

April 6, 2021

R-27

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to submit a renewal grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), for the 2021 Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance Program; and,

Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement, and all necessary documents, subgrants, and any amendments including amendments to the amount of the award or to extend the grant term, with HUD to accept and expend grant funding in an estimated amount between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000, for the initial period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The City of Long Beach (City) has applied for Continuum of Care (CoC) grant funding since 1995 to fund programs and services to quickly stabilize individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The CoC grant funds the following components: (1) permanent housing; (2) supportive services; (3) transitional housing; and, (4) the Homeless Management Information System.

The CoC strategy must align with the City's Consolidated Plan and Housing Element components in relation to housing and services for special needs populations. Examples of leveraged community resources include, but are not limited to, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), Veterans funding, and other State, City, and County funds. The local CoC system, combined with all its nonprofit partner agencies, currently provides approximately \$1.6 million in matching funds to promote a seamless service delivery model that has been recognized both regionally and nationally.

On May 12, 2020, the City Council approved the Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) to be the lead recipient agency for the 2020 CoC award. The Health Department was awarded funding for 2020 renewal projects, one planning grant, and one Unified Funded Agency (UFA) grant for the total of \$9.6 million. The UFA status allows CoCs flexibility to better meet local community needs.

The City's Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) oversees the grant renewal/allocation process, in collaboration with the CoC General Membership and Board, comprised of diverse community stakeholders. Attachment A includes a listing of agencies that are eligible to apply for annual renewal in the 2021 CoC process as part of the City's funding application. Additional agencies may apply, if they meet the eligibility thresholds outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, anticipated for late summer/early fall 2021.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 6, 2021

Page 2

Upon award notification from HUD, the Health Department will monitor the performance of all program sub-recipients to ensure compliance with federal and local grant requirements, and that performance standards and local objectives are met. The City's Housing Authority will administer the CoC Program's Rental Assistance projects.

For the 2021 CoC Homeless Assistance Program, the Health Department anticipates receiving between \$10 to \$12 million from HUD. A City-match is required and estimated to be approximately \$480,000, based upon the current award amount. The City will meet this match obligation through the operation of the Multi-Service Center.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Taylor M. Anderson on March 9, 2021 and by Revenue Management Officer Geraldine Alejo on March 15, 2021.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on April 6, 2021, to allow the Health Department to begin the process of responding to the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the 2021CoC.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Health Department anticipates receiving between \$10 to \$12 million from HUD for the 2021 CoC Homeless Assistance Program. Appropriation in the amount of \$9.6 million is currently budgeted in the Health Fund Group in the Health and Human Services Department. If the grant is awarded and exceeds current appropriation, the Department will return to the City Council with a request for appropriation, offset by grant revenues. A City-match of approximately \$480,000 will be required, which the City will meet through the operation of the Multi-Service Center. Multi-Service Center operations are budgeted in the General Fund Group in the Health and Human Services Department. Currently, 26 City employees facilitate the operations of the Multi-Service Center and 14 City employees provide grant management and oversight services. Sub-recipient contracts with 10 nonprofit agencies support jobs in Long Beach. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



KELLY COLOPY
DIRECTOR
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER

Attachment

Agencies Currently Eligible to Apply for Annual Renewal in the 2021 CoC Process

1. 1736 Family Crisis Center
2. Volunteers of America, Los Angeles
3. Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.
4. Harbor Interfaith Services, Inc.
5. Interval House
6. Mental Health America of Los Angeles
7. People Assisting the Homeless
8. United States Veterans Initiative
9. Goodwill, Serving the people of Southern Los Angeles County
10. The Children's Clinic, "Serving the Children and Their Families"