

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: December 23, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 21 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>13-615</u> Submitted by: Douglas C. Romig, Housing Services Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the City of Des Moines Housing Services Department Des Moines Community Action Agency (DMCAA) Tenant Based Rental Assistance contract with Iowa Community Action Agency Association (ICAA).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approving acceptance of the award of the City of Des Moines Housing Services Department DMCAA, Tenant Based Rental Assistance contract with ICAA from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$60,053

Funding Source: ICAA

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ICAA is an organization made up of all 18 Community Action Agencies within the state of Iowa, including the City of Des Moines' DMCAA. ICAA negotiated a \$1,000,000 contract with the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) to provide a state-wide Tenant Based Rental Assistance program through ICAA.

The Tenant Based Rental Assistance provides eligible households rental subsidy towards housing for up to 24 months through direct rental assistance.

The DMCAA will serve eligible households residing in the City of Des Moines that are at or below 60% of area median income (AMI); \$43,740 for a family of four (4). This initiative is designed to assist families that are hard to house as priorities will be placed on households that have one (1) substantial barrier to obtain housing which may include: evictions, criminal history, utility arrears, mobility impaired, and income under \$1,000 per year. Applications will be taken through referrals from Polk County Housing Continuum members with initial applications being taken in January 2014. Participating families will be encouraged to put their name on the local public housing authority's Public Housing waiting list and their Section 8 Waiting list when it reopens.

Eligible households will select a rental unit that meets the housing program standards and has a fair and reasonable rent. A housing quality standards inspection, lead based inspection, and income and

asset reverification will occur annually. Households participating in the program will participate in the Financial Foundations Financial Education Program at DMCAA. Based on historical data from the Des Moines Municipal Housing Agency, staff anticipates serving five (5) to 10 families with the available funding.

The ICAA is hopeful that this contract will be renewed which will allow the DMCAA to maintain services to those already on the program this initial year and also provide opportunities to more low-income qualified families through attrition.

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.