

**Cover Sheet – Non-Social Service Activity**

AGENCY NAME: Town of Amherst  
AGENCY ADDRESS: 4 Boltwood Avenue, Amherst MA  
AGENCY PHONE NO: 413 259-3034 CONTACT PERSON: Nate Malloy  
CONTACT PERSON EMAIL: malloyn@amherstma.gov  
2012 CDBG REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: *Amherst Childcare Center modernization*

1. Project Description (1-2 sentences)

*Funds will be used to replace the existing HVAC system and roof.*

2. Project Location

*Amherst Community Childcare Center, Strong Street, Amherst MA*

3. Budget Request: *\$260,000 CDBG and \$30,000 Town Funds*

4. Type of Activity (check one):

- Rehabilitation
- Acquisition
- Demolition/clearance
- Infrastructure
- Public Facility
- Architectural Barrier Removal
- Other – please explain

5. Demonstrate Consistency with Community Development Strategy

*The Community Development Strategy emphasizes that childcare and services for families and children is a priority. Maintaining the childcare center helps achieve this goal. The strategy also references Town projects and improvements Town facilities, especially if those projects benefit low- and moderate-income residents; again, achieved with the modernization of the childcare center.*

6. Demonstrate Consistency with Sustainable Development Principles

*This activity is consistent with Sustainable Development Principle 1 as it will provide funds to rehabilitate an existing structure. The Childcare Center is within walking distance of Amherst Town Center and affordable housing developments, and is adjacent to an elementary school, the Amherst Regional Middle.*

**Please submit responses to the following questions:**

Project Name: *Amherst Community Childcare modernization*

Project Location: *61 Strong Street, Amherst Ma*

Census Block Group:

**A. Please describe in full the project for which the funding is requested:**

Include information on the number of individuals or families to be served and who they are, i.e. disabled, low-income, homeless, etc.

*The Amherst Community Childcare Center was constructed with CDBG funds in 1990 and has consistently served children from low-and moderate-income families. The Center currently serves 51 children, of which over 75% are from low-and moderate-income families receiving either vouchers from the Department of Transitional Assistance or income eligible vouchers from Childcare Outlook, a program of Community Action, which manages these funds for the state Department of Early Care and Education. The program is also now fully integrated with the Amherst Head Start program and serves children from families whom are Head Start participants. The Center was originally operated by Hampshire Community Action Commission but is now a program of Community Action, the state mandated community action program of Franklin County.*

**B. What is the community's need for the proposed project/program?**

**Define the need or problem to be addressed by the proposed project. Explain why the project is important. Provide evidence of the severity of the need or problem. Who are the affected population and why is this population presently underserved or not served?**

*Census data showing demographic information and the number of children receiving free or reduced lunch and subsidized programs through the Town indicate that a significant portion of the Amherst's population, particularly families, could benefit from a childcare center that offers services for include low- and moderate-income citizens.*

**C. Community Involvement:**

What process was used to select this particular project? How was the process responsive to expressed community need?

*As far back as 1988, the Amherst Community was very concerned about the need to increase the availability of affordable childcare. Responding to this need the Town, in 1990 constructed the Amherst Community Childcare Center that would meet CDBG income requirements by serving a majority of children from low-and moderate-*

*Roof Replacement: \$85,000 (includes \$6,000 architectural fees for design and project oversight)*

*HVAC Replacement: \$175,000 (the Town will contribute \$30,000 towards this project)*

6. Please submit a time line with milestones, including a start and end date that demonstrates that this project is feasible (will be complete) within 18 months.

*As soon as the Town is awarded funds it will begin the bidding process for an architect.*

*Month 1 – bid for Architect in compliance with the Designer Selection Law.*

*Month 2- 3 Architectural drawings and bid specifications*

*Month 4 – Contractor bid*

7. **Please identify the staff that will be directly responsible for implementing this activity.**

*Nate Malloy, Associate Planner will be directly responsible for this activity.*

#### **E. Impact**

Describe the impact the activity will have on the specifically identified needs. What measurable improvements will result from the activity? How much of the need will be addressed? Define the direct and indirect outcomes that will result from the project. Identify quantitative and qualitative measures to determine that the outcomes are achieved.

*It is very important that all Town buildings do not fall into a state of disrepair – Over the past 20 years the Amherst Community Childcare Center has literally provided affordable childcare for hundreds of children. It is hoped that it will continue to provide affordable care for hundreds more in the future and therefore keeping this building in good repair is critical in order to achieve that goal.*

#### **F. Evaluation**

Goals & Assessments: Please explain your short-term goals and long-term goals. Describe the changes in the target population that indicate the program's success. How will these changes be measured? Will anticipated changes affect the municipality's responsibility to this target population? How will the impact of this service on individual clients be tracked over time? Will there be additional beneficiaries? Will this service enable clients to become self-sufficient? How is this service linked to other human/social service programs in the community?