

# CDBG 2024

## SERVING COMMUNITIES FOR 50 YEARS

### PUBLIC SERVICES

**CHIKU AWALI AFRICAN  
DANCE, ARTS &  
CULTURE INC.  
ALEXANDREENA  
DIXON, DIRECTOR &  
FOUNDER**

Since 2008, with the support of this grant, Chiku Awali has shared the vibrant rhythms, captivating movements, and rich cultural heritage of Africa by providing dance and drumming classes to more than 1,000 Rockland residents, taken 25 cultural and educational enrichment tours, and engaged at least 150 youth in its Rites of Passage and Excellence Club programs. Without the support of CDBG, Chiku Awali would not have survived for 21 years.

**LITERACY SOLUTIONS  
NY, INC.**

**BENITO HERRERO, CEO**  
CDBG funds are critical to helping Literacy Solutions NY, Inc. achieve its mission of educating Rockland residents. Specifically, we have been able to make our tutoring program stronger by recruiting and training more tutors who work one-on-one with our adult English language learners. The funds also support our citizenship program by helping with preparation for the interview and application process.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
CENTER  
RABBI HERSH HOROWITZ,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Senior Support Program - As our community grew, having a caseworker designated for seniors has become increasingly necessary. The program began in 2020 and we have provided one-on-one in-person guidance to 705 seniors, helping them age in place with the dignity they deserve.

Workplace Readiness Program - We are extremely proud of what we've accomplished with these courses over the years. Dozens of people have been helped. There is a huge demand for these, and similar courses and we look forward to continuing to bring these services to our community and help qualifying low-income individuals.

**ROCKLAND FARM ALLIANCE  
SUE FERRERI, EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

CDBG funding is something to truly celebrate. It has helped RFA to provide nutrition and agricultural enrichments programs to the elderly and disabled community in Rockland County. The CDBG program has allowed us to give these communities an opportunity to come and expand their knowledge through the programs we provide. The impact we are making on the community is tremendous. We are so grateful that we can make an impact on our community. We would never have been able to without CDBG's support

**HAVERSTRAW AFRICAN  
AMERICAN CONNECTION  
VIRGINIA NORFLEET,  
FOUNDER & CHAIR**

CDBG funding enabled HAAC to start the Resource Center in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. PPE, services, and an afterschool program with extended hours were provided to the community. HAAC was also able to secure a new site which enhanced community accessibility fostering interactions between children and seniors, veterans, police officers, firefighters, and politicians. Rockland school districts have acknowledged the developmental benefits seen in the children that are participating in tutoring, services, and training program.

**ALEXUS T. WILLIAMS,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
WEST STREET CHILDCARE  
LEARNING CENTER**

CDBG funds have allowed for low-income children ages 18 months-10 years and their families to receive a summer filled with enriching and learning activities, in-house events and local trips to the parks and other child friendly adventures. These funds provide their children with safe environments and high-quality care during the summer months. We have been receiving CDBG funds for over six years and we are immensely grateful to be able to provide a safe environment for students and families that otherwise would not have that safe space during the summer months.

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## SERVING COMMUNITIES FOR 50 YEARS PUBLIC FACILITIES

### **TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW**

#### **SUPERVISOR HOWARD T. PHILLIPS JR.**

CDBG has been a vital part of our ability to offer wonderful recreational amenities to our residents. CDBG funds have been used for our playgrounds, fitness equipment, sound stage, gazebo, pavilion, handicapped accessible restrooms, fishing pier and much more. Happy childhoods translate into healthy adults. With CDBG we have been able to succeed in accomplishing providing a myriad of activities to the greatest pleasure of our youth and families.

### **TOWN OF RAMAPO**

#### **SUPERVISOR MICHAEL B. SPECHT**

Over the past five decades, CDBG has been a cornerstone in our community's development, providing essential resources and support through the grant program. The funding received for Francis Place, Elaine Place, Remsen Avenue and Carlton Road projects have been instrumental in improving accessibility and safety within the Town. These projects have not only enhanced our infrastructure but have also fostered a greater sense of cohesion and connectivity among our residents.

### **VILLAGE OF HAVERSTRAW MAYOR MICHAEL F. KOHUT**

Haverstraw's participation in the Rockland County CDBG consortium has been vital to the revitalization of our village. Over the past 20 years, the Village has utilized CDBG funds for our Façade Improvement Program, building the community center, removed and replaced sidewalks on over a dozen streets, milled and paved over two dozen streets, installed a new playground and bathrooms at Emeline Park and contributed to the cost of an outdoor fitness court at our community center. Without the Rockland County CDBG consortium, Haverstraw would be in much different, and inferior, position that we are today.

### **VILLAGE OF KASER MAYOR ALLIE PINKASOVITS**

The Village of Kaser, since its establishment in 1990, was able to utilize the CDBG Program for many vital improvements and community projects, such as large drainage projects, sidewalk projects, road replacement and widenings, parks and community services. The CDBG program is the sole program that ensures that our community receives the above-mentioned improvements without raising property taxes. The CDBG program is a successful program delivering actual results to the local communities based on what the citizens really need.

### **VILLAGE OF SUFFERN MAYOR MICHAEL F. CURLEY**

The Village of Suffern and its residents greatly appreciate the many CDBG funded projects to improve our community, particularly our residents who reside in low to moderate income areas. Many of these projects could not have been accomplished without the CDBG grant awards. Examples of our projects are the Community Center, purchase of land for the Andrew C. Haggerty Park, business district building facades, repaving of parking lots, and to replace deteriorated sidewalks on Wayne Avenue and to install where none existed before.