



Council
Communication
Office of the City Manager

Date

June 9, 2008

Agenda Item No. 43

Roll Call No. 08-

Communication No. 08-313

Submitted by: Chris M. Johansen, Housing Services Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Renewal Grant Agreements with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the SHP Renewal Grant Agreements by and between HUD and the City of Des Moines for supplemental funding for local homeless programs to address service gaps. The renewal grant agreements provide for one-year continuations of the House of Mercy and the House of Mercy at Capitol Park Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$517,200

Funding Source: HUD/Supportive Housing Program 2007-08 Operating Budget, Page 108, SP039 CDD049900.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On behalf of the City, the Housing Services Department submitted an application to HUD for SHP funding to provide supplemental funding for local homeless programs to address service gaps in Des Moines and Polk County. HUD has forwarded two (2) SHP renewal grant agreements totaling \$517,200, which require Council approval. As the applicant, the City is responsible for the overall management and administration of the grants, including draw-downs, fund distribution and reporting to HUD. The aforementioned renewal grant agreements are for a term of one year.

The project sponsor and the activities they will perform are as follows:

- House of Mercy (\$289,732): This is a one-year renewal of an existing transitional housing program for up to 148 individual women and/or women with children. The project provides housing and a wide array of support services including case management, counseling, medical and dental health care, transportation and job search assistance. The project leverages \$556,005 of additional funding and 81% of the clients who exited the program last year moved to permanent housing.
- House of Mercy at Capital Park (\$227,468): This is a one-year renewal of a permanent housing program that serves women with disabilities. Up to 26 individual women and/or

women with children can be served by the project, located at 1240 E. 12th Street. House of Mercy purchased and rehabilitated the facility in 2005 to expand their continuum of services to include permanent housing. Participants in Mercy's transitional housing program can move to this facility, if their progress to self-sufficiency will take longer than the two years allowed for in a transitional housing program. Based on the availability of space, other agencies can also refer women to the facility. House of Mercy will leverage \$56,867 of other funding to operate the program.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 4, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1076

Action: Continuum of Care Program Application funding to provide needed services to homeless persons in Des Moines and Polk County. (Council Communication No. 07-319) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: May 30, 2007

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: The Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) received application information.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.