

## Youngstown, Ohio Renewal Community

ID	Renewal Community Name	OLAS#	Population	Sq Miles	Poverty	Unemployment	Low-Income Households
15	Youngstown, OH	OH0017	4,518	1	64%	45%	89%

The combination of economic need and economic opportunity within a distressed section of Youngstown helped this area achieve Renewal Community designation.

The Youngstown, Ohio Course of Action concentrates on specific revitalizing goals and desired outcomes, including the following:

Expanding economic development and job creation while linking RC residents to job opportunities. The following developments will help the RC achieve these goals:

- Attraction of new firms to existing industrial land at the Ohio Works Industrial Park and a proposed technology park adjacent to Youngstown State University
- A new downtown civic center and hotel
- New commercial development adjacent to the planned HOPE VI project
- Small-business growth in the RC

Strengthening downtown as a local and regional destination for arts, culture, and entertainment. One key RC goal for Youngstown is to build a vibrant downtown that is a center for community, entertainment, cultural heritage, and celebrations, and is a vital economic base for the city. One important step to help achieve this is the development of a new civic center that will offer sports, entertainment, and civic events that will bring both city and suburban residents downtown. This center will help attract a related downtown hotel. An existing arts and entertainment district anchored by five museums, a symphony, ballet company, and performing arts organization will be another focus for downtown revitalization.

Revitalizing mixed-use neighborhoods that provide residents with a high quality of life and a foundation for achieving economic self-sufficiency. Faced with highly concentrated poverty and over 30 years of disinvestments, the Youngstown RC needs large-scale investment and comprehensive action to transform its neighborhoods. An incoming HOPE VI project is one example of the broad-based local partnerships anticipated under the RC program involving over 40 private firms, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and religious congregations. A special effort will be made also to prepare RC residents for construction jobs. To increase the positive impact of the HOPE VI project on the RC, additional strategic investments in new housing and commercial development will be undertaken.