

## Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

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

**01-326**

**AGENDA:**

JUNE 18, 2001

**SUBJECT:**

ELDERLY/DISABLED  
RESIDENT  
SERVICES  
PROGRAM GRANT

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

RUSSELL C.  
UNDERWOOD  
ACTING DIRECTOR

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

**SYNOPSIS -**

Requesting approval for submission of a grant for elderly/disabled resident services to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Also requesting authorization for the Mayor to execute and the City Manager to implement the grant if it is awarded.

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

Grant application is for \$200,000 over a three-year period.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval.**

**BACKGROUND -**

HUD released a notice of funding availability for services to elderly and disabled residents of public housing. The Des Moines Municipal Housing Authority (DMMHA) has a client base of 345 elderly and/or disabled residents living in targeted units. Staff has observed that sometimes services for these residents are not immediately available and require a period of waiting for assistance from other service providers.

The DMMHA Helping Hands Program will assist elderly and disabled persons living in public housing to access services in urgent situations. Transportation, food, clothing, medical access, housekeeping services, and other basic needs will be met until long-term services can be arranged. A program coordinator will administer funds, work with service coordinators to identify residents in need of emergency assistance, and develop prevention-oriented workshops. Access to such services will improve self-sufficiency

among elderly and disabled public housing residents and in some cases avoid evictions.

This grant would pay for a half-time program coordinator for three years to administer the funds and arrange for classes and workshops to improve residents' physical and mental health, and for a gap fund which can be drawn on for emergencies.

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