



Town of Paradise, California

SECOND PROGRAM YEAR CAPER

(July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011)

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) covers the program year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011. The Town received \$239,653 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the 2010-2011 program year. The funds were allocated in compliance with the 2010-2011 Annual Action Plan as approved by the Paradise Town Council. A substantial amendment was submitted and approved by HUD and the Paradise Town Council after the required public review period and public hearing to reallocate CDBG funds previously earmarked for other projects. This amendment will be discussed later in this document. The activities funding in the 2010-2011 program year were:

- Public Services\$35,948
- Housing Assistance.....\$64,706
- Planning and General Administration.....\$47,931
- Public Facilities.....\$91,068

The following table (Table 1) depicts a breakdown of funds allocated and expended by specific category and also shows the funds allocated/expended in community facilities in all open program years. For further information, narrative explanations follow behind the tables.

Table 1. Funds Allocated/Expended by Program Year This table includes all open grant program years			
PROGRAM YEAR		2010-2011	
Activity	Site Address	Funds Allocated	Funds Expended
Boys & Girls Club	6249 Skyway	\$4,000	\$4,000
Catalyst, Women’s Advocates	6249 Skyway	\$10,000	\$10,000
Paradise Recreation and Park District	6626 Skyway	\$4,000	\$4,000
Peg Taylor Adult Day Health Care Center	124 Parmac, Chico	\$5,000	\$5,000

STRIVE	6626 Skyway	\$2,000	\$2,000
Work Training Center	7837 Skyway	\$2,948	\$2,948
Youth for Change	5538 Skyway	\$8,000	\$8,000
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$64,706	\$52,296
Public Facilities	Various Locations	\$91,068	\$45,495
Program Planning & Administration	5555 Skyway	\$47,931	\$47,931
Program Year		2009-2010	
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$64,317	\$64,317
Program Year		2008-09	
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$62,826	\$62,826
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act	Black Olive Park and Ride	\$59,677	\$46,609
Public Facilities – Wastewater Treatment	Wastewater Treatment Paradise Community Village-Affordable Housing	\$80,000	\$4,400
Program Year		2007-08	
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$81,700	\$53,650
Public Facilities -Wastewater Treatment	Wastewater Treatment Paradise Community Village-Affordable Housing	\$66,990	\$35,123
Program Year		2006-07	
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$113,644	\$104,702
Public Facilities -Wastewater Treatment	Wastewater Treatment Paradise Community Village-Affordable Housing	\$36,000	\$22,020
Program Year		2005-06	
Housing Programs	Various Locations	\$132,478	\$132,478
Public Facilities	Wastewater Treatment Paradise Community Village-Affordable Housing	\$35,178	\$6,361

Program Year		2004-05	
Housing Programs	Various Location	\$104,000	\$104,000
Public Facilities	Wastewater Treatment Paradise Community Village-Affordable Housing	\$42,720	\$37,954

The following table (Table 2) lists the goals and accomplishments for the program year period.

Table 2. Goals/Accomplishments			
Activity	Goal	Accomplishments	Funds Expended
Housing Assistance	25	19	\$52,296
Public Facilities	2	1	\$45,495
Boys & Girls Club	25	36	\$4,000
Catalyst	200	201	\$10,000
CHCC	59	46	\$7,000
PRPD	79	79	\$4,000
Peg Taylor Center	656	656	\$5,000
STRIVE	33	25	\$2,000
Youth for Change	200	596	\$8,000
Work Training Center	18	22	\$2,948

Community Organizations

As a part of the Community Development Block Group (CDBG) Annual Plan process, the Town has the option of allocating a maximum of 15% of its annual CDBG budget to fund eligible public services in the community. Council directed staff to establish a sub-committee consisting of two council representatives and two staff members to hold preliminary interviews with interested subrecipients. The purpose of the subcommittee was to meet with the subrecipients and make a formal recommendation to the Council for final approval.

In accordance with HUD regulations, a notice was published in the newspaper announcing that funding would be available. Notices were placed at the Family Resource Center, the Senior Center, and the Library, and in the Chamber e-newsletter. As a courtesy, notices were also sent to prior year subrecipients, as well as to agencies that called for applications. Ten organizations responded to the request for funding proposals by submitting a formal application, eleven of those were eligible for the interview. The subcommittee, consisting of Council members Culleton and DiDuca, along with the Director of Business and Housing Services and

the Administrative Analyst for the division, met with each of the applicants on February 26, 2010.

In forming its recommendation, the committee discussed the current economic downturn and its effect on non-profit organizations, especially those that provide vital services that assist individuals and families in crisis. Although all of the organizations were deserving, the Town's allotment was much smaller than the requests for funding. This is a major factor in the discrepancy between the number of proposed vs. actual accomplishments. The committee was faced with a tough decision and decided to focus on emergency and vital services that assist individuals and families in crisis, especially those badly affected by the economy.

Applicant Name:	Request Amount:	Proposed Program	Sub-committee Recommendation	Council Recommendation
Strive	\$3,500	Support for individuals with disabilities, rental fee for St. Nicholas Episcopal Church and Grange Hall.	\$2,000	\$2,000
Boys & Girls Club	\$10,885	New educational program for teens focusing on financial literacy, awareness and responsibility.	\$4,000	\$4,000
Peg Taylor Center	\$9,150	Services for physically & developmentally challenged residents, and services for senior population	\$5,000	\$5,000
Paradise Recreation and Park District	\$5,000	Scholarships for low/moderate income youth to participate in PRPD Youth Sports	\$4,000	\$4,000
Work Training Center	\$9,400	Buy a new kiln to increase production of artwork for Made in Paradise store.	\$2,948	\$2,948
Youth for Change	\$8,000	Assistance to low income families to pay for emergency needs and bills.	\$8,000	\$8,000
Housing Authority	\$2,300	Funding for the part-time Continuum of Care Coordinator.	\$0	\$0
Catalyst	\$10,361	Service needs of domestic violence and children, shelters, hotlines, counseling, restraining orders.	\$10,000	\$10,000
Paradise Center for Tolerance & Nonviolence	\$3,500	Hire a part-time Youth Director to coordinate the youth bullying program (STARS) at local schools.	\$0	\$0
Salvation Army	\$7,500	Monetary assistance to residents who are facing eviction or foreclosure.	\$0	\$0
Community Housing & Credit Counseling	\$7,000	Provide educational sessions to low/moderate families and individuals in the areas of first time home ownership, rental and financial management at a Paradise location.	Will fund out of Housing budget	Approved
TOTAL	\$75,596	Funding available: \$35,948	\$35,948	\$35,948

Housing Programs

The Town has one full time staff devoted exclusively to housing activities. Additionally, two full-time personnel and one accounting person provide support and assistance as needed. During the 2010-2011 year, approximately \$612,797.78 was spent on mortgage assistance and owner-occupied housing rehabilitation programs. This amount includes all funding sources, including revolving fund and program income accounts. The Town's current housing program funded by CDBG, HOME, CalHome, is very successful and crucial to low/mod income residents.

Public Improvements

While the town's leadership is pleased with the progress it has made in improving the community's housing conditions, economic stability, and social services network, they realize that we are at the tipping point of being able to make long-term improvements that will bring about stability in all of these areas. Despite our Sierra foothills rustic charm and endless natural beauty, the Town of Paradise – all 27,000+ residents and business – flush their toilets and drain their drains into septic systems and leach lines in their backyards, under their parking lots, and in some cases under their commercial buildings. The town has programs in place to ensure that this approach of on-site wastewater disposal continues to function in a healthy and environmentally compatible way for our residential areas. However, the state of affairs in the commercial areas is not as sustainable.

To address the approaching reality that businesses and residents along the town's Skyway corridor will be unable to use their existing septic/leach field systems much longer, and that they will not be able to replace those systems within their property boundaries due to environmental and public health constraints, the town is planning to construct a clustered collection and treatment system. The system will eventually serve the Skyway corridor. The treatment site for the residents and businesses is currently being assessed, with three potential options under review. CDBG will not be the sole funding source for the project, but it can be the critical funding that allows this community to move into the 21st Century.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

The Town of Paradise submitted a Substantial Amendment to the 2008-2009 Annual Plan on June 2, 2009. The amendment was approved and the ARRA money was earmarked to be used in combination with federal CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program) monies to improve pedestrian walkways from Pearson to Foster Road. The project promotes economic development in Paradies' Downtown area and provides much needed Downtown Parking. The proposed park-and-ride facility and pedestrian improvements will mitigate pollution by providing a facility where carpools can meet and catch rides, or catch the bus which is stationed a block away. The facility also allows for a more 'walk-able' downtown. Construction is in progress and the project is expected to be completed in Fall 2011.

Managing the Process

The Community Development Block Grant Program is an integral component of the Town's downtown revitalization strategy and its comprehensive redevelopment strategy. To ensure that Community Development Block Grant funds are used to benefit the highest number of income eligible households

and to coordinate the CDBG Program with other federal, state and local programs, management responsibility has been assigned to the Office of the Town Manager, Business and Housing Services Division.

The Business and Housing Services Division was initially formed in 1994, the first year the Town of Paradise received Community Development Block Grant funds. The Division provides daily program management, oversight, and long range planning and coordination with other non-profits and other public agencies that provide services to low income individuals and families in the community. Specifically, the Division staff manages the housing programs to ensure compliance with program regulations, including income eligibility, the sub-recipient program to ensure eligibility and regulatory compliance; and public facilities projects to make certain that the program meets national objectives and compliance with program regulations.

In addition to staff's responsibilities for program management, the Paradise Town Council is directly involved in the development and adoption of the Annual Action Plan and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The Council makes the final selection of sub-recipient organizations and decides the final allocation of CDBG funds. Citizen involvement is inherent in the development and implementation plan process as oversight of the program. The Annual Action Plan and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report are available for public review and comment during the respective comment periods. The Town Council, following noticed public hearings, enacts final adoption of each.

Lastly, the Town's independent auditing firm monitors all federal and state funded programs for compliance in accordance with the requirements of the Single Audit Act. The results of the audit are filed with the federal and state agencies, as required by the various funding agencies.

Citizen Participation

The following Public Notice was published in the Paradise Post, a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Paradise on August 20th, 2011.

**TOWN OF PARADISE
PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE 2010-11 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND
EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER)**

The Town of Paradise seeks public comment on the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Town's Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The CAPER, prepared for the U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), reports on specific federal housing assistance/community development activities that occurred during the July 1st, 2010 - June 30th, 2011 program year.

Copies of the draft CAPER is available for public review at the following locations: Town Hall (5555 Skyway), Family Resource Center (6249 Skyway), Butte County Library (5922 Clark Road), the Paradise Senior Center (877 Nunneley Road), and the Paradise Chamber of Commerce, (5550 Skyway).

Citizens and groups may submit written and/or verbal comments on the CAPER during a 15-day public noticing period beginning August 19th, 2011. Comments can also be made at one of two public hearings to be held on the matter held on September 6th at 3:00 p.m. and again at 6:00 p.m., during the regular

Paradise Town Council meeting (or as soon thereafter as possible) at the Town Hall Council Chambers, 5555 Skyway, Paradise. Comments received at the meetings will be summarized and included in the report. If you challenge any issues stated above in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised at said public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Town Manager at, or prior to, the public hearing.

For information or to submit comments, contact Town of Paradise, Business & Housing Services Div., 5555 Skyway, Paradise, 95969, or phone 530-872-6235. For special accommodations for a disability or needs, call 48 hours in advance of the meeting. TDD users call CA Relay Service TDD Access #1-800-735-2929.

The following locations are known to be accessible to persons with disabilities as well as to persons of low/moderate income, as well as to citizens-at-large who may be interested in participating through public commentary. The following locations are; Town Hall (5555 Skyway, Paradise), Paradise Branch of the Butte County Library (5922 Clark Road, Paradise), Family Resource Center (6249 Skyway, Paradise), and the Paradise Ridge Senior Center (877 Nunneley Road, Paradise).

The two Public Hearings were held to gather public comments for the 2010-2011 CAPER. The public hearings were held on Tuesday, September 6th at 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. No citizen comments were received at or prior to the public hearings. Three of our subrecipients were in attendance at the 6pm hearing which took place at our regular Town Council Meeting. They gave short presentations along with a PowerPoint presentation created by staff, which Council had requested last year to be a part of this CAPER presentation. Feedback on this presentation was favorable.

Institutional Structure

The Town Institutional Structure is as follows:

5 member Town Council

- Holds public hearings on Consolidated Plan, Annual Plans and CAPER reports
- Approves funding for Public Service Agencies

The Town of Paradise, Business and Housing Services staff provides the main administrative and project management duties over the CDBG program. The BHS Staff is under the management of the Assistant Town Manager. Staff prepares the Consolidated Plan, Annual Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPER) for each CDBG program year. The oversight of the CDBG program is provided by the Assistant Town Manager. All reports and plans are reviewed by Council before submitted to HUD.

The Town works closely with non-profit organizations in the area that provide specific programs to the citizens of Paradise. These organizations provide services to very low-, low- and moderate-income residents, including the frail and elderly, mentally disabled, physically disabled, homeless, and at-risk youth. These organizations submit funding requests to the Town to qualify for money that comes out of the Community Needs Category. As required by HUD, 15% of annual funding is set-aside for these organizations.

The Town is also focused on collaboration between government agencies; community needs organizations, and local businesses. Community stakeholder meetings give Butte County service

organizations an opportunity to submit input regarding the populations these organizations serve, their current and future needs, challenges and successes. The following are some of the organizations we are involved with: Family Resource Center, Youth for Change, Project Vision, Loaves and Fishes Food Ministry, STRIVE , Peg Taylor Center for Adult Day Health Care, Legal Services of Northern California, Community Housing Improvement Program and Community Housing Credit Counseling Center, Boys and Girls Club of the North Valley, Passages, CCSP Torres Community Shelter, Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence, Salvation Army-Paradise Center, Paradise Meals on Wheels, and the Work Training Center.

Program Monitoring

The Town follows the procedures adopted in the Code of Federal Regulations, created by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Community Planning and Development that pertain to Community Development programs are contained within Part 570 for CDBG entitlement communities. Once applications for grant funding are received and reviewed by staff, they go through a competitive review process and recommendations are decided by a funding committee and forwarded to the Town Council for final approval. After funding decisions are made, organizations are required to sign a contract with the Town outlining the rules and regulations of public service funds. They are required to submit the required documents and reference material related to grant funding. These organizations are required to report quarterly to the town and also provide an end of year report which is reviewed and input into IDIS for yearly accomplishments at the close of the program year. Organizations are audited and staff performs site visits on a yearly basis. If organizations are not submitting reports on-time or are unable to follow through with program requirements, staff will monitor the organizations to make sure that HUD regulations are being met, or funding is relinquished. At the end of each funding year, staff reviews the accomplishments of community service agencies to determine their ability to serve the residents of Paradise and meet the program requirements.

The Town also follows all applicable program requirements, regarding housing projects and lead-based paint standards. Housing applicants are reviewed thoroughly by staff to ensure they have met all eligibility requirements. This may include verification of employment, assets, banking, credit reports and income tax information. Site inspections are utilized to ensure that the housing; whether a purchase or rehabilitation complies with safety and health requirements of the programs. Recipients are verified annually through utility billing verification to ensure owner occupancy of the property.

The Town of Paradise Consolidated Plan outlines a 5-year housing and community development strategy focused on developing Paradise as a viable community by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons. The plan, which sets the goals and objectives for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), is in effect from 2010-2015.

The mission of the Strategic Plan is to develop a working document that guides a five year planning process that identifies the needs of the community and then prioritizes available funding in order to plan and prepare for meeting the needs identified in the process. By identifying current needs of our residents, the town is then able to determine the future needs and funding priorities that will help close these gaps to help make Paradise a better community.

This document also evaluates the past performance during the last five years that the Town administered its CDBG program. CDBG funding is an important part of the town's overall strategy to promote a viable community and to help provide decent, safe, and affordable housing. The Town leverages these dollars with Redevelopment funds, and other grants/funding sources to reach our overall goals.

An important infrastructure project in the planning process is the establishment of a commercial wastewater treatment facility for the downtown area. This will provide the infrastructure necessary for the businesses in the downtown area to maintain and/or expand their number of employees, their products, and/or allows for future business expansion opportunities. Many commercial properties in our downtown are impacted with wastewater constraints that limit their ability to prosper and limit the number of employees they can hire.

As decent and safe, affordable housing is an important component of a communities' housing stock, the Town is working in conjunction with several Town agencies on the Paradise Community Village project. This development will provide, at build-out, 60-90 affordable rental housing units. The project applicant has received a HOME grant and will begin the infrastructure portion of this important collaborative project. The project will include soccer fields, and a skate park. CDBG and Redevelopment funds are slated as viable and important aspects of this much needed community facility.

After meeting with residents and community stakeholders, the following goals and objectives have been identified for the next five year period:

Goals for the 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan:

1. Improve the condition of the community's housing supply.
2. Improve the community's economic condition.
3. Improve the community's well-being by participating with residents and local stakeholders in community building efforts.

Specific Objectives for the 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan:

1. Wastewater treatment facility for commercial properties in the downtown and RDA Project Area.
2. Provide low-income loans/grants for small businesses to hook up to the wastewater facility described above.
3. Provide opportunities that expand the employment base for the Town.
4. Provide programs/projects that allow opportunities for increased jobs.
5. Provide 36 affordable rental housing units
6. Rehabilitation/repairs of 50 low-income, owner-occupied homes

7. Mortgage assistance or 50 low-income first-time homebuyers
8. Improve streets, road, parking, traffic circulation in the downtown, which encompasses a HUD identified low-income neighborhood, to allow for business-owners to better provide goods/services.
9. Provide funding opportunities to non-profits and agencies serving low income residents and residents with special needs.
10. Provide education and improved transportation for those services mentioned above.
11. Provide recreational opportunities for at-risk youth and low-income/disadvantaged children.
12. Infrastructure that will improve the opportunities for businesses to prosper.
13. Improve pedestrian safety, especially projects that provide opportunities for children to travel safely throughout the community and in their respective neighborhoods.

The planning and public participation process which is such an integral component of the Community Development Block Grant Program has been useful in identifying a multitude of community needs. The process has provided a means to express those needs, but more importantly, it has fostered a cooperative relationship between the town government, community based organizations, and residents. As with most communities, the needs far outweigh the resources available to confront and resolve those situations. However, as illustrated in the Priority Needs table, the CDBG Program has endeavored to place funding in those areas of high need. The luxury of funding medium or low priority activities is not one that the town can afford.

The program has identified and funded housing programs, public parks projects, and supported activities for a variety of non-profit organizations. Those efforts have achieved results both in the field and in the town's ability to secure additional public and private sector funding to support those programs.

The town's barriers to even greater program success are, most likely, the same as those experienced by any other American city. Resources – money and staff – are the limiting factors that negatively influence the town's ability to reach its goals.

The Town of Paradise funds only programs and/or projects that principally benefit low and moderate-income individuals and families, or benefit a HUD identified low and moderate-income neighborhood, of which the town has three.

The Town of Paradise did not conduct any activities that resulted in the relocation of tenants and/or homeowners during the program year. The town makes every effort to accomplish its goals and objectives without displacing our residents and businesses.

The Town stays below the one-1/2 times grant amount cap on unspent funds. Expenditures do not differ substantially from letter of credit disbursements because the Town operates its CDBG Program on a reimbursement basis.

While the Community Development Block Grant Program is charged with reversing the symptoms of a declining community, staff understands that doing so is more than just good planning and implementation. Obstacles must be overcome in order to eliminate the needs of an under-served population and reverse decades of community deterioration

In other cases, the obstacle is one resulting from a market economy, such as what happened with the Town's rapidly escalating mortgage crisis. The housing down-turn has steadied housing prices and has left more houses on the market because individuals are concerned about the rising prices of fuel, energy and food.

Homes eligible for the HOME-funded mortgage assistance program must not only be affordable to income-eligible buyers, but they must also be in "FHA loanable" condition. Lower priced homes do not meet these and other requirements, resulting in a slump in first time homebuyer program activity.

In the final analysis, two obstacles hinder the Town's ability to address the needs of the under-served population – adequate funding and the absence of the economic and social systems necessary for a viable community. Certainly, Community Development Block Grant funds go a long way toward alleviating a variety of housing and community needs. Additionally, the Town pursues every opportunity to augment its CDBG dollars with other state and federal programs; however, one should remember that community building is a long and expensive undertaking that requires substantial political and financial investment to succeed.

Lead-based Paint

The Town of Paradise manages owner-occupied residential rehabilitation programs and mortgage subsidy programs for first time homebuyers. These programs are funded under a HOME grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The HCD funded HOME program requires that lead clearances be obtained for both the residential rehabilitation and mortgage subsidy programs. The redevelopment agency has folded those requirements into the agency-funded programs.

HOUSING

The Town of Paradise manages owner-occupied residential rehabilitation programs and mortgage subsidy program for first time homebuyers. The Town also applies for competitive funding through the State of California. These programs are funded under both a HOME grant, and a CalHome Grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and when funding is available through the Paradise Redevelopment Agency.

The owner-occupied residential rehabilitation program offers low and moderate-income homeowners the opportunity to remain in housing that has been affordable to them, in some cases for over twenty years. The Town of Paradise is completely dependent on septic tanks and leach fields for the disposal of wastewater can pose a serious health/public health issue; as well as an affordability issue, given the extreme costs of replacing failed systems. Absent the Town's assistance, these homeowners would not be able to afford the cost of home maintenance, deferred maintenance, and wastewater disposal

system replacement. The challenge of coming up with the significant funds needed to cover these expenses is difficult.

Specific Housing Objectives

As stated in the Annual Action Plan, 25 households would be assisted during the program year. During the program year, a total of 19 low income households received assistance under the Town's housing rehabilitation and first-time homebuyers programs. . The recipients received assistance under the CDBG, HOME and CalHome programs.

The multi-family development, when funded, will assist low and very low-income tenants.

Public Housing Strategy

The Housing Authority of Butte County administers a Section 8 rental-housing program in the Town of Paradise. The Housing Authority also owns a multi-family complex in town that rents a mixture of market and subsidized units. Although the Town has not been directly involved in the administration of either program, the Town and the Housing Authority maintain a close working relationship and assist one another whenever requested.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The Town has identified the availability of properly priced housing as the principal barrier to affordable housing in the community. Over the past two decades, much of the newly constructed housing has been custom homes – a market segment not generally available to low and moderate-income households. Therefore, it is important to maintain the community's housing stock that is affordable to low and moderate-income households. To do so, the Town provides a residential rehabilitation program for owner occupied housing, and a mortgage subsidy program to assist first time homebuyers.

The residential rehabilitation program allows low and moderate-income families to remain in a house that they can afford. the drop in the housing market has significantly increased the demand for mortgage subsidy assistance, and declining home prices have increased the number of available units.

HOME

The Town applied for and received a HOME grant in 2009. Loans were made for both mortgage assistance and owner-occupied housing rehabilitation. The loans ensure that housing quality standards and lead-based paint issues are complied with.

CAL-HOME

The Town of Paradise is currently applying for the 2011 CAL-HOME Grant.

HOMELESS

Homeless Needs

The Town's participation in meeting the needs of its homeless population is evolving. A coalition of service providers and concerned residents of both Paradise and the surrounding unincorporated area have formed a community-based task force. The task force is developing a plan of action to identify and address the extent of the homeless situation on the Ridge, the characteristics of the homeless population, resources available to confront the needs, and the responsible agencies that need to be involved in this effort.

The task force is using data collected from a January 2010 survey of the area's homeless population. The homeless census and survey was completed and the count indicates that Paradise and adjacent unincorporated areas have 83 homeless individuals. The survey shows that many of the homeless are "couch surfers" and single-parent families living with friends and relatives. As such, a significant element of the homeless population may not meet the federal definition of "homeless". While this does not diminish the need or the community's commitment to confronting the issue, it does make funding programs to address the needs more difficult.

The Town of Paradise does not directly administer a transitional housing program. The Town and CDBG Program support the local women's shelter and that shelter provides emergency and transitional housing.

The Town of Paradise did not seek funding under the SuperNOFA.

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

The Town takes two approaches to homeless prevention. The first is our residential rehabilitation program. This program provides for the repair of items that threaten the homeowner's ability to remain in the home. The Town of Paradise is an un-sewered community, and as such relies on septic tanks and leach fields located on the homeowner's property to dispose of wastewater. A failed wastewater system can result in health and safety issues. Furthermore, many of the homes that are occupied by low and moderate-income residents were constructed on smaller lots that can no longer accommodate the disposal of wastewater. This generally results in the need to construct/install special and often technologically advanced systems. These systems can resolve the wastewater issue but they range in price from \$30,000 to \$60,000 – a cost that low and moderate-income residents cannot afford. The residential rehabilitation program makes it possible for these residents to remain in their homes.

The Town of Paradise also supports two community-based organizations that aid in the prevention of homelessness. The CDBG Program funds the Family Resource Center (Youth for Change). The Center's Family Support Program provides direct services and interventions to income eligible families with the goal of avoiding those catastrophic situations that often result in unemployment, delinquent rent payments, and homelessness.

The CDBG Program also funds Catalyst, a women's advocacy group that also provides emergency and transitional housing predominantly for abused women and their children. Services are also available for

abused men. The emergency shelter provides an immediate safe harbor and time to recover and regroup from the abusive situation.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

The Town of Paradise does not receive ESG funding.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The long standing success of the Community Development Block Grant Program is its ability to serve as a catalyst. This, or any other program, will never have funding in the amount needed to address all of the community's needs. However, community leaders have been successful in using the CDBG program to bring community needs to light, fund a demonstration project or a model program, and use the new found support and experience to garner even greater community support as well as new funding sources. This broad based community involvement ensures that the community's goals and objectives and the CDBG program's goals and objectives are not only consistent, but the means to address and resolve the needs are coordinated.

All of the Town's housing programs are available to income qualified households. In addition, the Town's HOME application for the construction of 36 affordable housing units includes a set aside of units for very low income tenants.

The Town of Paradise pursues all reasonable grant opportunities to fund a variety of housing and community development projects. Staff has been successful in obtaining federal and state funding.

All CDBG funds are used to meet national objectives.

The program endeavors to avoid displacing any residents, and in fact has not pursued activities that require relocation.

The program year's activities did not include a Low/Mod Job component.

Subrecipients are required to verify the income of their program participants.

The program did not receive program income during the program year.

Prior period adjustments, float-funded activities, lump sum activities, and neighborhood revitalization activities are not included in the Town's CDBG program.

Antipoverty Strategy

In general, the intent of the Town's economic development programs is the creation of living-wage jobs for local residents. Staff continually works with new businesses and existing businesses, with developers and entrepreneurs, and with local business associations to expand opportunities and strengthen the current state of the local economy; especially to attempt job creation for low/mod citizens

The CDBG Program also continues to fund the Family Resource Center's Family Support Program, which as previously mentioned works with families to avert catastrophic events and strengthen the skill sets needed to move out of poverty and into more stable family and economic situations.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS

Non-homeless Special Needs

California's legal system is attempting to come to grips with the number of inmates incarcerated for substance related crimes. Many of those imprisoned for substance abuse are being granted an early release and treatment in group home settings. While our local treatment providers knew of the impending change, the sheer number of inmates released to these programs resulted in housing related issues.

Staff has been actively assisting the largest substance related treatment provider in the effort to expand the bed count in group home settings. Staff provided assistance with all aspects of land use, building, and wastewater disposal permits. Additionally, the Town provided a forum to discuss the multitude of issues resulting from this new approach to the treatment and rehabilitation of non-violent substance abuse offenders.

The issue is by no means resolved. The demand for beds has caused a near "gold rush" mentality. While staff will continue to work with service providers, it is the individual who believe that they can set up a group home and offer meaningful, results-oriented rehabilitation that continues to cause a problem – not so much for the Town as an organization, but for the overall community and certainly those entering the programs. This situation will continue to be the principle non-homeless special needs issue for the foreseeable future, and staff will continue to play a part in its solution.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

The Town of Paradise does not administer a HOPWA program.