

Marion County Consortium Consolidated Plan Stakeholder Survey



Marion County and the City of Ocala are excited to begin working on the County's Five-year Consolidated Plan for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Marion County Community Services is responsible for administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) as an entitlement community. Marion County's Community Services department is the lead agency to administer the HOME funds on behalf of the Marion County Consortium. The City of Ocala receives CDBG funds directly from HUD as an entitlement city. Funding is received each year from HUD to invest in affordable housing and community development projects that primarily benefit low and moderate-income communities.

Part of the Consolidated Planning process requires outreach to a wide range of public and private organizations, agencies, and groups to gather input on the housing and community development needs impacting low and moderate-income people in Marion County.

The County would love to hear your thoughts on the needs facing the populations and neighborhoods you work with in Marion County. Your input will help the County outline its funding strategy for the next five fiscal years (October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2028).

Background on the Consolidated Plan

The Consolidated Plan is required by HUD in order for the County to receive federal CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding. These federal funds support projects such as affordable housing, community facilities, infrastructure improvements, public services, and planning activities.

Eligibility requirements for each of these programs can be viewed here: [CDBG](#), [ESG](#), [HOME](#).

Your feedback is vital for the Consolidated Plan. If you have any questions completing this survey, please email CommunityServices@MarionFL.org.

Marion County Consortium Consolidated Plan Stakeholder Survey

* 1. Please provide the name of the organization you represent. Please spell out acronyms.

**Your individual survey responses will be anonymous. Marion County will only list the name of your organization/agency to demonstrate to HUD that the Consortium consulted with the required organization types in the development of the Consolidated Plan.*

* 2. Which of the following organization types describe your organization? Please select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband/digital connectivity services provider or advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare services provider or advocate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing provider or developer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child welfare agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's services provider or advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider or advocate for services for people experiencing homelessness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider or advocate for services for people with disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuum of Care (CoC) collaborative applicant or member | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider or advocate for services for people with HIV/AIDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational services provider or advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider or advocate for services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, or human trafficking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment services provider or advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Housing Authority (PHA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair housing services provider or advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicly funded institution or system of care (e.g., healthcare facilities, prisons, mental health facilities, foster care, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government department or agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior services provider or advocate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

* 3. How would you rank the following community priorities?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

-   Affordable housing
-   Accommodations for persons with special needs (e.g. seniors, youth, persons with disabilities, etc.)
-   Economic development
-   Fair housing services
-   Housing, shelter, and services for persons experiencing homelessness
-   Public facilities (e.g. recreation centers and parks)
-   Public infrastructure (e.g. public water and sewer utilities)
-   Public services (e.g. food assistance, transportation services)

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4. Do you feel that you can speak to the **public facility and infrastructure** needs facing low and moderate-income people in Marion County?

Examples of public facilities and infrastructure include publicly owned streets, sidewalks, water and sewer lines, playgrounds, as well as municipally owned community centers and senior centers.

Public facility and infrastructure projects could be funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

- Yes, I can provide input on the public facility and infrastructure needs in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the public facilities and infrastructure needs in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the need for **public facility and infrastructure** in Marion County.

* 5. Which of the following public facility and infrastructure activities are needed the most?

Note: Check all that apply. Selections will be ranked in next question.

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility improvements
- Broadband internet access services
- Clearance and demolition of buildings/structures
- Community centers for specific groups (e.g. seniors, youth, etc.)
- Flood and drainage improvements
- Parking lots and garages
- Parks and recreational facilities
- Sewer infrastructure improvements
- Street and sidewalk improvements
- Street lighting improvements
- Traffic lights/signs and public safety improvements
- Water infrastructure improvements

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* 6. Based on the activities and services selected, how would you rank the need for these services?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

-   Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility improvements
-   Broadband internet access services
-   Clearance and demolition of buildings/structures
-   Community centers for specific groups (e.g. seniors, youth, etc.)
-   Flood and drainage improvements
-   Parking lots and garages
-   Parks and recreational facilities
-   Sewer infrastructure improvements
-   Street and sidewalk improvements
-   Street lighting improvements
-   Traffic lights/signs and public safety improvements
-   Water infrastructure improvements

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7. Are there any specific low-income subpopulations, neighborhoods, or areas in the Marion County Consortium that have a high need for public facilities or infrastructure activities? Please describe below.

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* 8. Do you feel that you can speak to the **housing** needs facing low and moderate-income people in Marion County?

For these questions, "housing" refers to housing opportunities to primarily benefit low-and moderate-income persons including activities such as publicly assisted/subsidized housing, rental assistance, first-time homebuyer assistance, and housing acquisition, development, and rehabilitation.

Housing projects could be funded through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program or the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

- Yes, I can provide input on the housing needs in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the housing needs in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the **housing** needs in Marion County.

* 9. Indicate the level need for the following housing options in Marion County using a scale of High, Medium, and Low.

	High	Medium	Low	I Don't Know
Rental housing affordable to low and moderate-income households	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homeowner units affordable to low and moderate-income households	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing for persons fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, or human trafficking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing for persons with developmental, cognitive, or physical disabilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing for seniors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing that is accessible to persons with physical limitations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Permanent supportive housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Temporary or transitional housing for persons experiencing homelessness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* 10. Indicate the level of need for the following types of housing assistance in Marion County using a scale of High, Medium, and Low.

	High	Medium	Low	I Don't Know
Assistance to help seniors age in place (e.g. installing grab bars, ramps, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Down payment assistance for homeowners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Home weatherization assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homelessness prevention/housing stability services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homeowner property rehabilitation assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lead remediation services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rental property rehabilitation assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tenant-based rental assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Are there any specific low-income subpopulations, neighborhoods, or areas in the Marion County Consortium that are disproportionately impacted by housing problems or the need for housing assistance or services? Please describe below.

12. What are the biggest barriers to developing affordable housing in Marion County? Check all that apply.

- Community-based or organized opposition efforts
- Infrastructure capacity limitations
- Lack of affordable housing developers
- Lack of incentives for developers
- Lack of political will or support
- Laws, regulations, and requirements associated with development
- Prohibitive cost of development
- Other (please specify)

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* 13. Do you feel that you can speak to the **public service** needs of low and moderate-income people in Marion County?

Examples of public services include activities such as senior services, youth programs/childcare, mental health services, transportation assistance, nutrition and food assistance programs, immigration services, and services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, or human trafficking.

Public service needs projects could be funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

- Yes, I can provide input on the public service needs in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the public service needs in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the **public service** needs in Marion County.

* 14. Which of the following public services are needed the most in Marion County?

Note: Check all that apply. Selections will be ranked in next question.

- Assistance for persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Childcare services
- Employment training/job readiness
- Financial counseling
- Food assistance
- Health services (e.g. preventative health screenings and vaccinations)
- Immigration services
- Language access/translation resources
- Legal services
- Literacy assistance programs
- Medical and nutrition programs
- Mental health services
- Screening services for lead-based paint and other hazards
- Services for persons with a disability
- Services for seniors
- Services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
- Substance use disorder treatment services
- Transportation services
- Veterans services
- Waste and recycling programs
- Youth programs and services

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15. Based on the public services selected, how would you rank the need for these services in Marion County?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

-   Assistance for persons living with HIV/AIDS
-   Childcare services
-   Employment training/job readiness
-   Financial counseling
-   Food assistance
-   Health services (e.g. preventative health screenings and vaccinations)
-   Immigration services
-   Language access/translation resources
-   Legal services
-   Literacy assistance programs
-   Medical and nutrition programs
-   Mental health services
-   Screening services for lead-based paint and other hazards
-   Services for persons with a disability
-   Services for seniors
-   Substance use disorder treatment services
-   Services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
-   Transportation services
-   Veterans services
-   Waste and recycling programs
-   Youth programs and services

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16. Are there any specific low-income subpopulations, neighborhoods, or areas in the Marion County Consortium that have a high need for public services? Please describe below.

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* 17. Do you feel that you can speak to the **housing and service needs of people experiencing homelessness** in Marion County?

For these questions, "housing and service needs of people experiencing homelessness" includes housing or shelter options such as permanent supportive housing, emergency shelter, and transitional housing as well as supportive services such as housing location assistance, case management, and legal services.

These types of projects could be funded through the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

- Yes, I can provide input on the housing and service needs of people experiencing homelessness in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the housing and service needs of people experiencing homelessness in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the needs for **housing and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness** in Marion County.

* 18. Which of the following housing options and assistance for people experiencing homelessness are needed the most in Marion County?

Note: Check all that apply. Selections will be ranked in next question.

- Affordable housing in general
- Designated shelters for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
- Drop-in/day shelters
- Emergency shelters
- Hotel/motel vouchers
- Permanent supportive housing
- Transitional housing

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* 19. Based on the selected housing options and assistance, how would you prioritize them?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

-   Affordable housing in general
-   Designated shelters for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
-   Drop-in/day shelters
-   Emergency shelters
-   Hotel/motel vouchers
-   Permanent supportive housing
-   Transitional housing

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* 20. Which of the following supportive services for people experiencing homelessness are needed the most in Marion County?

Note: Check all that apply. Selections will be ranked in next question.

- Case management
- Educational assistance
- Flexible financial assistance for utilities, security deposits, etc.
- Food assistance
- Health/medical services
- Housing location assistance
- Job training
- Legal services
- Life skills assistance (e.g. financial counseling, resume writing, etc.)
- Mental health services
- Services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
- Substance use disorder treatment services
- Transportation services
- Veterans services
- Youth programs and services

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21. Based on the selected services for people experiencing homelessness, how would you prioritize them?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

		Educational assistance
		Case management
		Flexible financial assistance for utilities, security deposits, etc.
		Food assistance
		Housing location assistance
		Health/medical services
		Legal services
		Life skills assistance (e.g. financial counseling, resume writing, etc.)
		Mental health services
		Services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking
		Job training
		Substance use disorder treatment services
		Transportation services
		Veterans services
		Youth programs and services

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22. Are there any specific low-income subpopulations, neighborhoods, or areas in the Marion County Consortium that are disproportionately impacted by homelessness or have high needs for housing, shelter, and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness? Please describe below.

23. What factors are most likely to increase the risk of someone becoming homeless in Marion County? Please describe below.

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* 24. Do you feel that you can speak to the **economic development** needs of low and moderate-income areas in Marion County?

For these questions, "economic development" includes activities such as job training/workforce development, microenterprise assistance, rehabilitation of commercial buildings/structures, job creation/retention for low- and moderate-income persons, and public facilities and improvements to support economic development.

Economic development projects could be funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

- Yes, I can provide input on the economic development needs in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the economic development needs in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the **economic development** needs in Marion County.

25. Which of the following economic development services are needed the most in Marion County?

Check all that apply. Selections will be ranked in the next question.

- Access to utilities
- Affordable housing near transportation and/or jobs
- Assistance for microenterprises (businesses with five or fewer employees)
- Central business district improvements
- Clean up of contaminated sites
- Code corrections/façade improvements for commercial buildings
- Creation/retention of jobs for low and moderate-income persons
- Direct financial assistance to for-profit businesses
- Direct financial assistance to for-profit businesses to purchase equipment or for operating capital
- Improved transportation and access to jobs
- Infrastructure improvements to support economic development
- Job training/workforce development
- Land acquisition/clearing to support economic development
- Low-interest loans to for-profit businesses
- Public utility improvements to support economic development
- Tax credits

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26. Based on the selected activities, how would you rank the need for these activities in Marion County?

Reorder the priorities listed below by dragging the rows or using the arrows to match your preferred ranking.

- Affordable housing near transportation and/or jobs
- Assistance for microenterprises (businesses with five or fewer employees)
- Central business district improvements
- Clean up of contaminated sites
- Code corrections/façade improvements for commercial buildings
- Creation/retention of jobs for low and moderate-income persons
- Direct financial assistance to for-profit businesses
- Direct financial assistance to for-profit businesses to purchase equipment or for operating capital
- Improved transportation and access to jobs
- Infrastructure improvements to support economic development
- Job training/workforce development
- Access to utilities
- Public utility improvements to support economic development
- Land acquisition/clearing to support economic development
- Low-interest loans to for-profit businesses
- Tax credits

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27. Are there any specific low-income subpopulations, neighborhoods, or areas in the Marion County Consortium that are disproportionately impacted by the need for economic development services? Please describe below.

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* 28. Do you feel that you can speak to the **fair housing needs** in Marion County?

For these questions, "fair housing needs" refers to the need for activities such as fair housing education/awareness, testing, and enforcement.

- Yes, I can provide input on the fair housing needs in Marion County.
- No, I cannot provide input on the fair housing needs in Marion County.

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For the following questions, consider the need for **fair housing services** in Marion County. Some questions will ask you to indicate how much you agree with specific statements.

* 29. Residents in Marion County are generally aware of how they can report a fair housing violation or complaint.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

* 30. Residents in Marion County would likely report a fair housing violation that happened to them.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

* 31. What strategies does your organization currently use to educate the community about fair housing, how to report a fair housing violation or concern, or other fair housing topics? Check all that apply.

- My organization does not conduct education or outreach on fair housing.
- Broadcasting messages to the community via TV, newspaper, social media, radio, email, etc.
- Posting physical copies of materials such as flyers and posters in specific locations
- Providing information and resources at the time of a housing transaction (e.g. when people buy, rent, or sell housing)
- Publishing information and resources to the organization's website
- Other (please specify)

32. Have you noticed whether any particular protected classes, groups, or populations in Marion County experience fair housing issues more than others? Please describe below.

* 33. What types of fair housing activities or services would you like to see more of in Marion County?

- Fair housing education and resources for the public
- Fair housing legal services
- Fair housing testing and investigations
- Fair housing training for program staff or specific groups such as tenants or landlords
- Other (please specify)

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34. Are there any additional comments you would like to share with Marion County about needs facing low and moderate-income people in the Consortium? If so, please describe below.

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Thank you!

Marion County appreciates your participation in this survey. Your responses will help inform HUD grant program funding decisions across the County for the next five years.