, repeat a grade, are more likely to be expelled or drop out of school, and have lower academic performance.

"National Alliance to End Homelessness"

The **McKinney-Vento Act**, which later became part of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), mandates protections and services for homeless children and youth, including those with disabilities. The 2004 reauthorization of IDEA also includes amendments that reinforce timely assessment, inclusion, and continuity of services for homeless children and youth with disabilities.

HOMELESS: CURRENT GAPS

The 2022 PIT Count counted 366 individuals who were unsheltered out of a homeless population of 476. Amarillo currently has no low-barrier shelters. The community needs survey had several respondents who were currently experiencing homelessness. Their comments highlighted the need for a shelter where a person can bring their dog, have fewer restrictions, and greater flexibility that matches their current needs.

HOMELESS: PRIORITY NEEDS

The priority needs for persons experiencing homelessness to address their immediate need for shelter, food, and health assistance.

QUALIFYING POPULATION: AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS AS DEFINED IN 24 CFR 91.5

The HOME ARP program broadly defines at risk of homelessness using a combination of income, available resources, and list of conditions that makes a household more likely to become homeless.

The HOME ARP definition allows for qualification as at risk of homelessness for a household that meets the following criteria;

1. Annual income below 30% of median family income for the areas,
2. Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, and
3. Meets one of the following conditions:
 - a. Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
 - b. Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
 - c. Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance;
 - d. Lives in a hotel or motel, and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
 - e. Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 people per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
 - f. Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
 - g. Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved consolidated plan;

DEMOGRAPHICS: AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

In 1990, Congress passed the National Affordable Housing Act, which required that State and local governments participating in selected HUD grant programs prepare a **Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)**. The CHAS was meant to serve as the strategic guide for housing and community development activities, particularly activities funded by HUD grants and targeted to low- and moderate-income households.

The CHAS data combines ACS microdata with **HUD-adjusted median family incomes (HAMFI)** to estimate the number of households that qualify for HUD assistance. The CHAS data also incorporate household characteristics (race/ethnicity, age, family size, disability status) and housing unit characteristics (such as the number of bedrooms and rent/owner costs).

The Community Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) evaluates the conditions of families in the area's lower 80% of the Housing Affordability Median Income. On September 9, 2022, HUD released updated CHAS data based on 2015-2019 ACS 5-year estimates. These recently released data tables are for 2015-2019.

Income Category

Extremely low-income	30% HAMFI
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Amarillo Extremely low-income households (=30% HAMFI)

- **6,160 Amarillo households are extremely low-income renters.** This group accounts for 20% of all renters in Amarillo.
- Almost all of the extremely low-income renters have one or more housing problems. **4,960 extremely low-income households have one or more housing problems.** This account for 80% of all extremely low-income renters.
- 4,835 extremely low-income renter households have a housing cost burden of >30%. This account for 78% of all extremely low-income renter households.
- **4,180 extremely low-income renter household shave a housing cost burden of >50%.** This account for 68% of all extremely low-income renter households.

There are 4,960 extremely low-income households (30% HAMFI) that have a housing cost burden of >50% in Amarillo. These households are also at high risk of eviction.

Randall County Justice of the Peace reports that they process the **eviction of 40 households each month.** They do not track the outcome of the eviction proceedings past the court order. There are no eviction services offered.

Potter County Justice of the Peace, reports that they process the eviction of 8-20 households each month. There is no contact with the evicted household after the hearing is held.

QUALIFYING POPULATION: FLEEING, OR ATTEMPTING TO FLEE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING, OR HUMAN TRAFFICKING, AS DEFINED BY HUD IN THE NOTICE

For HOME-ARP, this population includes any individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.

This population includes cases where an individual or family reasonably believes that there is a **threat of imminent harm from further violence due to dangerous or life-threatening conditions** that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return or remain within the same dwelling unit, in the case of sexual assault. This also includes cases where an individual reasonably believes there is a **threat of imminent harm from further violence if the individual remains within the same dwelling unit** that the individual is currently occupying or the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-day period preceding the date of the request for transfer.

Domestic violence, which is defined in 24 CFR 5.2003, includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by:

1. A current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim (the term "spouse or intimate partner of the victim" includes a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship);
2. A person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
3. A person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
4. A person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving HOME-ARP funds; or
5. Any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

Dating violence which is defined in 24 CFR 5.2003, means violence committed by a person:

1. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
2. Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
 - a. The length of the relationship;
 - b. The type of relationship; and
 - c. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Sexual assault which is defined in 24 CFR 5.2003 means any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, Tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.

Stalking, which is defined in 24 CFR 5.2003, means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

1. Fear for the person's individual safety or the safety of others; or
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Human Trafficking includes both sex and labor trafficking, as outlined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102). These are defined as:

1. **Sex trafficking** means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or
2. **Labor trafficking** means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

**DEMOGRAPHICS: FLEEING, OR ATTEMPTING TO FLEE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE,
SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING, OR HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The 2023 Point In Time Count counted 14 people who were emergency shelter and domestic violence survivors.

Family Support Services is the domestic services provider in Amarillo. They provide emergency shelter and services to people who are fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

They serve over 1,100 clients each year.

QUALIFYING POPULATION: OTHER POPULATIONS REQUIRING SERVICES OR HOUSING ASSISTANCE TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER POPULATIONS AT GREATEST RISK OF HOUSING INSTABILITY, AS DEFINED BY HUD IN THE NOTICE

Other Populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of NAHA (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

HUD defines these populations as individuals and households who do not qualify under any of the populations above but meet one of the following criteria:

1. Other Families Requiring Services or Housing Assistance to Prevent Homelessness is defined as households (i.e., individuals and families) who have previously been qualified as "homeless" as defined in 24 CFR 91.5, are currently housed due to temporary or emergency assistance, including financial assistance, services, temporary rental assistance or some type of other assistance to allow the household to be housed, and who need additional housing assistance or supportive services to avoid a return to homelessness.
2. At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability is defined as either:
 - i. Has annual income that is less than or equal to **30% of the area median income**, as determined by HUD, and is **experiencing severe cost burden** (i.e., is paying more than 50% of monthly household income toward housing costs);
 - ii. Has annual income that is less than or equal to **50% of the area median income**, as determined by HUD, AND meets one of the following conditions from paragraph (iii) of the "At risk of homelessness" definition established at 24 CFR 91.5:
 - A. Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
 - B. Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
 - C. Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance;
 - D. Lives in a hotel or motel, and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
 - E. Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
 - F. Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
 - G. Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved consolidated plan

Amarillo Extremely low-income households (=30% HAMFI)

- 6,160 Amarillo households are renters who are extremely low-income. This group accounts for 20% of all renters in Amarillo.
- Almost all of extremely low-income renters have one or more housing problems. 4,960 extremely low-income households have one or more housing problems. This account for 80% of all extremely low-income renters.
- 4,835 extremely low-income renter households have a housing cost burden of >30%. This account for 78% of all extremely low-income renter households.
- 4,180 extremely low-income renter household shave a housing cost burden of >50%. This account for 68% of all extremely low-income renter households.

Amarillo Very low-income households (>30% to <50% HAMFI)

- 5,885 Amarillo households are renters who are very low-income. This group accounts for 19% of all renters in Amarillo.
- Almost all very low-income renters have 1 or more housing problems. 5,155 very low-income households have 1 or more housing problems. This account for 88% of all very low-income renters.
- 4,975 very low-income renter households have a housing cost burden of >30%. This account for 85% of all very low-income renter households.
- 1,740 extremely low-income renter household shave a housing cost burden of >50%. This account for 30% of all very low-income renter households.

NOTE: The four housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities, incomplete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room, and a cost burden greater than 30%. The cost burden is the ratio of housing costs to household income. For renters- housing cost is gross rent (contract rent plus utilities).

QUALIFYING POPULATION: VETERANS AND FAMILIES

Veterans and Families that include a Veteran Family Member that meet the criteria for one of the qualifying populations described above are eligible to receive HOME-ARP assistance.

Amarillo has ³ a veteran civilian population of 12,223, comprising 8.4% of the population.

- Most veterans in Amarillo are men: 89% men and 11% women.
- The largest age group of veterans is 35-54 years old (33%).
- Veterans in Amarillo are generally White (82%). Hispanic/Latino Veterans are 14% of the Veteran population.

The US Census looks at veteran poverty using federal poverty guidelines. The is a separate measurement from the HUD definition of Area Median Income. However, it can still be used to help show the size of a population that has a high likelihood of meeting HUD income guidelines.

Civilian population 18 years and over for whom poverty status is determined	12,038
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level	742
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level	11,296

AMARILLO VETERAN POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

VETERAN CIVILIAN POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OVER FOR WHOM POVERTY STATUS IS DETERMINED	12,038	(X)
INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	742	6.2%
INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS AT OR ABOVE POVERTY LEVEL	11,296	93.80%

US Census identifies 742 veterans who meet the federal poverty status in the past 12 months. This group accounts for 6.2% of veterans in Amarillo.

AMARILLO VETERAN EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

CIVILIAN POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	12,223	(X)
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	801	6.6%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE (INCLUDES EQUIVALENCY)	2,697	22.1%
SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE	4,813	39.4%
BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER	3,912	32.0%

AMARILLO VETERAN DISABILITY STATUS

CIVILIAN POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OVER FOR WHOM POVERTY STATUS IS DETERMINED	12,038	(X)
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³ American Community Survey, S2101, 2021 ACS 1-Year Estimates, Veterans

WITH ANY DISABILITY	3,690	30.7%
WITHOUT A DISABILITY	8,348	69.3%

The 2022 Point in Time Count listed 15 Veterans in emergency shelter and 5 who were unsheltered.

The 2022 Housing Inventory Count list the following for Veterans:

- 229 emergency shelters beds
- 50 transitional housing beds
- 84 places in permanent supportive housing

The service providers for these programs include Salvations Army, Family Support Services, and Faith City Ministries.

IDENTIFY AND CONSIDER THE CURRENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST QUALIFYING POPULATIONS, INCLUDING CONGREGATE AND NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER UNITS, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, TBRA, AND AFFORDABLE AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE RENTAL HOUSING (OPTIONAL):

Data provided is based on the preliminary results of the PIT count from January 27, 2023, consultation with local providers, and publicly available information.

Type of services: (1) congregant and non-congregant shelters, (2) supportive services, (3) TBRA, (4) permanent supportive housing

Qualifying Population: (1) Homeless, (2) At risk of homelessness, (3) Domestic Violence et al., (4) Other populations, (5) Veterans and families

Organization	Services Provided	Type of services:	Qualifying Population:
Faith City Ministries	<p>Faith City Mission has 86 emergency shelter units available.</p> <p>Faith City provides emergency food, clothing, shelter, and showers for Amarillo's homeless community. They serve three hot meals Monday through Saturday. This organization also provides emergency overnight shelter, inclement weather shelter, day room, and Chapel services.</p>	<p>(1) Congregant and Non-congregant shelter (2) Supportive services</p>	<p>(1) Homeless</p>
Family Support Services	<p>FSS has 14 emergency shelter beds for residents who are victims of domestic violence et al.</p> <p>FSS provides a comprehensive network of services in four major areas: domestic violence/sexual assault services, counseling services, educational services, and veterans' services.</p> <p>FSS serves over 25,000 people each year, including victims of sexual assault, family violence, and human trafficking; at-risk children, families, and individuals; people in need of individual, group, marital, and family counseling; and veterans, family members of veterans, and surviving spouses.</p>	<p>(1) Congregant and non-Congregant Shelter (2) Supportive Services</p>	<p>(3) Domestic violence et al. (5) Veterans</p>

	<p>FSS services include crisis and emergency housing services for victims of family violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, individual and family counseling services, prevention services, and a wide variety of services for Veterans, their families, and surviving spouses.</p> <p>FSS also runs the Veterans Resource Center (VRC). The VRC is a veteran-staffed drop-in facility that provides veterans, family members and surviving spouses with the opportunity to make their lives better.</p> <p>The VRC partners with local organizations that help military veterans and family members, including Socks for Soldiers, VetStar, Texas Workforce Solutions, West Texas Legal Aid, Texas Panhandle Centers, Panhandle Honor Flight, the Amarillo VA, and many others.</p>		
The Salvation Army	<p>The Salvation Army has 147 emergency shelter beds</p> <p>Salvation Army of Amarillo has a 147 bed capacity emergency shelters. There are dorms for homeless men, families, women with children, a dorm for addictions, and veterans. Currently 60 beds are filled due to strict requirements. Programs include shelter and food, empower your youth summer camps and after school programs, and music and art programs.</p>	<p>(1) Congregant and Non-congregant Shelter (2) Supportive Services</p>	<p>(1) Homeless (2) Veterans</p>
Another Chance House	<p>Another Chance House has 43 transitional housing beds.</p> <p>Another Chance House provides case management services for homeless men and homeless vets and people in various stages of drug/alcohol recovery. Clients receive assistance obtaining ID, birth certificates, and drivers licenses. Case managers provide counseling, employment services, assistance with budgeting, transportation services, and assistance with paying old debt.</p>	<p>(2) Supportive Services</p>	<p>(1) Homeless</p>
Downtown Women's Center	<p>Downtown Women's Shelter has 125 Transitional Housing</p>		

EXPLAIN HOW THE PJ DETERMINED THE LEVEL OF NEED AND GAPS IN THE PJ'S SHELTER AND HOUSING INVENTORY AND SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEMS BASED ON THE DATA PRESENTED IN THE PLAN:

The City of Amarillo utilized data from the Point In Time Count, Housing Inventory Count, consultation with local providers, and ongoing communication within the Amarillo Continuum of Care to determine the need and gaps in the shelter and housing inventory and service delivery system.

Type of services: (1) congregant and non-congregant shelters, (2) supportive services, (3) TBRA, (4) permanent supportive housing

Qualifying Population: (1) Homeless, (2) At risk of homelessness, (3) Domestic Violence et al., (4) Other populations, (5) Veterans and families

The data and consultation process showed that there is a need for;

- **Congregant and Non-Congregant Shelters.** Providers of emergency shelter operations stated that they are almost always at capacity. Other social service providers stated that they have difficulty finding shelter space for their clients. This is especially acute for people who are being discharged from institutions such as the hospital, jails, etc.

There is no low-barrier emergency shelter for residents in Amarillo. Amarillo's most recent 2023 Point in Time Count counted a total of 692 people who were experiencing homelessness; over 60% (421 people) were unsheltered. ***Amarillo lacks enough shelter beds that meet the needs of residents.***

- **Supportive Services.** Supportive services are available to all qualifying populations in Amarillo from a variety of providers. However, residents would need to access services from many separate agencies with differing types of eligibility requirements. Services are often only available for a limited time period due to expended grant funds, lag between funding cycles, or an organization not receiving ongoing grant support.

Supportive services are mostly targeted towards residents who are currently experiencing homelessness. Residents who are at risk of homelessness or other groups at risk of housing instability often access service that are temporary or time limited.

Community respondents consistently mentioned that lack of reliable transportation was a challenge for their clients to access services, travel to employment, and meet the needs of daily living. Many also mentioned that their clients struggle with getting ID's. Access to behavioral health continues to be a significant challenge. Many clients need more comprehensive case management to help them achieve housing stability.

Amarillo needs comprehensive supportive services for all qualifying populations that meet their most immediate needs and addresses the unique long-term challenges for each household.

- **TBRA.** At the heart of it all is a lack of housing that is affordable for people who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability. The City of Amarillo administers that local housing choice voucher program (HCV), and they report that they have a sizable number of vouchers that are unused because residents cannot find property owners willing to take the voucher and/or who charge rental rates that meet HUD standards.

There need for affordable and stable housing in Amarillo is an ongoing struggle. Rental prices continue to rise out of the reach of extremely low and very low-income residents. Housing cost burden impacts the vast majority of this population. ***The City needs more rental properties that are willing to rent to residents in the TBRA program and those with a housing choice voucher (HCV).***

- **Permanent Supportive Housing.** Amarillo has a sizable amount of rental housing that was built prior to 1979 and has substantial deferred maintenance. Community service providers report that residents are living in housing that lacks heating/air conditioning, running water, or has broken windows.

The City considered the feedback when deciding how to allocated HOME-ARP funds among eligible activities. The information was also part of the review process of determining preferences, methods of prioritizations, or limitations on eligibility of qualifying populations for a HOME-ARP activity. The City also integrated this feedback into the decision of how to use the referral process.

The feedback demonstrated the need for addressing instability within all of the qualifying populations (QP) in Amarillo. The concentration of resources on any one group comes at the cost of another population. Housing and financial stability within all qualifying populations has a downstream impact reducing homelessness and housing instability. Resources that help Amarillo residents most at risk of becoming unhoused and unsheltered has a lasting and long term benefit to the households. The City used this information to determine that preferences and prioritizations might limit resources to a household facing the imminent risk of becoming homeless.

HOME-ARP ACTIVITIES

The City of Amarillo will utilize HOME-ARP funding for supportive services for all qualifying populations.

HOME-ARP funds may provide a broad range of supportive services to qualifying individuals or families as a separate activity or in combination with other HOME-ARP activities. Supportive services will be made available to all individuals and families who meet the definition of a qualifying population on a first-come, first-served basis.

DESCRIBE THE METHOD(S) THAT WILL BE USED FOR SOLICITING APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING AND/OR SELECTING DEVELOPERS, SERVICE PROVIDERS, SUBRECIPIENTS AND/OR CONTRACTORS:

The City of Amarillo will provide direct administration to the supportive services.

DESCRIBE WHETHER THE PJ WILL ADMINISTER ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY:

The City of Amarillo will provide direct administration to the supportive services.

IF ANY PORTION OF THE PJ'S HOME-ARP ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS ARE PROVIDED TO A SUBRECIPIENT OR CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO HUD'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN BECAUSE THE SUBRECIPIENT OR CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PJ'S ENTIRE HOME-ARP GRANT, IDENTIFY THE SUBRECIPIENT OR CONTRACTOR AND DESCRIBE ITS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN ADMINISTERING ALL OF THE PJ'S HOME-ARP PROGRAM:

The City of Amarillo did not provide any funding to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD acceptance of the HOME ARP Allocation Plan.

HOME-ARP FUNDING

The City of Amarillo will receive **\$2,560,840.00** as an **American Rescue Plan Act HOME Supplemental Allocation**. The City plans to spend the funding on supportive services to help the City's HOME ARP qualifying populations. The HOME ARP supportive services will help augment the programs that the City already has in place or are in development to address homelessness and housing instability.

Eligible Activities	85% of the funding will be used for supportive services. (\$2,176,714.00) 15% will be used for program administration and planning. (\$384,126.00)
Preference Methods	The City will not use any preference methods to determine who will access supportive services first. All eligible residents who meet the requirements of a qualifying population will be served.
Referral Method	The City's homelessness community outreach team, Coming Home, will provide intake and eligibility screening for all program participants . The Coming Home team will take referrals from the Coordinated Entry (CE) for Continuum of Care participating organizations and outside referrals.
Waitlist	The City will not have a waiting list that has preference for one qualifying population over another. If the City does establish a waitlist, the eligible applicants will be served in chronological order .

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 2,176,714.00		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ #		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ #		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ #		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ #	# %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ #	# %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 384,126.00	15 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 2,560,840.00		

HOME-ARP PRODUCTION HOUSING GOALS

The City of Amarillo's HOME ARP Allocation Plan does not include any housing activities.

PREFERENCES

ARP establishes the qualifying populations that are eligible for assistance with HOME-ARP funds. The City of Amarillo may establish reasonable preferences among the qualifying populations to prioritize applicants for HOME-ARP projects or activities based on the identified needs and priorities as described in this HOME-ARP allocation plan.

The Coordinated Entry process will not prioritize qualifying populations. All residents who are eligible qualifying population will receive services on a first come, first served basis. The City has determined that each of the qualifying populations in Amarillo is in need of assistance. Each qualifying population is at extreme risk of having a deterioration in their unstable housing situation. Ultimately, each of the qualifying populations has a high chance of becoming homeless and unsheltered.

The City of Amarillo will not implement a preference for any qualifying population.

- All residents who meet the eligibility requirements as a qualifying population will be able to receive supportive services through HOME ARP funding.
- Activities and projects will not target a qualifying population or subpopulation.
- The Coordinated Entry process for Amarillo will be expanded to include all qualifying populations. Referrals to receive HOME ARP supportive service will encourage but not require coordinated entry. This allows for populations, such as domestic abuse survivors, to participate without having personally identifying information recorded into a shared database.
- Coordinated entry, for the use of HOME ARP supportive service activities, will not place a priority on any one qualifying population.
- The City understands that the state of experiencing homelessness and housing instability are intertwined. To help best address a complex and comprehensive problem, it is critical to provide assistance to all qualifying populations.
- The City will utilize the definitions of qualifying populations provided in Notice: CPD-21-10. The City is not expanding in any definitions beyond those provided.

IDENTIFY WHETHER THE PJ INTENDS TO GIVE PREFERENCE TO ONE OR MORE QUALIFYING POPULATIONS OR A SUBPOPULATION WITHIN ONE OR MORE QUALIFYING POPULATIONS FOR ANY ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY OR PROJECT:

The City of Amarillo will not give a preference to within eligible qualifying populations for supportive services. Services will be provided to eligible residents on a first come, first served basis.

REFERRAL METHODS

The City of Amarillo will use the coordinated entry for direct referrals to HOME-ARP supportive service activities. The coordinated entry process will expand to accept all HOME-ARP qualifying populations and will implement the preferences and prioritization established by the City in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. The City is not placing any preference or prioritizations for eligible qualifying populations receiving HOME ARP supportive services.

The City will also receive indirect referrals into the program. This will help ensure that the local domestic violence provider is able to refer clients into the program and outside service providers who might not be a member of the continuum of care.

IDENTIFY THE REFERRAL METHODS THAT THE PJ INTENDS TO USE FOR ITS HOME-ARP PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES. PJ'S MAY USE MULTIPLE REFERRAL METHODS IN ITS HOME-ARP PROGRAM. (OPTIONAL):

The City of Amarillo will work with the Continuum of Care to update the coordinated entry process to include qualifying populations.

Referrals will be taken from both the coordinated entry process and direct referrals from outside agencies. Residents in Amarillo will also be allowed to do a direct intake into the program.

IF THE PJ INTENDS TO USE THE COORDINATED ENTRY (CE) PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE COC, DESCRIBE WHETHER ALL QUALIFYING POPULATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR A PROJECT OR ACTIVITY WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE CE PROCESS, OR THE METHOD BY WHICH ALL QUALIFYING POPULATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROJECT OR ACTIVITY WILL BE COVERED. (OPTIONAL):

All qualifying populations will be eligible for coordinated entry to receive services. Organizations and individuals may opt out of participating in coordinated entry. This is especially important for working with domestic violence providers who need to maintain client confidentiality and safety in the community.

IF THE PJ INTENDS TO USE THE CE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE COC, DESCRIBE THE METHOD OF PRIORITIZATION TO BE USED BY THE CE. (OPTIONAL):

The City will not use prioritization. Residents who are an eligible qualifying population will be served in chronological order.

IF THE PJ INTENDS TO USE BOTH A CE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE COC AND ANOTHER REFERRAL METHOD FOR A PROJECT OR ACTIVITY, DESCRIBE ANY METHOD OF PRIORITIZATION BETWEEN THE TWO REFERRAL METHODS, IF ANY. (OPTIONAL):

There will not be a prioritization between differing referral methods. Services will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. The City will keep a log of when a resident meets the qualification requirements as the date of intake into the program.

LIMITATIONS IN A HOME-ARP RENTAL HOUSING OR NCS PROJECT

The City of Amarillo does not intend to use HOME ARP funding for rental housing or non-congregant shelter activities.

Affordable rental housing and the development of non-congregant shelter are a high priority in Amarillo.

- The City will continue to use annual HOME funding allocation for TBRA activities.
- City general funds to help build out non-congregant shelter for residents who are experiencing homelessness.

HOME-ARP REFINANCING GUIDELINES

The City of Amarillo does not intend to use HOME ARP funding to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds.

APPENDIX A: RESOURCES

2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

American Community Survey

[DP02 SELECTED SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES](#)

2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

American Community Survey

[DP03 SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS](#)

2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

American Community Survey

[DP04SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)

2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

American Community Survey

[DP05 ACS DEMOGRAPHIC AND HOUSING ESTIMATES](#)

2017—2021 ACS 5-Year Narrative Profile

American Community Survey

[Amarillo City, Texas](#)

[Amarillo city, Texas; Potter County, Texas; Randall County, Texas; Texas; United States](#)

QuickFacts

United States Census Bureau

[The FY 2023 Amarillo, TX HUD Metro FMR Area FMRs for All Bedroom Sizes](#)

FY 2023 Fair Market Rent Documentation System

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

[Amarillo, TX HUD Metro FMR Area](#)

FY 2022 Income Limits Documentation System

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

[Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family and Number of Children](#)

Poverty Thresholds

United State Census Bureau

SOH: State and CoC Dashboards

National Alliance to End Homelessness
State of Homelessness - Texas

ALL IN: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

United States Interagency Council of Homelessness

House America

House America: An All-Hands-on-Deck Effort to Address the Nation's Homelessness Crisis

House America: An All-Hands-on-Deck Effort to Address the Nation's Homelessness Crisis is a federal initiative in which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) are inviting mayors, city and county leaders, tribal nation leaders, and governors into a national partnership. House America will utilize the historic investments provided through the American Rescue Plan to address the crisis of homelessness through a Housing First approach.

Subject: Notice Establishing Additional Requirements for a Continuum of Care Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System

HUD Notice: CPD-17-01

576.400 Area-wide systems coordination requirements.

Part 576 Emergency Service Grants

Code of Federal Regulations

The 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development

Worse Case Housing Needs, 2021 Report to Congress

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research

APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHICS

- 15.8% of people in Amarillo met the US Census income definition of poverty.
- The median income of households in Amarillo, Texas is \$55,174. An estimated **6.2% of households had income below \$10,000 a year**
- **The median age in Amarillo is 34.1 years.** An estimated 27.1% of the population was under 18 years, 37.5% was 18 to 44 years
- An estimated 34.0% of the people in Amarillo, Texas were Hispanic or Latino. An estimated 52.5% of the people in Amarillo, Texas were White alone, non-Hispanic.
- 24.1% of Amarillo residents use a language other than English at home.
- In Amarillo, Texas 4,878 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of those grandparents, 56.4% were responsible for the basic needs of their grandchildren.
- 11.3% of Amarillo residents have a disability.

As of July 2021, the population of the City of Amarillo is estimated at 201,234, roughly the same since 2010.⁴

<i>Population</i>	Amarillo, Texas	<i>Potter County, Texas</i>	<i>Randall County, Texas</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>United States</i>
<i>Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)</i>	201,234	116,547	143,854	29,527,941	331,893,745
<i>Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2021)</i>	200,904	118,525	140,753	29,145,505	331,449,281
<i>Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2021, (V2021)</i>	0.20%	-1.70%	2.20%	1.30%	0.10%
<i>Population, Census, April 1, 2020</i>	200,393	118,525	140,753	29,145,505	331,449,281
<i>Population, Census, April 1, 2010</i>	190,695	121,073	120,725	25,145,561	308,745,538

In 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS), Amarillo, Texas had a total population of 200,371 - 101,739 (50.8%) females and 98,632 (49.2%) males. **The median age was 34.1 years.** An estimated 27.1% of the population was under 18 years, **37.5% was 18 to 44 years**, 21.5% was 45 to 64 years, and 13.7% was 65 years and older.⁵

Population by Age and Sex for Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Male	Female
Under 5	7,829	7,002
5 to 9	8,008	7,669

⁴ US Census, QuickFacts

⁵ US Census, 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS)

10 to 14	7,743	7,363
15 to 19	6,774	6,915
20 to 24	6,666	6,305
25 to 29	7,349	7,845
30 to 34	7,630	7,465
35 to 39	7,935	6,940
40 to 44	5,732	6,474
45 to 49	5,177	5,356
50 to 54	5,461	5,708
55 to 59	4,989	5,450
60 to 64	5,424	5,640
65 to 69	4,417	4,824
70 to 74	3,100	4,005
75 to 79	1,899	2,630
80 to 84	1,317	2,007
85 and over	1,182	2,141

HISPANIC ORIGIN AND RACE⁶

For people reporting one race alone, 76.7% were White; 7.1% were Black or African American; 0.8% were American Indian and Alaska Native; 4.2% were Asian; 0.1% were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 3.6% were Some other race. An estimated 7.5% reported Two or more races.

Race	Fact Note	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
White alone]		76.70%	79.80%	90.80%	77.90%	75.80%
Black or African American alone	(a)	7.10%	11.20%	3.90%	13.20%	13.60%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	(a)	0.80%	1.40%	1.00%	1.10%	1.30%
Asian alone	(a)	4.20%	5.10%	2.00%	5.50%	6.10%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	(a)	0.10%	0.20%	0.10%	0.20%	0.30%
Two or More Races		7.50%	2.30%	2.10%	2.20%	2.90%

(a) Includes persons reporting only one race

⁶ DP05 | Selected Demographic Characteristics
S0101 | Age and Sex

An estimated **34.0%** of the people in Amarillo, Texas were Hispanic or Latino. An estimated **52.5%** of the people in Amarillo, Texas were White alone, non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Ethnicity	Fact Note	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Hispanic or Latino, percent	(b)	34.00%	40.10%	24.90%	40.20%	18.90%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent		52.50%	42.70%	67.70%	40.30%	59.30%

(b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

NATIVITY AND FOREIGN-BORN

In 2017-2021, an estimated **88.3%** of the people living in Amarillo, Texas were U.S. natives. 66.0% of the Amarillo, Texas population were living in the state where they were born.

Approximately **11.7%** of Amarillo, Texas residents in 2017-2021 were foreign-born. 36.3% of foreign-born were naturalized U.S. citizens, and an estimated **74.1%** entered the country before the year 2010.

Foreign-born residents of Amarillo, Texas come from different parts of the world. The bar graph below displays the percentage of foreign-born from each world region of birth in 2017-2021 for Amarillo, Texas

Region of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Latin America	54.7%
Asia	26.6%
Europe	4.0%
Africa	13.6%
Northern America	1.1%
Oceania	0.1%

	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Foreign-born persons, percent, 2017-2021	11.70%	15.60%	5.30%	17.00%	13.60%

LANGUAGE

Among people at least five years old living in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021, **24.1% spoke a language other than English at home.** Spanish was spoken by 17.9% of people at least five years old; 9.0% reported that they did not speak English "very well."

Percent of the Population 5 years and over who Speak a Language other than English in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Spanish	17.9%
Other Indo-European languages	1.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	3.6%
Other languages	1.6%

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES⁷

In 2017-2021, there were **78,540 households in Amarillo, Texas.** The average household size was 2.53 people.

Married-couple households made up 45.2% of the households in Amarillo, Texas while cohabiting couple households made up 4.7% of households. **Female householders with no spouse or partner present were 29.6% of all households,** while 20.5% of households had male householders with no spouse or partner present. Some households had one person, as 14.7% of households were male householders living alone, and 16.2% were female householders living alone, for a total of 30.9% of all households.

In Amarillo, Texas **34.5% of all households have one or more people under the age of 18;** 25.7% of all households have one or more people 65 years and over.

Types of Households in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Married-couple households	45.2%
Cohabiting Couples	4.7%
Male Householder No spouse/partner present	20.5%
Female Householder No spouse/partner present	29.6%

⁷ 2017—2021 ACS 5-Year - DP02 - Selected Social Characteristics in the United States

MARITAL STATUS

Among persons 15 and older, 52.1% of males and 48.0% of females are currently married.

Population 15 years and over	Percent Males	Percent Females
Never married	32.0%	27.3%
Now married, except separated	52.1%	48.0%
Separated	1.9%	3.0%
Widowed	3.7%	8.2%
Divorced	10.3%	13.6%

GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDCHILDREN

In Amarillo, Texas 4,878 grandparents lived with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of those grandparents, **56.4% were responsible for the basic needs of their grandchildren.**

GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY

In 2017-2021, 84.3% of the people at least one-year-old living in Amarillo, Texas were living in the same house one year earlier.

Geographic Mobility of Residents of Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Same house	84.3%
Different house, same county	8.7%
Different county, same state	5.1%
Different state	1.6%
Abroad	0.3%

EDUCATION

In 2017-2021, 85.4% of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school, and 24.3% had a bachelor's degree or higher. An estimated 14.6% did not complete high school.

The total school enrollment in Amarillo, Texas was 52,987 in 2017-2021. Nursery school enrollment was 3,695, and kindergarten through 12th-grade enrollment was 38,349. College or graduate school enrollment was 10,943.

Educational Attainment of People in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Less than high school diploma	14.6%
High school diploma or equivalency	27.4%
Some college, no degree	25.0%
Associate's degree	8.6%
Bachelor's degree	16.6%
Graduate or professional degree	7.7%

DISABILITY

In Amarillo, Texas among the civilian noninstitutionalized population in 2017-2021, **11.3% reported a disability**. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 2.4% of people under 18 years old, to 9.9% of people 18 to 64 years old and to 35.5% of those 65 and over.

INCOME

The median income of households in Amarillo, Texas was \$55,174. An estimated **6.2% of households had income below \$10,000 a year**, and 4.9% had income over \$200,000 or more.

Household Income in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Less than \$10,000	6.2%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	6.2%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	4.2%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10.4%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	11.5%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	13.1%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	18.4%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	13.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	13.2%
\$200,000 or more	5.0%

	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Median household income (in 2021 dollars), 2017-2021	\$55,174	\$45,096	\$70,544	\$67,321	\$69,021
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2021 dollars), 2017-2021	\$30,474	\$23,968	\$36,899	\$34,255	\$37,638
Persons in poverty, percent	15.80%	20.70%	9.10%	14.20%	11.60%

MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR FULL-TIME YEAR-ROUND WORKERS

Median earnings for full-time, year-round workers was \$43,987. Male full-time, year-round workers had median earnings of \$49,285. Female full-time, year-round workers had median earnings of \$37,972.

Median Earnings for Full-Time Year-Round Workers by Sex in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Number
Male	\$49,285
Female	\$37,972

An estimated 80.2% of households received earnings. An estimated 25.9% of households received Social Security, and an estimated 17.0% of households received retirement income other than Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$19,637. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.⁸

Proportion of Households with Various Income Sources in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Earnings	80.2%
Social Security	25.9%
Retirement income	17.0%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	4.5%
Cash public assistance income	1.7%

⁸ DP03 | Selected Economic Characteristics

B20018 | Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months (In 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) for the Population 16 Years and Over Who Worked Full-time, Year-Round with Earnings in the Past 12 Months

POVERTY AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS⁹

Poverty thresholds are used for calculating all official poverty population statistics — for instance, figures on the number of Americans in poverty each year. They are updated each year by the Census Bureau. **The Census Bureau's poverty thresholds are the same nationwide, with no separate figures for different states, metropolitan areas, or cities.**

Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years Old: 2021										
(In dollars)										
Size of family unit	Weighted average threshold	Related children under 18 years								
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual):	\$13,788	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under age 65	\$14,097	\$14,097	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aged 65 and older	\$12,996	\$12,996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Two people:	\$17,529	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Householder under age 65	\$18,231	\$18,145	\$18,677	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Householder aged 65 and over	\$16,400	\$16,379	\$18,606	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Three people	\$21,559	\$21,196	\$21,811	\$21,831	-	-	-	-	-	-
Four people	\$27,740	\$27,949	\$28,406	\$27,479	\$27,575	-	-	-	-	-
Five people	\$32,865	\$33,705	\$34,195	\$33,148	\$32,338	\$31,843	-	-	-	-
Six people	\$37,161	\$38,767	\$38,921	\$38,119	\$37,350	\$36,207	\$35,529	-	-	-
Seven people	\$42,156	\$44,606	\$44,885	\$43,925	\$43,255	\$42,009	\$40,554	\$38,958	-	-
Eight people	\$47,093	\$49,888	\$50,329	\$49,423	\$48,629	\$47,503	\$46,073	\$44,585	\$44,207	-
Nine or more people	\$56,325	\$60,012	\$60,303	\$59,501	\$58,828	\$57,722	\$56,201	\$54,826	\$54,485	\$52,386

⁹ DP03 | Selected Economic Characteristics
S2201 | Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The Department of Health and Human Services' poverty guidelines, which are a simplified version of the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds used for program eligibility purposes, are the same for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia. The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines, or percentage multiples of them (such as 125 percent, 150 percent, or 185 percent), are used as an eligibility criterion by a number of federal programs, including those listed below.

United States Department of Health and Human Services

Community Services Block Grant	Children's Health Insurance Program	Health Careers Opportunity Program
Head Start	Medicare – Prescription Drug Coverage (subsidized portion only)	Scholarships for Health Professions Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	Community Health Centers	Job Opportunities for Low-Income Individuals
PARTS of Medicaid	Migrant Health Centers	Assets for Independence Demonstration Program
Hill-Burton Uncompensated Services Program	Family Planning Services	
AIDS Drug Assistance Program	Health Professions Student Loans — Loans for Disadvantaged Students	

United States Department of Agriculture

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamp Program)	National School Lunch Program (for free and reduced-price meals only)	Child and Adult Care Food Program (for free and reduced-price meals only)
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	School Breakfast Program (for free and reduced-price meals only)	Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

United States Department of Energy

Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons

United States Department of Labor

Job Corps	Workforce Investment Act Youth Activities
National Farmworker Jobs Program	
Senior Community Service Employment Program	

Federal Poverty Guidelines

Some state and local governments have chosen to use the federal poverty guidelines in some of their own programs and activities. Examples include financial guidelines for child support enforcement and determination of legal indigence for court purposes. Some private companies (such as utilities, telephone companies, and pharmaceutical companies) and some charitable agencies also use the guidelines in setting eligibility for their services to low-income persons.

In 2017-2021, **15.8% of people in Amarillo met the US Census income definition of poverty.**

- An estimated **20.9% of children under 18 were below the poverty level**, compared with 12.8% of people 65 years old and over.
- An estimated 14.1% of people 18 to 64 years were below the poverty level.

Poverty Rates in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
People in poverty	15.8%
Children under 18 years below poverty	20.9%
People 65 years old and over below poverty	12.8%
People 18 to 64 years below poverty	14.1%

In 2017-2021, **10.5% of households received SNAP** (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

- An estimated **57.4% of households that received SNAP had children under 18**
- 29.8% of households that received SNAP had one or more people 60 years and over
- An estimated **41.5% of all households receiving SNAP were families with a female householder and no spouse present**
- An estimated 25.7% of households receiving SNAP had two or more workers in the past 12 months

	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Persons in poverty, percent	15.80%	20.70%	9.10%	14.20%	11.60%

HOUSING INVENTORY CHARACTERISTICS ¹⁰

2017-2021, Amarillo, Texas had a total of **87,379 housing units**.

- Of these housing units, **73.2% were single-family** houses either not attached to any other structure or attached to one or more structures (commonly referred to as "townhouses" or "row houses").
- **23% of the housing units were located in multi-unit structures** or those buildings that contained two or more apartments.
- 3.6% were mobile homes, while any remaining housing units were classified as "other," which included boats, recreational vehicles, vans, etc.

Types of Housing Units in Amarillo, Texas in 2017-2021	Percent
Single-family houses	73.2%
Apartments in multi-unit structures	23.0%
Mobile homes	3.6%
Boat, RV, van, etc	0.0%

8.7% of the housing inventory was comprised of houses built since 2010, while 6.3% of the houses were first built in 1939 or earlier. The median number of rooms in all housing units in Amarillo, Texas was 5.2 rooms, and of these housing units, 60.0% had three or more bedrooms.

OCCUPIED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS¹¹

In 2017-2021, Amarillo, Texas had 78,540 housing units that were occupied or had people living in them, while the remaining **8,839 were vacant**. Of the occupied housing units, the percentage of these houses occupied by owners (also known as the homeownership rate) was 58.7%, while **renters occupied 41.3%**. The average household size of owner-occupied houses was 2.66, and in renter-occupied houses, it was 2.34.

13.1% of householders of these occupied houses had moved into their house since 2019, while 8.7% moved into their house in 1989 or earlier. **Households without a vehicle available for personal use comprised 6.1%**, and another 20.0% had three or more vehicles available for use.

Fact	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2017-2021	58.70%	55.20%	69.10%	62.40%	64.60%

¹⁰ DP04 | Selected Housing Characteristics

¹¹ DP04 | Selected Housing Characteristics

Housing	Amarillo, Texas	Potter County, Texas	Randall County, Texas	Texas	United States
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2017-2021	\$148,500	\$102,000	\$181,900	\$202,600	\$244,900
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2017-2021	\$1,380	\$1,200	\$1,560	\$1,747	\$1,697
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2017-2021	\$519	\$431	\$594	\$557	\$538
Median gross rent, 2017-2021	\$928	\$876	\$999	\$1,146	\$1,163

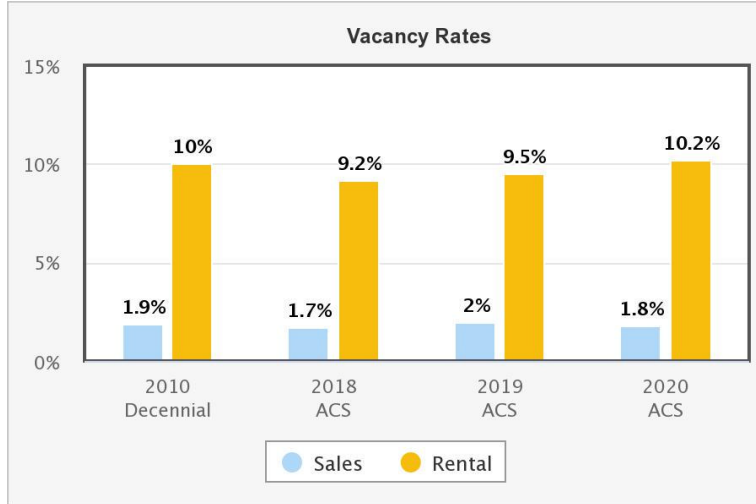
FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND HOUSING COSTS¹²

In 2017-2021, the median property value for owner-occupied houses in Amarillo, Texas was \$148,500.

Of the owner-occupied households, 57.8% had a mortgage. 42.2% owned their houses "free and clear," that is without a primary mortgage or loan on the house. The median monthly housing costs for owners with a mortgage was \$1,380, and for owners without a mortgage, it was \$519.

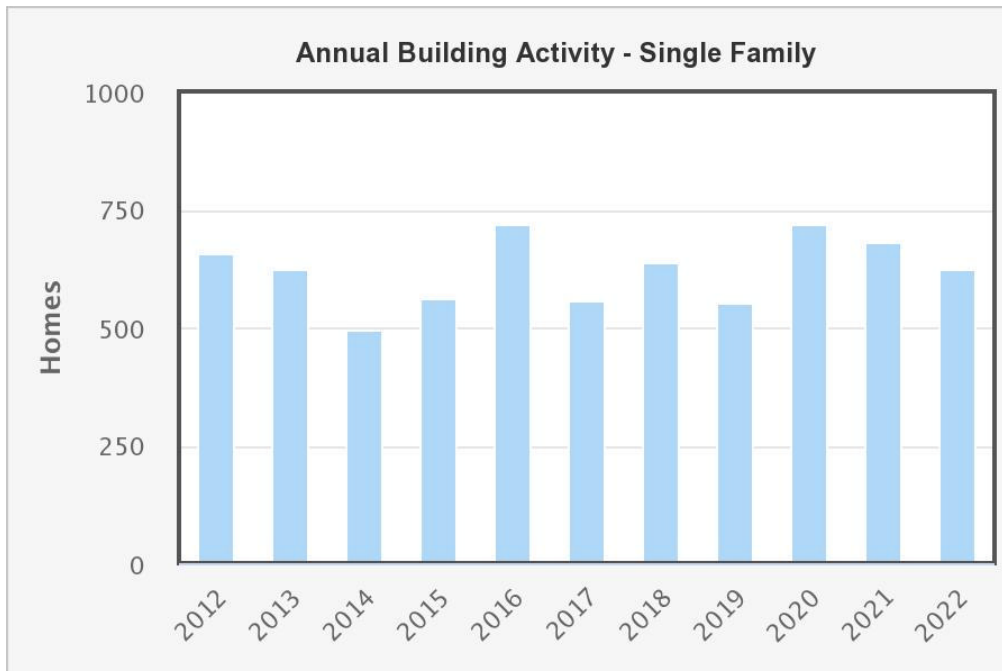
For renter-occupied houses, the median gross rent for Amarillo, Texas was \$928. Gross rent includes the monthly contract rent and any monthly payments made for electricity, gas, water and sewer, and any other fuels to heat the house.

¹² DP04 | Selected Housing Characteristics



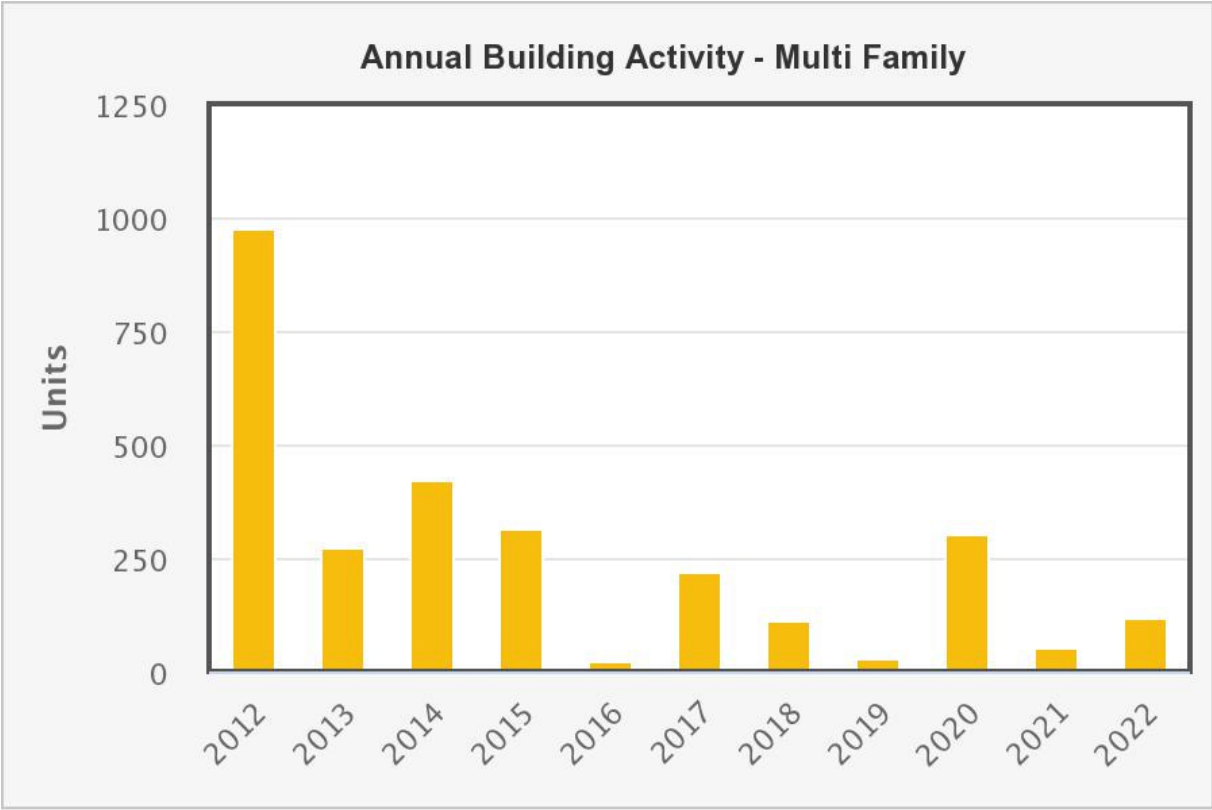
Data Source: 2010 Census; 2018, 2019, and 2020 American Community Surveys (5-Year)

Note: 2019 ACS 1-Year data may not be available for some metro areas due to being dropped from the September 2018 OMB metro area definitions



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey

Note: Data for 2022 is preliminary, through September 2022



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey

Note: Data for 2022 is preliminary, through September 2022