



# Lackawanna County

## Department of Economic Development

### Community Development Highlights



**Lackawanna**  
*County*

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Patrick M. O'Malley • Jerry Notarianni  
Lauren A. Cummings



# Lackawanna County

## Department of Economic Development

### Community Development

- Community Development Block Grant
  - The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs.
  - The CDBG program works to ensure decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses.
  - Administer approximately \$1.0 million per year in grant funds across 11 entitlement and 27 non-entitlement communities.
  - HOME (HOME Investment Partnerships Program)
    - Pennsylvania's HOME Program is a flexible financial tool for housing activities that promotes community stability by creating additional housing units through new construction and rehabilitation.
    - Housing rehabilitation allows for existing families to stay in their homes and be able to afford the utilities and maintenance thus minimizing vacancy levels in neighborhoods.
    - Applied for, received and disbursed competitive grant for \$350 thousand.
- Community Re-Invest
  - Micro grants available for high impact community development projects.
  - Providing \$1.9 million in total grants since 2013, of which \$1.5 million have been allocated across 34 different municipalities. The total amount of public-private investment in all of the ventures is \$7.4 million.



## Lackawanna County Department of Economic Development Community Development (continued)

- Act 137
  - Legislation authorizing an increase to the recording fees of deeds and mortgages to fund, support or enhance local affordable housing efforts.
  - Housing Rehabilitation/ Emergency Repair Assistance (EMR) – the Housing Rehabilitation program provides tangible, financial assistance to individuals and families who, due to limited financial means, are forced to reside in homes which are unsafe, unsanitary, and generally lacking in energy efficiency. The programs are designed to refurbish homes which have physical deficiencies that pose health and safety threats to the occupants of the structure.
    - Provided \$168 thousand in grants and assisted 20 families in the past 2 years.
  - First Time Homebuyer - assists moderate-income families and individuals with the purchase of their first home within Lackawanna County.
    - Provided \$107 thousand in grants and assisted 9 families in the past 2 years.