



**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**00-313**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**

JULY 10, 2000

Approval for submission of Section 8 Mainstream Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Grant to U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

**SUBJECT:**

MAINSTREAM  
GRANT TO HELP  
HOUSE PERSONS  
WITH DISABILITIES

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

Grant Application is for up to \$1,599,660 over 5-year period. The grant will pay for an estimated \$206,100 in administration fees, and an estimated \$1,393,560 in housing assistance payments to owners of rental housing.

**TYPE:**

RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval.**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

BEN MONTIJO  
PUBLIC HOUSING  
SERVICES  
DIRECTOR

**BACKGROUND -**

HUD issued a notice of fund availability for Section 8, subsidized housing for disabled persons, in order to improve their access to rental units. The vouchers are targeted specifically to the disabled. They include requirements to provide supportive services, help the participants find appropriate accessible housing and educate retail property owners on resources available to modify housing to make it more accessible.

This application for up to 75 rental vouchers for the Mainstream Section 8 subsidies supports the identified priority needs stated in the Des Moines City Council's Consolidated Plan, adopted by the City Council in December, 1999. Housing for low income disabled persons was named as a priority. The plan's strategies to provide maximum opportunities for independent community living for Polk County Health Services, Inc. (PCHS) consumers include:

- 1. Expanding supported housing in safe and affordable permanent

- housing of the consumer's choice;
2. Continuing to develop community living opportunities for individuals residing in state hospital schools or other large congregate residential settings; and
  3. Removing such impediments to fair housing as difficulty in locating suitable rentals and owners' lack of knowledge of illegal discrimination.

The administrative fees will help pay for a case manager's time to administer the program. PCHS has agreed to assist with referrals, outreach, finding assistance for improving accessibility and the other tasks associated with successfully administering this grant.

On June 21, 2000, the Public Housing Advisory Board recommended approval.