

# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date: May 6, 2013

Agenda Item No. MHGB4

Roll Call No. [\_\_\_\_\_]

Communication No. 13-212

Submitted by: Douglas C. Romig, Housing Services

**Director** 

### **AGENDA HEADING:**

Receive and file Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency Grant (PH FSS) Program Report.

### **SYNOPSIS:**

The PH FSS Program is required to submit an annual Logic Model report to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Below is a summary of the PH FSS Program Logic Model report for the reporting period of June 14, 2011 to June 13, 2012, which was funded from a grant award in FFY2010 for this program. The FSS Program goals are to decrease cash welfare assistance and to increase earned income through case management services. The Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency's (DMMHA) FSS Program focuses on increasing educational levels, increasing employment opportunities, increasing financial literacy skills, and promoting homeownership opportunities. The DMMHA provided case management services to 34 Public Housing FSS families (39 individuals) during the reporting period.

# FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

This is a summary of the PH FSS Program Logic Model report for June 14, 2011 to June 13, 2012:

# Decrease in Cash Welfare Assistance

DMMHA did not have any public housing FSS families receiving cash welfare assistance during the reporting year.

# Increase in Household Income

There were 14 public housing FSS households that increased their total annual income through the year. While the amounts varied from \$336 at the low end and \$24,000 being the largest increase; the average increase in household income was \$7,745.

# **Asset Building**

FSS Participants begin accruing escrow amounts as the family's earned income increases. While the participants' rent portion does increase due to the earned income amount increasing, the difference of the earned income is put into an escrow account. The FSS Program is the only HUD funded program that directly enables families to save money. Due to the differences in rent calculation rules, the public housing FSS participants must first work for two (2) years before they begin to accrue an escrow

amount. During the reporting period, three (3) new participants started accruing an escrow amount; one (1) additional participant continued to accrue escrow.

As of December 31, 2012, there were seven (7) public housing FSS residents with an escrow account, five (5) currently accruing an average of \$130 monthly. The average escrow account balance was \$501.

# **Education and Employment**

Education and employment are crucial to the success of a FSS participant's journey toward self sufficiency. As of December 31, 2012, there were 111 total FSS current participants, 37 FSS participants were employed full-time and 28 participants were employed part-time. Sixteen participants were enrolled in post-secondary education and four (4) participants were attending vocational education.

# **Graduations and Completions**

One (1) public housing FSS participant completed his FSS Contract of Participation in the reporting period. Again, due to the nature of the differences in rent calculation between the Housing Choice Voucher Program and the Public Housing Program, there was no escrow earned by the Public Housing FSS graduate.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE** 

# 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 first 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.