Date: 1/15/2021

Grant #: HDF-2020-1346-NEP

Grant Begin Date: May 2020

Grant End Date: December 17, 2020

Grantee: City of Vassar

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1. Project Results Summary

The result of this NEP on the City of Vassar's Cass Avenue was increased morale and curb appeal. It was our first grant of this type. It was received so well by the neighborhood. The residents were so excited and relieved to have help with some of their home projects. In the spring, when the playground is installed, we know the neighborhood, as well as the entire City, will benefit greatly, We cannot wait for NEP Round 6!

2. What indicators were used to measure results?

As this was the first time working with a grant of this type, results were measured by being able to keep within MSHDA guidelines and timeframes. The success and results of this grant were proven to me by the teamwork and motivation of the residents in the selected area. The feedback from them has been wonderful. There are of course, monetary successes as well. Replacing windows, adding a new sidewalk, and finishing the siding on a home add value to these properties.

3. How were the indicators measured?

Residents shared with us that projects on their homes would have remained unfinished or never would have even been able to be initiated if it were not for this grant. I have been contacted by the grantees wishing to thank the City and MSHDA from helping them.

4. What were the findings of the measurements including baseline data?

Replacing windows on a home have a return-on-investment of almost 100%. For example, spending \$15,000 on a total home window replacement project would yield approximately an \$11,000 increase to home value (according to www.windownation.com). Similarly, having sidewalks in good repair and in convenient areas increases the 'walkability' of properties in towns and cities. This adds to the appeal to buyers and can potentially increase the value of a home. (www.nacto.org 'Walking the Walk' 2009)

5. What lessons were learned?

As previously mentioned, this was my first time with a grant of this nature. I have learned many things that I plan to implement on NEP Round 6. I have learned to trust the process a bit more-I do not need to 're-create the wheel' so to speak. I have learned that I need to relax-everything will get done and come together in the end-especially when I am working with such a FABULOUS Grant Champion (Diane Miller)! I know now I cannot rush the process and I need to make sure all details (dates, income limits, amounts granted per household, etc.) are solidified before contacting potential grantees.





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