

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>21-140</b>	Meeting:	<b>March 22, 2021</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>44</b>	Roll Call:	<b>21-0507</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Chris Johansen, Neighborhood Services Department Director</b>		

### AGENDA HEADING:

Public hearing for approval of the third amendment to the 2019 Action Plan for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan to prepare for, prevent, and respond to coronavirus.

### SYNOPSIS:

In September 2020, HUD notified the City of Des Moines of its third allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV 3) funds authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). To access these funds, the City must amend its 2019 Action Plan with an opportunity for public comment.

The City proposes to use CDBG-CV 3 funds like CDBG-CV 2 funds by funding childcare and mental health care services. Providers that applied for CDBG-CV 2 funds, but whose proposals were declined in January 2021, due to a lack of funding, were offered CDBG-CV 3 funds.

This Council action is 1) to approve and submit the third amendment to the 2019 Action Plan for activities funded by CDBG-CV 3, and 2) to approve award amounts and authorize contracts with additional childcare and mental health care subrecipients.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,241,887 in CDBG-CV 3 funds

Funding Source: HUD

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In November 2020, the City solicited proposals for childcare or mental health care needs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic under the CDBG-CV 2 funding round through a Request for Interest and Qualifications (RFQ) process. The City received 12 submitted proposals, of which one (1) was ineligible because it was in West Des Moines.
- In January 2021, the Council approved six (6) subrecipients to receive \$1,000,000 in CDBG-CV 2 funds, as recommended by a grant review committee composed of staff from the Neighborhood Services, Development Services, and Civil and Human Rights Departments.

- CDBG-CV 2 funding requests exceeded \$2.6 million whereas the City had allocated \$1 million to award. As a result, several organizations with necessary programs or services were either not funded or underfunded.
- The total CDBG-CV 3 allocation is \$1,241,887. Staff reviewed proposed allocations with the City Manager and recommends the following:

Description	CDBG-CV 3 Amount
Administration	\$ 189,097
Children and Families of Iowa (CFI)	\$ 147,550
Youth Shelter & Services (YSS), DBA Iowa Homeless Youth Center (IHYC)	\$ 192,188
Oakridge Neighborhood Services	\$ 288,000
Grubb YMCA	\$ 203,101
	\$
<i>Blank Children's Hospital*</i>	26,018*
Internet service for Des Moines Public School students	\$ 221,951
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,241,887</b>

\*This is not included in the total as it is recommended to be moved to CDBG-CV 2. See following bullets.

- Staff also recommends adjusting Blank Children’s Hospital and the Grubb YMCA awards. Both programs are recommended for additional funding. This means their awards would be split between two (2) funding sources—CDBG-CV 2 and CDBG-CV 3.
- Staff recommends funding Blank Children’s Hospital (\$104,072 in CDBG-CV 2 plus \$26,018 in CDBG-CV 3) under CDBG-CV 2 only. Moving Blank Children’s Hospital into one (1) funding source rather than two (2) sources would streamline grant administration and ease the burden of monitoring two (2) contracts for one (1) provider.
- Similarly, the Grubb YMCA would be moved from CDBG-CV 2 to being completely funded by CDBG-CV 3 (\$33,101 CDBG-CV 2 plus \$170,000 CDBG-CV 3). Moving the Grubb YMCA into one (1) funding source rather than two (2) sources would streamline grant administration and ease the burden of monitoring two (2) contracts for one (1) provider.
- There have been three (3) rounds of federal funding authorized under the CARES Act to prepare, prevent, and respond to coronavirus. This Council action will be funded in CDBG-CV 3, which is highlighted among the funding summary below:

Notification of Funding to City	City Council Approval	Description	Amount
4/2/2020	5/4/2020	CDBG-CV, round 1	\$ 2,231,212
4/2/2020	5/4/2020	ESG-CV, round 1	\$ 1,108,334
7/31/2020	9/14/2020	CDBG-CV, round 2	\$ 2,067,124
6/9/2020	11/23/2020	ESG-CV, round 2	\$ 2,081,414
9/11/2020	3/22/2021	CDBG-CV, round 3	\$ 1,241,887
		CDBG-CV Subtotal	\$ 5,540,223
		ESG-CV Subtotal	\$ 3,189,748
		<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$ 8,729,971</b>

- A summary of the recommended programs:

Children and Families of Iowa (CFI) - \$147,550

- CFI will use CDBG-CV funds for the salary of a therapist to respond to the stress, strain, and trauma their clients have experienced as a result of the pandemic.
- 80-100 children will be served.

Youth Shelter & Services (YSS), DBA Iowa Homeless Youth Center (IHYC) - \$192,188

- IHYC will use funds for a mobile mental health supportive service program, which will include a licensed mental health therapist trained in best practices for working with transition age homeless youth. The therapist will provide therapeutic crisis intervention services and mental health assessments to homeless youth living on the streets of Des Moines. The therapist will also provide individual therapy sessions to homeless youth living in rapid rehousing apartments.
- 75 homeless transition age youth, 18-24 households will be served.

Oakridge Neighborhood Services - \$288,000

- Oak Academy provides early care and learning to an economically, ethnically and culturally diverse group of infants (starting at six {6} weeks) and toddlers and prepares preschoolers to enter kindergarten ready to learn on-par with their peers. Oak Academy serves children throughout the community including residents and non-residents of the Oakridge Neighborhood. Funds will be used to provide scholarship support to children who would not otherwise be able to attend.
- 60 children will be served.

Internet service for Des Moines Public School (DMPS) students - \$221,951

- DMPS students have participated in remote learning due to the pandemic; however, students needed computers and internet to access classes. In response, DMPS had increased technological expenses, especially for hot spot access.
- It is currently unknown how many children have and will continue to benefit from internet access with CDBG-CV funds.

Blank Children's Hospital - \$26,018 plus partial award of \$104,072 in CDBG-CV 2

- Blank Children's Hospital will respond to the increased mental health needs of children in the community due to the COVID-19 pandemic through a 2-generation, multi-tiered approach.
- The additional \$26,018 will allow Blank Children's to hire a full-time therapist rather than 0.8 FTE with a partial award.
- 120 patient/family visits per month will be supported by a second behavioral health consultant/therapist.

John R Grubb YMCA - \$170,000 for Summer Learning Loss Prevention plus \$33,101 previously awarded

- The John R Grubb YMCA provides support for DMPS virtual learning students who need assistance while not attending in-person learning. Students K-5 will receive support for technical issues with remote learning, academic assistance, and enrichment activities. \$33,101 of CDBG-CV funds will be used to address air quality issues and improve Wi-Fi access.

- Reports show Iowa's first grade reading scores have already decreased by 21% due to learning disruptions as a result of the pandemic. The Grubb YMCA plans to enhance its Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program to address the literacy gap worsened by pandemic-related learning loss.
- 70 students will be assisted during the school year.
- 130 students will be assisted in the summer program.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: March 8, 2021

Roll Call Number: [20-0378](#)

Action: [On](#) amendment to the 2019 Action Plan for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, (3-22-21). Moved by Voss to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Gatto.

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Upcoming actions will include approving the CDBG-CV 3 grant agreement from HUD and approving the 2021 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) indicating how funds were used.

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