

CDBG Funding Being Sought For Three Projects

The Garrett County commissioners held a public hearing Monday afternoon to provide citizens the opportunity to review Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications, which will be submitted through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

Project manager Cindy Sharon, Garrett County Department of Economic Development, provided an overview of three projects for which local entities are seeking funding.

"The state of Maryland's allocation of federal funds for the state fiscal year 2018 is estimated to be \$7,205, 995," Sharon said, noting that applications are due by Wednesday, May 31.

She added that proposed projects must meet at least one of the following national objectives:

- Benefit persons and households of low and moderate income.
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight.
- Meet other community development needs of an urgent nature, or that are an immediate threat to community health and welfare.

Sharon reported that the Mountain Laurel Medical Center, also known as Western Maryland Health Care Corp, is seeking \$325,000 in matching funding to purchase telecommunications equipment for chronic-care management, transitional-care management, diabetic self-management, and psychiatric services. The equipment is part of a planned building and services expansion project.

Garrett County Community Action is applying for \$150,000 in matching funding for the Pathway to Homeownership Program to assist first-time home buyers who have low to moderate incomes. Up to \$7,500 would be provided for closing costs and down payments.

Garrett County Community Action is also seeking \$300,000

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Funding Sought

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in CDBG funding for its Home Repair and Rehabilitation program to assist homeowners of low to moderate incomes with their roofing, electrical, plumbing, furnace, well, and septic repairs.

Sharon invited the public to send letters voicing their support for the projects to the commissioners, which would help Community Action and Mountain Laurel with the state CDBG application process. More information about the program is available online at

dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/CDBG.