

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

<b>Community Development:</b>	Federal and State grants are received for specific new or rehabilitation projects from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for such things as community centers and public improvement systems, Home Buyers Programs, and Disaster Recovery such as preventing evictions for tenants who had lost income or employment due to the pandemic. These grants are typically awarded on a project-by-project basis and generally considered capital grant projects. The County oversees a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Housing Preservation Grant program to assist very low- and low-income rural residents / individual homeowners with the repair or rehabilitation of their dwellings. Also within this category are Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) grant funds to provide assistance to those facing housing insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
<b>Housing:</b>	Community Services Housing Authority administers the largest single grant awarded to the County, the Housing Choice Voucher Program. This Federal grant, provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is for rental unit subsidy for low-income residents.
<b>Transportation:</b>	The Transit Division of the County's Department of Planning and Growth Management manages a series of public transportation systems designed for the general public, senior citizens, and people with physical or mental disabilities who cannot access general public transportation. Operating revenues are primarily supported with Federal and State grants and matching funds from the County. All transportation services are marketed as VanGO to provide an easily recognized service name to the public. Services are provided through contract with a transportation vendor.
<b>Public Safety:</b>	<p>Both Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management programs fall within the category of Public Safety. Revenue associated with several of these grants has helped to increase the number of Sworn Officers or provided overtime and equipment for much needed programs. The Child Support Enforcement grant which is administered by the Sheriff's Office is considered part of the County's Public Safety program for the purpose of processing and serving of summonses, warrants and writs of attachment received from the courts.</p> <p>The County maintains a Drug Forfeiture Fund for revenues collected as a result of law enforcement efforts from drug related offenses. The primary purpose of the federal asset forfeiture program is law enforcement: To deter crime by depriving criminals of the profits and proceeds of their illegal activities and to weaken criminal enterprises by removing the instrumentalities of crime. Shared funding is given to supporting law enforcement operations to result in further seizures and forfeitures, which includes additional training and equipment and part-time salaries, limited to one year, to carry out the operations. The County also operates a Local and State Asset Forfeiture Program. Maryland Resolution No. 98-18, appropriation of funds is split at 30% State Attorney's Office, 20% County Commissioners Office, and 50% Sheriff's Office. Monies can only be spent as outlined in the Code of Charles County, Chapter 164 - Drug Enforcement and Education Special Reserve Fund.</p> <p>Emergency management grant funds are provided to enhance the capacity of local first responders to respond to terrorism incidents involving chemical, biological, nuclear, radiological, incendiary, and explosive devices, for homeland defense, maritime security, and acts of terrorism. These grants are specific to the acquisition of safety equipment, the implementation of a Statewide Domestic Preparedness Strategy by planning and conducting exercises, and training of County personnel in response to acts of terrorism and maritime security. The County also applies to the Maryland 9-1-1 Board for funding to support coordination, installation, and enhancement of County 9-1-1 emergency telephone number services systems as well as training for the emergency response and communication personnel.</p>
<b>Aging:</b>	Various aging grants and state fees for services agreements support senior housing assistance, health programs, guardianship, referral services, Community Options Waiver, and meal programs for the elderly. These programs promote independence and improve the quality of life for older persons. The major revenues supporting these programs are established with Federal and State grant awards, matched with County funding, and are supported with program revenue.
<b>Judicial:</b>	<p>Judicial Programs within the Circuit Court for Charles County are funded through Federal and State Grants, matched with County funding. Child Support programs are operated through a combined effort from the Charles County Department of Social Services and the Circuit Court. Child support cases are held to establish paternity, set child support payments, and enforce said support payments. Grant funds are provided to the County from Federal sources passed through the State of MD Department of Health and Human Resources.</p> <p>The Family Support Services Program (FSSP), Family Recovery Court (FRC), and Drug Courts are additional Judicial Programs funded through Federal and State grants. Recognizing that the adversarial process can be destructive for families, the program works to expedite family law cases in a manner designed to enable safety and support for all family members, and to minimize the trauma of litigation. The FRC is a Drug Court program where parents with substance abuse issues who are under the jurisdiction of the court through a Child In Need of Assistance (CINA) case, Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) case, or domestic relations custody case receive timely, intensive treatment and support to solve their addiction issues and provide safe and appropriate care for their children. The Adult Drug Court program adheres to the best practice standards established by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and has been established to enable Adult Drug Court participants access to appropriate treatment, linkages to ancillary services, and reduce the likelihood of recidivism.</p>
<b>Social Services:</b>	The Charles County Advocacy Council for Children, Youth, and Families (CCACCYF), Charles County's Local Management Board, receives funding for Human Services Programs at both the Federal and State level. The CCACCYF does not provide human services directly but contracts with various public and private agencies to provide publicly funded human services. The size of the contracts that are entered into annually is determined by the amount of funding made available to the CCACCYF by the Governor's Office for Children and the Maryland State Department of Education.
<b>Planning:</b>	Planning grants consist of environmental and cultural programs for such things as the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, Historical Preservation, Scenic Byways, Land Use Studies, and Easement Acquisition as well as Community Economic Adjustment Assistance for Responding to Threats to the Resilience of a Military Installation Program.
<b>Recreation:</b>	State grant funding provides support of local government efforts in the Tourism industry. The grant amount is determined based upon the County's prior year allowable expenditures; growth of prior year allowable expenditures over the same expenditures from the previous year to that year; growth of prior year's Comptroller-determined lodgings sales tax revenues over same tax revenues generated in their jurisdiction in the previous year to that year; and, on estimated impact of international visitation.