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Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) – 1st Semester General Report

In October 2022, after receiving recommendations from community leaders and non-governmental organizations, and in compliance with dispositions published by HUD in the Federal Register, 84 FR 45838-45853, the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) was constituted. This work group extends citizen participation to initiatives under the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation subvention (CDBG-MIT). Considering criteria related to representation, diversity, trajectory, closeness to communities and expert knowledge, 15 members were formally designated. The CAC's composition is as follows:

Representing community leaders:

- Carmen Pacheco, "Asociación para el Desarrollo Comunitario, Recreacional y Cultural de Clausells", Ponce;
- Lucy Cruz, G-8, "Grupo de las 8 Comunidades Aledañas al Caño Martín Peña";
- Dulce del Río-Pineda, "Mujeres de Islas" (Culebra y Vieques); and
- Miriam Matos, representative for non-PRASSA community aqueducts.

Representing coalitions of non-governmental organizations:

- Jorge Oyola, "Alianza de Líderes Comunitarios de PR";



- Vilma González, “Coordinadora Paz para las Mujeres”;
- Lisdel Flores, CoC502; and
- Carmen Villanueva, “PR por el Derecho a la Vivienda Digna” (PRODEV).

Representing NGO's Servicing vulnerable population groups:

- Carlos Vázquez, “Programa de Educación Comunal de Entrega y Servicio” (PECES);
- José Acarón, “Asociación Americana de Personas Retiradas” (AARP);
- Wilfred Labiosa, Waves Ahead – “Centro Comunitario LGBT+ para el Adulto Mayor”; and
- Amanda Silva, Habitat for Humanity.

And representing NGO's with specialized experience and expertise:

- Luis Gallardo, “Centro para la Reconstrucción del Hábitat” (CRH);
- Liza García Vélez, “Cámara de Comercio de PR”; and
- Belinés Ramos Negrón, “Clínica Legal y Psicológica”, UPR.

In attention to organizational aspects, CAC members adopted its Operational Guide, which is presently under revision with the legal team for final review and publication; developed a Work Plan to fulfill its responsibilities, which includes the coordination of public forum meetings to be held in the year's third trimester; and selected a Coordinating Council to enable tasks and coordination.

Coordinating Council:

- Dulce del Río-Pineda, Mujeres de Islas
- Lisdel Flores, CoC 502
- Wilfred Labiosa, Waves Ahead
- Carmen Villanueva, PRODEV
- Luis Gallardo, CRH – secretary

Complying with its general and specific responsibilities, CAC members provide guidance, collaborate and inform PRDOH and the public. To this end, its principal results are:



collaborating in the promotion of programs of public interest; participation in regular meetings, informative sessions related to the four programmatic areas in the CDBG-MIT Action Plan (Housing, Infrastructure, Multi-Sector and Planning), individual meetings with PRDOH's coordinating team, and collaborative sessions to contribute to the development of program guidelines; revision of program guidelines for analysis and recommendations (7); revision of program guidelines previously published (3); and revision of the 2nd Substantial Amendment to the CDBG-MIT Action plan (1). A breakdown of said meetings and specific tasks follows:

Meetings = 7

- 11/21/2022 – Initial meeting with PRDOH's Secretary and the Deputy Secretary
- 12/5/2022 – Ordinary Meeting
- 1/17/2023 - Ordinary Meeting
- 2/27/2023 - Ordinary Meeting
- 3/27/2023 - Ordinary Meeting
- 4/24/2023 - Ordinary Meeting
- 5/4/2023 – 1st Semester Meeting w/ PRDOH's Secretary and the Deputy Secretary

Informative Sessions with Program Directors = 4

- 12/21/2022 – CDBG-MIT Housing w/ Joeni Camacho, Dulce Díaz, Aldo Rivera
- 1/10/2023 – CDBG-MIT Infrastructure / Shirley Birriel
- 2/2/2023 – CDBG-MIT Planning w/ Carlos Olmedo
- 3/15/2023 – CDBG-MIT Multi-Sector w/ Juan C. Pérez Bofill

Collaborative Session for discussion and recommendations to the development of a Program Guide = 1

- 3/29/2023 – CDBG-MIT Planning / (PCB) Planning and Capacity Building Program, Carlos Olmedo, Esq., PPL



Program Guidelines and CDBG-MIT Action Plan Amendments submitted to the CAC for revision = 11

- 12/21/2022 - CDBG-MIT Housing / (SIHM) Social Interest Housing Program
- 12/21/2022 - CDBG-MIT Multi-Sector / (IPG) Economic Development Investment Portfolio for Growth: Lifeline Mitigation Program
- 1/13/2023 - CDBG-MIT Multi-Sector / (CEWRI-HH) Community Energy and Water Resilience Installations Program - Household
- 1/28/2023 - CDBG-MIT Housing / (SFHMP) Single Family Housing Mitigation Program
- 2/2/2023 – CDBG-MIT Infrastructure / (HMGP) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Global Match Set-Aside (originally published July-2022)
- 2/2/2023 – CDBG-MIT Infrastructure / Benefit Cost Analysis Guidelines (originally published July-2022)
- 2/2/2023 – CDBG-MIT Infrastructure / Infrastructure Mitigation Program, amendments
- 2/3/2023 – 2nd Substantial Amendment to the CDBG-MIT Action Plan
- 2/23/2023 - CDBG-MIT Housing / (MSCMP) Multi-Sector Community Mitigation Program
- 3/10/2023 - CDBG-MIT Infrastructure / Infrastructure Mitigation Program, amendments
- 3/29/2023 - CDBG-MIT Planning / (MAPS) Mitigation and Adaptation Policy Support Program