

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: October 20, 2014
	Agenda Item No. 28 Roll Call No. <u>14-1639</u> Communication No. <u>14-490</u> Submitted by: Douglas C. Romig, Housing Services Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the Community Services Block Grant Contract (CSBG) for the 2015 CSBG program year between the Des Moines Community Action Agency and Iowa Department of Human Rights/Division of Community Action Agencies.

SYNOPSIS:

Approval of the CSBG Community Action Contract made to the Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies for the City of Des Moines’ Community Services Program for low-income persons from October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$622,680

Funding Source: Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies, will be deposited to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Recommended Operating Budget, Housing Services Department, Community Services Block Grants, SO27CSB00115, CSBG 2015, page 120.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

CSBG provides funding for the Des Moines Community Action Agency, a division of the Housing Services Department. The purpose of the Iowa CSBG program is to support Community Action Agency’s efforts to assist low-income families and individuals with basic energy assistance, food needs, shelter needs, and working towards achieving self-sufficiency. Services are delivered through the Des Moines Community Action Agency at 1618 6th Avenue. CSBG funding is leveraged with funding through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), CDBG, United Way and area donations, which assist with the City’s Community Action efforts.

CSBG funds provide the necessary staff to provide access for low- income families to receive direct programs and services to meet essential basic needs. Through the provision of staff, CSBG funding allows 100% of funds allocated from sources such as MidAmerican I-CARE and Project H20 funds to be used solely to assist households in maintaining heating and electrical service and/or water service. In addition to the many other programs and services provided by the Community Action Agency, CSBG funds also help support, in conjunction with donations and/or grants, the Personal Pantry Project, Holiday Food Basket Project and Garden Project, and assist households in maintaining heating and electrical service.

As part of the City Council action, staff is also recommending that the City Manager be authorized and directed to execute any changes in the administrative terms, conditions, or amounts specified in this contract and the Housing Services Director or his designee be authorized and designated to sign all fiscal and program forms required by this contract, including but not limited to funding requests, expenditure reports, and budget amendment requests.

The Des Moines Community Action Agency is charged with providing services to the City's low-income families and trying to address and eliminate causes of poverty. The City became a public Community Action Agency in 1977. The origin of Community Action can be found in the signing of the Federal Equal Opportunity Act in 1964. There are now 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the United States. The City of Des Moines is one of 18 Community Action Agencies serving Iowa.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 4, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-1724](#)

Action: [Community](#) Services Block Grant, (CSBG) Community Action Contract (CSBG-14-07) for the 2014 Program Year, \$574,966. ([Council Communication No. 13-536](#)) Moved by Coleman to adopt. Motion Carried 6-0.

Date: November 19, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-1777](#)

Action: [Community](#) Services Block Grant (CSBG) Community Action Contract for the 2013 CSBG Program Year. ([Council Communication No. 12-587](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Housing Services Board

Date: October 15, 2014

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Recommend the City Council approval of CSBG Community Action Contract made to the Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies for the City of Des Moines' Community Services Program for low-income persons from October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015.

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.