

LakewoodAlive

CDBG Applicant Narrative

1. Mission & History

LakewoodAlive is a 501 (c) 3 community development organization. Our mission is to serve as a community centered non-profit that fosters and sustains vibrant and welcoming neighborhoods. This is accomplished by both commercial and residential programs that holistically complement one another and further strengthen Lakewood's neighborhoods. Lakewood Community Progress Inc. (LCPI) was founded in 2004 by the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lakewood to provide an additional resource for facilitating local economic development.

LCPI adopted the Main Street Model and began working with community partners to enhance our commercial corridors. In 2006, the "Grow Lakewood Report" noted that Lakewood's housing stock is the community's economic lynchpin. In 2008, the LCPI merged with LakewoodAlive, a resident-based organization that advocated for citizen engagement in economic development. In 2009, LakewoodAlive launched its Housing Outreach Program in partnership with the City of Lakewood to ensure all residents live in healthy and safe housing. The combination of LakewoodAlive's small business development programming coupled with its Housing Outreach programming, has led to LakewoodAlive's evolution to now serve as Lakewood's non-profit community development organization.

2. Geographic Service Area

Lakewood, Ohio

3. Target Population(s)

Low-moderate income households

4. Programs & Services

The Housing Outreach Program is designed to educate and assist all residents, but with a primary focus on low-to moderate-income households with: 1) housing code compliance including the Paint Lakewood Program; 2) connections to financial assistance programs and bank products that are available to address exterior (and in some cases interior) housing maintenance issues; 3) offer educational and volunteer assistance to low-to-moderate income households in order to address housing maintenance and lead based paint hazard issues; and 4) provide direct services including but not limited to bed bug support and aging in place assessments.

The primary goal of the program is to ensure that all residents have access to healthy and safe housing. We work to accomplish this by empowering residents through education on the best practices of maintaining and sustaining their homes to further strengthen the housing stock and supporting affordable housing throughout the community. LakewoodAlive strives to help residents consider home repairs in a proactive fashion leading to a savings of time and money.

5. Number & Demographic Profile of Clients Served (2025)

Demographic Information January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025	
Client's Income	
VLI	21
LI	123
LMI	51
AMI	32
% of LMI Clients	86.7%
% Owner Occupants	81%
% Renters	19%
% Investors	<1%
Female Headed Households	201
Elderly Clients	263

6. Qualifications to Implement Proposed Project

LakewoodAlive is highly qualified to implement the Housing Outreach Program. Now in its 17th year, the program continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of Lakewood residents while helping ensure safe and healthy housing.

The Executive Director recently transitioned into the role after serving in operations and program leadership positions with LakewoodAlive. With extensive program and operational management experience, she brings a deep understanding of LakewoodAlive's programs, partnerships, and the residents and businesses we serve.

The Programs Manager provides additional capacity to support the administration and coordination of the Housing Outreach Program, including program tracking, resident communication, applications, and follow-up to ensure projects continue moving forward.

The Community Engagement Specialist has been with LakewoodAlive since 2015 and brings more than 30 years of experience in government social services and the nonprofit sector, with extensive experience supporting low- to moderate-income residents and connecting them to resources.

The Housing Outreach & Toolbox Coordinator has been with LakewoodAlive since 2019 and brings more than 20 years of experience as a carpenter and manufacturing facility manager. As an OSHA-certified professional, he provides valuable technical guidance and education related to housing projects, tools, and safe project implementation.

7. Experience Administering Government Contracts & Complying with Federal Regulatory Requirements

LakewoodAlive has administered CDBG-funded programming since 2009 and complies with all contractual and federal regulatory requirements.

8. FY26 Organizational Budget

- i. Total FY26 Operating Budget \$772,786 (expenses)
- ii. FY26 Budgeted Operating Expenses)

Expenditure Category	Amount	% Total Budget
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$478,489	61.9%
Operating Costs	\$73,800	10%
Capital Costs	\$0	0%
Indirect Costs	\$31,191	4%
Other: Paint Program*	\$42,000	5%
Other: Special events expenses	\$97,306	13%
Other: One-time grant	\$50,000	6%
Total	\$772,786	

- iii. FY26 Budgeted Revenue Sources (Top 4)

#	Source	Amount	% Total Budget
1	City of Lakewood (non-CDBG contract + Paint + CDBG)*	\$242,000	32%
2	Event Revenue	\$193,750	26%
3	Contributed Support (Individuals, Board Members, Corporate Donations & Program Support)	\$152,500	20%
4	Foundation Grants (includes \$50K one-time grant reflected in expenses above)	\$120,000	16%
Total (represents total of top 4 sources)		\$708,250	94%

9. Does Your Organization Maintain the Following Documents?

- i. Personnel Manual/Grievance Procedures Yes ☒ No ☐
- ii. Affirmative Action Policy Yes ☒ No ☐

10. Does Your Organization Have the Capacity to Serve Non-English-Speakers? Yes ☒ No ☐

11. Do Your Facilities Comply with ADA Accessibility Requirements? Yes ☒ No ☐

12. Additional Data and/or Information that Strengthens the Organization's Case for CDBG Funding Support

The City of Lakewood and LakewoodAlive have formed an incredibly strong partnership whereby we can effectively support low-mod residents to ensure they are living in healthy and safe housing. CDBG support provides a portion of the resources to help our neighbors, fill roles that public and private sector can't, and work with both to bring to bear all matter of resources. We are excited to leverage this program along with the City of Lakewood's Community Development programming to continue to implement a robust housing strategy ensuring healthy, safe and affordable housing for all residents