

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

03-315

AGENDA:

JULY 14, 2003

SUBJECT:

SUPPORTIVE
HOUSING PROGRAM
(SHP) GRANT
AGREEMENT
AMENDMENT WITH
HUD - HOMELESS
HELPLINE PROJECT

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

MIKE E. MATTHES
ACTING HOUSING
SERVICES DIRECTOR

ITEM 60-A

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

SYNOPSIS —

The City's Housing Services Department submitted a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to amend the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Homeless Helpline Project which provides needed services to homeless persons in the City of Des Moines and Polk County. HUD has now forwarded a Grant Agreement Amendment for the Homeless Helpline Project which requires Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT —

The \$246,219 SHP grant, which the Housing Services Department is administering, provides a 24-hour central intake and referral system to assist homeless residents. The City retains \$11,724 of the grant funds for administrative costs.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

On behalf of the City of Des Moines, the Community Development Department applied for a SHP grant which included the HUD geographic areas of the City of Des Moines and Polk County. As the applicant, the City is responsible for the overall management and administration of the grant, including drawdowns, funds distribution, and reporting to HUD.

As a project sponsor, the American Red Cross - Central Iowa Chapter will operate the Homeless Helpline which addresses the number one priority identified in the Continuum of Care by providing a 24-hour central intake and referral system. The system will utilize a standard intake form, a preliminary assessment of need, a referral to an appropriate agency, a computerized data base, and follow-up to assure contact was made.

The SHP application was developed from the City's Continuum of Care strategy and addresses high priority service gaps within the parameters of SHP-eligible activities.

