Choice Neighborhoods
$35 million grant awarded April 2020

Three focus areas:

Housing
Redevelopment of Jordan Downs

People
Holistic uplift of Jordan Downs residents

Neighborhood
Impactful community-identified investments
Alignment with HACLA’s Vision Plan

**People**

Strategy 4: Develop & Implement on-site and off-site service linkages aligned with best practices to support broad resident needs

Action 4.1 & 4.5
- Create broad trauma-informed care coordination and services that meet best practice in the field and are data-informed.
- Partner with an anchor institution to leverage services & impact cycle of poverty.

**Place**

Strategy 1, 5, 6, 7 & 8: Housing Preservation & Expansion, Placemaking & Sustainability

Action 4.1 & 4.5
- Preserve and expand affordable housing through public housing redevelopment.
- Participate in opportunities to improve neighborhood-wide infrastructure & economic equity, and prioritize LEED development & resiliency.
Split of Uses for $35 million CNI grant – Expenditure Deadline September 2026

People Activities - $5.25M
Neighborhood Activities - $5.25M
Housing Activities - $21.80M
Grant Administration - $2.70M
HACLA Strategic Initiatives Bureau

- SGC TCC project management
- Innovation & Data group
- Development Services

External Partners

- Jordan Down’s Community Partners (JDCP)
- Children’s Institute Inc. (CII)
- Mayor’s Office of Economic Opportunity (MOEO)

Legend: HACLA Backbone, People Module, Neighborhood Module + Housing Module
Housing Plan – 1,569 new housing units

Pre-Grant Award
Phase 1A Complete – 115 units
Phase H Closing
Phase S3 Closing

Grant Award
April 2020

December 2020
Phase 1B Complete - 135 units

Phase S2 Closing
March 2021

November 2021
Phase H Complete – 80 units
Phase H2A Closing

Phase S3 Complete – 92 units

Thru August 2027
Additional Rental + Homeownership Phases

Phase H2B Closing
May 2022

Phase 1B Complete - 135 units
Phase H2A Closing
Phase S3 Complete – 92 units
Phase H2B Closing
Thru August 2027
People Plan
• Due May 23 to HUD
• Data-informed approach
  ✓ Resident survey
  ✓ Conversations with residents + providers

Children’s Institute Inc. (CII)
People Lead

Service Partners
20+ partners

Jordan Residents
Community Coaches, RAC, Youth
Service Coordination – “No Wrong Door”

Leverage Service Partners

- Health + Wellness
- Economic Well-Being
- Youth Pathways

Care Coordination + Mental Health Services (CII)

- Service Coordination
- Shared intake + evaluation forms

- El Nido (BRIDGE)
- Del Richardson (Relocation)
- Better Tomorrows (TMO)
- CII
Neighborhood Plan

- $10.5 million for neighborhood investments
  - $5.335M CDBG funds
  - $5.250M Choice funds
  - 14 community selected projects
- Critical Community Improvements Plan
  - Due April 23 to HUD

MOEO in collaboration with HACLA Watts Rising Team

Habitat + GRID Alternatives
Inclusive Action for the City
Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church
TreePeople & Watts Clean Air
NorthEast Trees
WLCAC
ThinkWatts
LANI/CRCD
WCLO
RedEye
LA Dept of Cultural Affairs
Neighborhood Project Selection Process

Open Call for Projects
Solicitation of neighborhood projects and ideas from community partners and residents
August 2019

Veggies & Vehicles / Health Fair at Beula Baptist Church
Voting on housing, infrastructure & economic development options
September 14, 2019

Watts/Willowbrook Best Start @ Ted Watkins Park
Voting on housing, infrastructure & economic development options
October 16, 2019

Selection of CCI/CDBG Projects
Review of votes to inform projects for potential CCI and/or CDBG funding
Oct/Nov 2019

August 20, 2019
Jordan Downs Community Meeting
Vote on types of neighborhood projects + setting community goals

September 27, 2021
Watts Walking Club
Voting on housing, infrastructure & economic development options

September 28/29, 2021
Watts Jazz and Drum Festival
Voting on housing, infrastructure & economic development options
Refinement of Neighborhood Projects

- **Next Steps, TA + Information Sharing Sessions**: April-Oct 2020
- **Request for Information (RFI) applications**: Nov 2020-Jan 2021
- **Evaluation, project feasibility, and assignment of funding source**: Feb-April 2021
- **Respond to HUD questions, refine non-CCI funded projects**: May-Oct 2021
- **Implement CCI projects + apply for future PY CDBG funds**: Nov 2021-Sep 2026

**Additional Notes**
- Oct-Nov 2020: Application for PY47 CDBG Funds
- April 23, 2021: Submission of CCI Plan to HUD
Pending PY 47 CDBG Projects

**Greening Watts**
Planting 1,000 trees across Watts building on TCC investments

**Morning Star Sports Court**
Transformation of existing lot into a multi-purpose sports court

**ThinkWatts HQ**
Build out of space at Freedom Plaza for business training and “Makerspace” curriculum

**Watts Empowerment Music & Film Studio**
State-of-the-art facility to connect residents with music and film resources and supports
Potential CCI Projects

**MudTown Farms Commercial Kitchen (WLCAC)**
- 8,000 SF state-of-the-art commercial kitchen providing training plus incubator program

**Resilient Homes (Habitat + GRID + TreePeople)**
- Range of interior/exterior + green improvements including solar panels for homeowners

**MicroBusiness Loans (Inclusive Action for the City)**
- Provision of low-interest loans and/or patient capital combined with coaching and TA

**Business Facades + TA (LANI/CRCD + MCS)**
- Façade improvements + business supports along commercial corridors in Watts
Other Neighborhood Projects

- Watts Cultural Trail
- Creative School Signage
- Watts Gateway Bridge
- WCLO Center Expansion
- Watts Cool Schools Expansion
- Cultural Crescent Multi-Purpose Space
- Historic Watts Train Station & Plaza Renovation
THANK YOU

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