

Summary of Public Testimony on CDBG Program Year 40 / FY15 Funding Priorities

Summary of Testimony from the Public Hearing on May 13, 2013				
Speaker	Organization	Date Recorded	Summary of Comments	
Lynne Ardnt	Community Ministries of Rockville	5/13/13	Allow 15% of the CDBG grant to be used for public services (social services); do not restrict a flexible funding source. Advocated for funding to support the Elderly Ministries case management program, which provides support to frail low-income seniors to remain in their homes.	
Barbara Smith-Brady	Community Ministries of Rockville	5/13/13	Asked for the City to allow 15% of CDBG grant be used for public services. Requested support for administration/case management for Elderly Ministries Safe and Habitable Home Program. Program focuses on addressing small repairs and addressing possible safety issues, like leaking toilets, furnace safety, or grab bars. Followed with written testimony – see Exhibit 4.	
Ruth O’Sullivan	Rockville Housing Enterprises	5/13/13	Requested support for modernizing the interiors of scattered site public housing units. Many units have not been updated in 40 years; with City support, RHE expects to slowly complete renovations to all 29 scattered site units over the next 4-5 years.	
Summary of Testimony from the Public Record, which was held open from May 13, 2013 to May 31, 2013				
Speaker	Organization	Date Recorded	Summary of Comments	Exhibit #
Nancie Conover	Resident – CMR Client	5/24/13	Elderly Ministries has provided assistance with household maintenance – repaired bannisters, checks furnace, and repaired leaky toilet. Appreciative of the services.	1
Peggy Lyles	Writing on behalf of Rockville Elderly Ministries client	5/28/13	Elderly Ministries’ services help her sister remain in her apartment and to live independently. Requested Elderly Ministries be supported with CDBG public services funds.	2
Shirley van Lare	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Asks City to continue supporting the Elderly Ministries Program. Received services from Elderly Ministries over the past 10 years to assist with accessibility improvements for her late husband, who was wheel-chair bound. Elderly ministries made the doorways and ramp wider. They also assisted with annual furnace inspections, plumbing repairs, and yard work. Appreciative of services and asks that they continue to be provided.	3
Barbara Smith-Brady Program Director	Elderly Ministries, Community Ministries of Rockville	5/30/13	Reiterates comments made at public hearing; attached letters of support from Elderly Ministries’ clients and supporters.	4

Summary of Testimony from the Public Record, which was held open from May 13, 2013 to May 31, 2013				
Speaker	Organization	Date Recorded	Summary of Comments	Exhibit #
Dorothy Hillary (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Elderly Ministries provided accessibility features for the bathroom (grab bars, etc.) to help her continue to live independently. Appreciative of the services.	4
Juana Zuniga (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Elderly Ministries helped her remain in her home by helping replacing the sump pump and cleaning up the basement after it flooded, making fence repairs, painting, and providing a furnace inspection and heating oil. Appreciative of the services.	4
Martha McClelland (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	City Employee	5/30/13	As the Senior Outreach Worker of Rockville Senior Center, refers clients to the Safe and Habitable Home Program for small, but essential home repairs.	4
Allen Bahn (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Elderly Ministries provided services during a long-term illness by replacing the hot water heater. Appreciative of the services.	4
Lois Thomas (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Elderly Ministries replaced the faucet in the bathtub, fixed the attic stairway, fixed the handrail to the step in the back of the house, painted the living room ceiling and the woodwork on the patio, fixed the roof, and completed furnace checks. Supportive of the program.	4
Mrs. Bacon (via Barbara Smith-Brady of CMR)	Resident – CMR Client	5/30/13	Elderly Ministries helped address problems in her home with the hot water tank and furnace. Appreciative of their work for the elderly.	4
Kathleen Thrower Program Manager	Rebuilding Together Montgomery County	5/31/13	General letter of support for Elderly Ministries program.	5



Re: appreciation letter 

Doug Barber to: Nancie Conover

05/31/2013 10:40 AM

Cc: "mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov", Sara Louise Ferrell, Brenda Bean,
Erin Wilson, Andrew Gunning, Susan Swift, Doug Barber

Ms. Conover,

On behalf of the Mayor and Council, thank you for your comments regarding the City of Rockville's Community Development Block Grant Funding for Program Year 40/FY15. The Mayor and Councilmembers have each received a copy of your email. Your testimony will be included in the official record.

Thank you for contacting the City of Rockville.

Doug Barber, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
240-314-8282 (Phone)
240-314-8289 (Fax)
dbarber@rockvillemd.gov

Nancie Conover	Greetings....my name is Nancie Conover. I am...	05/24/2013 03:37:49 PM
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From: Nancie Conover <nancieconover@yahoo.com>
To: "mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov" <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Date: 05/24/2013 03:37 PM
Subject: appreciation letter

Greetings....my name is Nancie Conover. I am 76 years old and live alone in my home, except for my two cats, Mit Su and Ming. I have lived here for 35 years. My home overlooks woods and I get extreme enjoyment from the view of the trees and seeing the squirrels chase around, watching the birds, and just observing the beauty of nature in my environment. Staying in my home, where I feel comfortable, safe, and independent is very important to me. I want very much to live independently as long as I am able. I think it is difficult for younger people to accept that, though I look old on the outside, I am the same person I was when I was a teenager, with the same preferences and desires. It seems that just yesterday I was dancing, raising children, and being an active member of society. Then one day you are sitting in a recliner drinking Ensure...Ha!

I am a low income senior (not the way I planned my life, just how it turned out) and CMR, Elderly Ministries Safe and Habitable Home Program has been of great assistance to me. Often I am faced with household problems and don't have the resources to seek professional help. Many times Barbara Smith-Brady, with Elderly Ministries, has come to my aid. The first thing they did for me was to send a handy man to put banisters on my stairs which greatly helps me haul my owl arthritic bones up the stairs.

I receive a bill from the City of Rockville every 3 mo. and usually pay about \$200, so you can imagine my panic when I received my bill and it was over \$700. Seems I had several toilets that were leaking and that is what caused the enormous bill. Elderly Ministries and a man from the City arranged for a man to come in fix the toilets and to also pay much of amount of the bill over

the amount I usually pay. So appreciated! Elderly Ministries also has my furnace inspected yearly. They have been very helpful to me and I am very appreciative. I have a scooter and enjoy so much going out to ride around the neighborhood. I gets me out of the house, into the fresh air and sunshine, and allows me to interact with people. I live near Whooten Mill Park and the Rockville public gardens. So, if you are in the area and see an old lady on a scooter, give a wave and say howdy!!!

Nancie Conover
2030 Dundee Road
Rockville, MD 20850

**Handpainted by Nancie offers unique
handpainted furniture and accessories.....visit
gallery at: <http://nanciesfurniture.com>**



ssitting scooter.jpg



Re: Safe and Habitable Home Program 
Doug Barber to: Peggy Lyles

05/31/2013 10:56 AM

Cc: mayorcouncil, Sara Louise Ferrell, Brenda Bean, Erin Wilson,
Andrew Gunning, Susan Swift, Doug Barber

Ms. Lyles,

On behalf of the Mayor and Council thank you for your comments regarding the City of Rockville's Community Development Block Grant Funding for Program Year 40/FY15. The Mayor and Councilmembers have each received a copy of your email. Your testimony will be included in the official record.

Thank you for contacting the City of Rockville.

Doug Barber, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
240-314-8282 (Phone)
240-314-8289 (Fax)
dbarber@rockvillemd.gov

Doug Barber	Doug Barber, CMC City Clerk/Treasurer	05/31/2013 10:46:09 AM
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From: Peggy Lyles <memaah@msn.com>
To: "MayorCouncil@rockvillemd.gov" <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Date: 05/29/2013 02:27 PM
Subject: FW: Safe and Habitable Home Program

May 28, 2013

Mayor/Council:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my sister, and my family. My sister is an extremely low income disabled resident of Rockville. My sister and my family are grateful for the case management provided by the Elderly ministries program. We have no doubt that without the services provided by this program my sister would not be able to remain in her apartment and maintain a reasonable independent living lifestyle. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Mrs. Barbara Smith-Brady who has worked tirelessly toward improving the quality of life and safety for my sister by ensuring she had a shower chair and Manna food services. Mrs. Smith-Brady is one of the strongest advocates I have met within the realm of all Montgomery County community services. Beyond that she is a true humanitarian that cares deeply about her clients and her Rockville community. Seeing first-hand what programs like the Elderly Ministries do for the citizens of Rockville and realizing the devastation for so many without them, I ask that you support providing funding to the Safe and Habitable Home Program under Public Services.

electronically signed
Peggy M. Lyles

May 21, 2013

Mayor and Council
Rockville City Hall
111 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Mayor Marcuccio and Rockville City Council Members:

I read the enclosed article in the Washington Post recently and decided to write to appeal to you on behalf of Community Ministries, specifically their Elderly Ministries Program.

I would ask that you not cut their budget, but continue to fund this organization so that they can continue the marvelous work they do to help fixed-income seniors maintain decent living standards.

My husband and I have relied on Community Ministries' assistance throughout the past ten years. I can draw from several examples of how Community Ministries has helped us over the years. My late husband was a paraplegic and wheelchair-bound. Community Ministries performed several renovations for us (making a door wider and building a bigger ramp). These renovations made it easier for my husband to get in and out of our house independently. For several years, they have had volunteers help with extensive yard work - difficult for us to do, given my husband's paraplegic condition and my age. Community Ministries also arranged for twice yearly furnace maintenance during the season changes and urgent plumbing repairs.

The support they offer has been a big help to me and I'm sure to countless other Rockville Senior citizens. Please continue to fund this critical program.

Sincerely,



Shirley van Lare



Re: Community Needs for CDBG Program Year 40/FY2015

Doug Barber to: Barbara Smith-Brady

05/31/2013 10:24 AM

Agnes Saenz, Lynn Arndt, "mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov", Erin

Cc: Wilson, Brenda Bean, Sara Louise Ferrell, Susan Swift, Andrew Gunning, Doug Barber

Ms. Smith-Brady,

On behalf of the Mayor and Council, thank you for your comments regarding the City of Rockville's Community Development Block Grant Funding for Program Year 40/FY15. The Mayor and Councilmembers have each received a copy of your email. Your testimony will be included in the official record.

Thank you for contacting the City of Rockville.

Doug Barber, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850
240-314-8282 (Phone)
240-314-8289 (Fax)
dbarber@rockvillemd.gov

Barbara Smith-Brady	Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio and Council membe...	05/30/2013 03:28:57 PM
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From: Barbara Smith-Brady <elderlyministries@cmrocks.org>
To: "mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov" <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Cc: Agnes Saenz <asaenz@cmrocks.org>, Lynn Arndt <lynnarndt@cmrocks.org>
Date: 05/30/2013 03:28 PM
Subject: Community Needs for CDBG Program Year 40/FY2015

Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio and Council members Mark Pierzchala, Bridget Newton, Tom Moore and John Hall, Thank you for the opportunity to gather community support from the low-income seniors in the City of Rockville that the Safe and Habitable Home Program serves. Seniors are an under-served, growing population. The Safe and Habitable Home Program provides minor home repair and maintenance that can be address quickly, either by volunteers or tradesman. Without continue funding from CDBG funds, the program will not be able to serve the low-income seniors with immediate needs of repair and

maintenance to their homes. The program not only addressing the repair and maintenance of a client's home, but provides case management for every client we serve.

Please find attached letters received from some of the clients the Safe and Habitable Program has served.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

*Barbara Smith-Brady,
Program Director , Elderly Ministries
Phone: 301-637-0171 Fax: 301-637-0739
Community Ministries of Rockville
Main Switchboard: 301-637-0730
elderlyministries@cmrocks.org*

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SHH Letters of Support to Mayor & Council.pdf

Mayor and Council,
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Md. 20851

I greatly appreciate the help
received from Community Ministries
of Rockville.

The grab bars in the bath room
and the high seated toilet have
been a huge help to me.

I am eighty six years old and
live alone. With this kind of
helpers, I should be able to live
independently longer and better too.

Thanks to Barbara Smith-Keady
for coming to my house to assess
what was needed and for getting
the wheels in motion.

Thanks to Jules + Julia Wife -
for all the work they did so
professionally + so cheerfully too.
I believe they could do almost

any thing.

These things have made a
big difference to me in my
ability to function

It is so good to know you are
there.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Hillary
13204 Midway Ave.
Rockville, Md. 20851

May 28, 2013

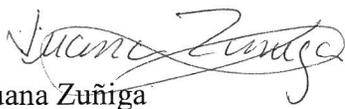
Dear Mayor and Council

I am writing on behalf of the Elderly Ministries Safe and Habitable Home Program. I am an elderly widow who lives on Supplemental Security Income and have owned the home at 2307 Rockland Ave Rockville since 1998. The program has helped me remain in my home for years, they have helped with a flood in my basement when the sump pump stopped working, they got it working and drained the water out of the basement and replaced it so it did not continue to flood. The program has provided painting and fence repairs as well as furnace inspection and oil in the winter. They got me a refrigerator and helped me also to fix a termite problem. The program has worked directly with the Office of Home Energy on my behalf and refers me to other programs. I would not be able to remain in my home if it weren't for the help of Community Ministries of Rockville Safe and Habitable Home Program.

I am very grateful for the help that Community Ministries of Rockville has given me in times when I am desperate and need help. I remember they have helped me for so many years even when my husband was alive but since he died several years ago I need the help even more and I appreciate knowing that I can count on them.

GRACIAS!

Sincerely


Juana Zuñiga

2307 Rockland Ave.
Rockville, MD 20851
301-468-5545

From: "MMcClelland@rockvillemd.gov" <MMcClelland@rockvillemd.gov>
To: Barbara Smith-Brady <elderlyministries@cmrocks.org>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 3:06 PM
Subject: Support of Elderly Ministries

May 10, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

Barbara Smith-Brady, Director of Elderly Ministries of Rockville, supplies essential support to low income seniors in Rockville. Elderly Ministries is the only Rockville non-profit that provides small but essential home repairs such as furnace and a/c safety checks and repairs, plumbing repairs, bathroom safety features such as hand rails and shower head extensions, and a variety of other small repairs. To my knowledge the other CDBG programs in Rockville are exclusively for a very small number of extensive and costly home repairs. Elderly Ministries can reach elderly residents quickly with free repairs.

The Outreach Office of the Rockville Senior Center has a close and productive relationship with Elderly Ministries as we both strive to help low-income seniors remain in Rockville to "age in place."

Sincerely,

Martha McClelland, MPA
Senior Outreach Worker Rockville Senior Center
City of Rockville, Recreation and Parks

Phone: 240-314-8816
Fax: 240-314-8809
MMcClelland@rockvillemd.gov

www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Allen Bahn <abahn@amcosvcs.com>

To: ASANEZ@CMROCKS.ORG

Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 9:22 AM

Subject: A note of Thanks for help given by Brady Smith Brady

Dear Ms Agnes,

I am the only survivor of my family from a German Concentration camp. I spent 5 years in that place and was rescued by the American soldiers when I was 9 years old.

I have had a good and fruitful life since then.

For the last 2.5 years I have not been able to work because of cancer. All my savings have been exhausted. Last year my water heater broke down along with my heating system's Martha McMillan of Rockville senior center introduced me to Ms Barbra Brady Smith of elderly community ministries. She was able to find funds and have a new hot water heater installed. For the first time in two years I have been able to have hot water in my house. She also referred me to Rebuilding together and had a leaking gas furnace replaced in my house. Before that I had to keep windows partially open in winter to keep carbon monoxide from killing my family. She has also given me food because I have been very low on that.

I live with my son who has mental illness and my wife who has Knee injuries that prevent her from driving.

In the winter of my life I have been given help by your ministry which I want to acknowledge.

Barbara has responded in most thoughtful and kind manner to my problems and for that I shall always be grateful.

Allen K. Bahn

607 Smallwood Road

ABAHN3@COMCAST.NET

phone: 301-424-0090

I am writing this letter on behalf of my sister, Ms. Rose Simms and my family. My sister is an extremely low income disabled resident of Rockville. My sister and my family are grateful for the case management provided by the Elderly ministries program. We have no doubt that without the services provided by this program my sister would not be able to remain in her apartment and maintain a reasonable independent living lifestyle. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Mrs. Barbara Smith-Brady who has worked tirelessly toward improving the quality of life and safety for my sister by ensuring she had a shower chair and Manna food services. Mrs. Smith-Brady is one of the strongest advocates I have met within the realm of all Montgomery County community services. Beyond that she is a true humanitarian that cares deeply about her clients and her Rockville community. Seeing first-hand what programs like the Elderly Ministries do for the citizens of Rockville and realizing the devastation for so many without them, I ask that you support providing funding to the Safe and Habitable Home Program under Public Services.

May 13, 2013

About Barbara Smith-Brady and the Community Ministries of Rockville:

Things they have did for me over the past few years is they replaced the faucet in the bathtub, fixed the attic stairway and the handrail for my steps in the back, painted the living room ceiling and painted the woodwork on the patio.

They check and clean my furnace every Fall. They also fixed my roof.

They are a wonderful organization!

Lois Thomas

606 Lincoln Street

Rockville MD 20850

301-762-7266

To Wilson its concerns, Im letting you
know that Im thanking our elderly Ministers
program for helping with problems in
my home like Hot water Tank, gutless pipes on
furnace and so on, that you for your help
for every thing they really do good work
for the elderly - thanks, Mrs Bacon

906 Wade Ave
Rockville MD 20851

From: Nancie Conover <nancieconover@yahoo.com>
To: Barbara Smith-Brady <elderlyministries@cmrocks.org>
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2013 3:34 PM
Subject: Re: letter

Greetings....my name is Nancie Conover. I am 76 years old and live alone in my home, except for my two cats, Mit Su and Ming. I have lived here for 35 years. My home overlooks woods and I get extreme enjoyment from the view of the trees and seeing the squirrels chase around, watching the birds, and just observing the beauty of nature in my environment. Staying in my home, where I feel comfortable, safe, and independent is very important to me. I want very much to live independently as long as I am able. I think it is difficult for younger people to accept that, though I look old on the outside, I am the same person I was when I was a teenager, with the same preferences and desires.

It seems that just yesterday I was dancing, raising children, and being an active member of society. Then one day you are sitting in a recliner drinking Ensure...Ha!

I am a low income senior (not the way I planned my life, just how it turned out) and CMR, Elderly Ministries Safe and Habitable Home Program has been of great assistance to me. Often I am faced with household problems and don't have the resources to seek professional help. Many times Barbara Smith-Brady, with Elderly Ministries, has come to my aid. The first thing they did for me was to send a handy man to put banisters on my stairs which greatly helps me haul my owl arthritic bones up the stairs.

I receive a bill from the City of Rockville every 3 mo. and usually pay about \$200, so you can imagine my panic when I received my bill and it was over \$700. Seems I had several toilets that were leaking and that is what caused the enormous bill. Elderly Ministries and a man from the City arranged for a man to come in fix the toilets and to also pay much of amount of the bill over the amount I usually pay. So appreciated! Elderly Ministries also has my furnace inspected yearly. They have been very helpful to me and I am very appreciative.

I have a scooter and enjoy so much going out to ride around the neighborhood. I gets me out of the house, into the fresh air and sunshine, and allows me to interact with people. I live near Whooten Mill Park and the Rockville public gardens. So, if you are in the area and see an old lady on a scooter, give a wave and say howdy!!!

Nancie Conover
2030 Dundee Road
Rockville, MD 20850



3925 Plyers Mill Road, Suite 202
Kensington, MD 20895
Phone 301-933-2700
Fax 301-933-6030
www.rebuildingtogethermc.org

Board of Directors:

May 30, 2013

Scott Whittier, President
W. R. Grace & Co

To Whom It May Concern:

Robert P. Quinn, Past President
Northwestern Mutual

I am pleased to write in support of the Elderly Ministries program of Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR). Rebuilding Together Montgomery County (RTMC) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide free home repairs and modifications to low-income homeowners, primarily the elderly and disabled, to keep them living in safe and healthy homes. In the course of our own work, we have developed a long and ongoing relationship with their past director, Sylvia George, and current director, Barbara Smith Brady.

Karen C. Smith, OT/L
Vice President
American Occupational Therapy
Association

David H. Anderson
Secretary
Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

Howard J. Miller
Treasurer
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital

Avi Galanti
Fairweather Real Estate Group

Preston Innerst
EYA

Jerry Liu
D.G. Liu Contractor, Inc.

Shahnaaz Tabibi
Monument Bank

Christina B. Johnson
Executive Director

RTMC and Elderly Ministries have often collaborated to resolve housing issues for senior Rockville residents. Most recently, we partnered with Elderly Ministries and the City of Rockville to help a disabled Rockville man who was heating his home with his oven because he could not afford a new furnace. Barbara from Elderly Ministries reached out to other agencies to help this man, and together, in a wonderful partnership, we were able to provide the furnace he so desperately needed.

RTMC and Elderly Ministries currently have several other mutual homeowners including an elderly woman who requires an accessible, no-threshold shower to bathe safely and a gentleman who has pending code violations because of peeling lead paint. These homes all require significant, expensive work, and we are hopeful that continued collaboration will help us achieve a positive result for these seniors. Elderly Ministries, with help from its local partners like RTMC, is working hard to achieve the highest level of service delivery for City of Rockville residents and keep its elderly residents safe in their homes as they age.

Please do contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Thrower

Kathleen Thrower
Program Manager



Rebuilding Together Montgomery County is a certified 501(c)3 non-profit corporation and therefore your donation is tax deductible, provided Rebuilding Together did not provide any goods or services to you in consideration of your contribution. This statement is intended to facilitate compliance with Internal Revenue Code section 170(f)(8) "Substantiation Requirement for Certain Contributions," applicable to charitable contributions made on or after January 1, 1994. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting our office. Documents and information submitted to the state of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of postage and copying or by calling 410-974-5534.