



CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-20

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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May 8, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2007 Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance Program and execute all necessary documents, subgrants and any amendments changing the amount of the award or extending the grant term upon receipt of HUD funding. The Grant award amount will be between \$4 million and \$7 million, for a period of 1 to 5 years. Funding will be made available through HUD and an appropriation requested in the Health Fund (SR 130) and in the Department of Health and Human Services (HE) through the Fiscal Year 08 budget process. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In 1994, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established the Continuum of Care (CoC) program, which rewards communities that work together to coordinate housing and supportive service programs for homeless persons. The driving force behind this effort is to encourage the development of a seamless strategy to aid individuals in the transition from homelessness to permanent housing. The CoC's primary objective is to assist homeless individuals and families to leave the streets, become stable, and achieve self-sufficiency to the maximum extent possible. The CoC system consists of five components: 1) outreach and assessment, 2) emergency shelter, 3) supportive services, 4) transitional housing, and 5) permanent housing with and without supportive services. As part of the CoC, the community must demonstrate how all available funds and programs are used to augment CoC funds. Available funds include, but are not limited to: Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME funds, Section 8 federal funds, Public Housing funds, and other state, city, county, private, and foundation funds.

CoC funds have a recommended formula allocation for each jurisdiction, which is established by HUD and tied to poverty and population data. This formula is low and is not the only basis for funding requested in the application. The application to HUD is a competitive application. Upon review by HUD, the quality of the application is taken into consideration; since 1996, the City has received an allocation over the formula amount as the result of a high score on the application.

Activities eligible for CoC Funding are three permanent housing options (Shelter Plus Care, Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities, and Single Room Occupancy projects), Transitional Housing, Safe Havens, and Supportive Services Only Projects (See Attachment 1).

On April 4, 2006, the City Council approved the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to be the lead applicant for the 2006 CoC for Homeless Assistance Program. DHHS was subsequently granted \$4.5 million to fund 30 renewal programs. Attachment 2 is a listing of agencies that will potentially be funded in the 2007 process as part of the City's funding allocation. Attachment 3 is a timeline for the CoC process.

Funding from HUD is available for the 2007 Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance Program to provide the above mentioned community services for the homeless.

City Council approval is requested for the City to apply for between \$4 and \$7 million per year through the 2007 Continuum of Care for Homeless Assistance Program. These funds will renew existing programs and fund new Long Beach homeless assistance programs.

The Board of Health and Human Services (BOH), in conjunction with the City's Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC), will oversee the allocation process. The funding priorities are based on the following HUD guidelines: 1) fund permanent housing exclusively serving chronically homeless single men and women; and 2) fund permanent housing for persons (individuals and families) with disabilities. HUD has moved away from funding new Supportive Services Only projects. The BOH and HSAC are requesting that the DHHS be the lead grantee. Sub-grantees will be chosen through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process conducted by the DHHS as part of the application process outlined in Attachment 3. As a result of this authorization, the DHHS will be responsible for compiling the application, including the proposed sub-grantees, for submission to HUD. Upon award, the DHHS will monitor the performance of all program sub-grantees to ensure compliance with grant requirements. The City's Department of Community Development, Housing Authority, will administer any Shelter Plus Care rental subsidies received.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Lori A. Conway on April 18 and by Budget and Performance Management Bureau Manager David Wodynski on April 19, 2007.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on May 8, 2007 to allow DHHS to begin the process of responding to the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the grant.

FISCAL IMPACT

If awarded, the grant is estimated to be between \$4 and \$7 million per year. Funding will be made available through HUD and an appropriation requested in the Health Fund (SR 130) and in the Department of Health and Human Services (HE) through the Fiscal Year 08 budget process.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,


Jud Schoendorf, M.D.

Chair, Board of Health &
Human Services



Gary Shelton

Chair, Homeless Services Advisory Committee

By:



RONALD R. ARIAS
DIRECTOR
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:


for GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER

Attachments

Activities Eligible for Continuum of Care Funding

Permanent Housing – Shelter Plus Care: The Shelter Plus Care Program is designed to provide permanent housing and supportive services to homeless persons with disabilities and their families. In the case of a homeless household, at least one adult member must be considered disabled. HUD pays for the housing through rental assistance payments following the same concept as Section 8 vouchers. The grantee must provide a dollar-for-dollar match to be used for supportive services.

Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities: Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities is long-term housing for the homeless and disabled population. Basically, it is community-based housing and supportive services that can be provided in one structure, several structures at one site, or multiple structures at scattered sites.

Permanent Housing – Single Room Occupancy (SRO): The SRO program is permanent housing in the form of Section 8 rental assistance working in collaboration with local public housing agencies. The rental assistance payments cover the difference between a portion of the tenant's income (normally 30 percent) and the unit's rent, which must be within the Fair Market Rent (FMR) established by HUD. Unlike the previous two permanent housing categories, SRO funds can be used for all homeless populations. Rental assistance for SRO units is provided for a period of 10 years. To be eligible for assistance, owners of SROs must invest at least \$3,000 of rehabilitation costs per unit and meet housing quality standards. *Due to zoning limitations, the City of Long Beach does not apply for these funds.*

Transitional Housing: Transitional Housing facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within 24 months. This temporary housing is combined with supportive services to enable homeless individuals and families to live as independently as possible.

Safe Havens: A Safe Haven is a form of supportive housing in which a structure, or a clearly defined portion of a structure, or scattered site housing, which are rental subsidies in apartments throughout the city, meets the following criteria: (1) serves hard-to-reach homeless persons who have severe mental illness, are on the streets, and have been unwilling or unable to participate in supportive services; (2) provides 24-hour residence for an unspecified duration; (3) provides private or semiprivate accommodations; and (4) has overnight occupancy limited to 25 persons if at one site.

Supportive Services Only: Supportive Services Only projects provide services to address the special needs of the homeless person. Projects fall under this classification only if they are not providing housing to the persons receiving the services.

Outreach services can be funded as part of a housing component or as a supportive service not in conjunction with housing. Outreach provides the first point of contact for many homeless persons and families where they live on the streets.

Assessment services can be funded as part of a housing component or as a supportive service not in conjunction with housing. Assessments are done on all clients entering into service to determine the best course of assistance and which components of the Continuum of Care will best move an individual or family toward becoming housed and stable.

Although emergency housing is part of the CoC plan development required by HUD, these CoC funds *will not support emergency housing (i.e., shelters)*. The City utilizes Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funding to assist in the development of emergency housing programs.

The following agencies have expressed an interest in responding to the RFP to become sub-recipients of Continuum of Care funding as part of a consolidated application prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Selections will be dependent upon final funding allocations as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

1736 Family Crisis Center
Beyond Shelter, Inc.
Beacon House
Catholic Charities
Changing Spirits
Comprehensive Child Development
Children Today
Los Angeles County Department of Social Services
Goodwill Industries
Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (GLASS)
Institute for Urban Research and Development
Interval House
Joint Efforts
National Mental Health Association Los Angeles
New Image Emergency Shelter
People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)
Salvation Army
Stand Up For Kids
Southern California Drug and Alcohol Program
Substance Abuse Foundation
Su Casa
Tarzana Treatment Center
United States Veterans Initiative, Inc.
Womanshelter of Long Beach

2007 Continuum of Care Proposal Timeline

March 2007

- HUD released SuperNOFA for Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless funding on **March 13, 2007**.

April 2007

- The Board of Health and Human Services (BOH) and the Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) voted to oversee the Request For Proposal (RFP) process. An ad hoc review sub-committee, composed of representatives from the BOH, HSAC, the Homeless Coalition, Faith-Based Organizations, the Community Action Network and the Community Development Advisory Commission was formed. Sub-committee members will participate in site visits for renewal projects, review new applications and establish funding priorities for final submission to HUD.
- Funding priorities for the City's Request for Proposal (RFP), which is being combined into a Consolidated RFP for the distribution of HUD Homeless funding, Emergency Shelter Grant funds and Social Services grant funds, were based on information gathered from community forums and homeless 10-year planning efforts.
- On April 12th, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Bidders' Conference was held for agencies interested in applying for funding under the Consolidated RFP.
- The RFP was distributed at the bidders' conference, and is now accessible via the web at:
www.ci.longbeach.ca.us/health/organization/hss/homeless_services/default.asp
- Agencies will have technical assistance available to them through the DHHS until **June 8th**.

May 2006

- The BOH and HSAC request authorization from the City Council for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to be the lead agency and apply to HUD for 2007 CoC funding – May 3rd.
- BOH and HSAC perform Site Visits and complete reviews of current projects seeking renewal funding – **May 11th**.
- Agency applications are due back to the DHHS – **Renewals are due April 30th, and New Applications are due May 4th**.

- New applications will be sent out to the Ad-hoc committee for review and rating – **Week of May 7th**.
- Score sheets due back – **May 14th**.
- The Ad Hoc Review Committee reviews RFPs and determines ranking and funding levels for inclusion in the application to HUD – **May 16th**.
- Appeal notifications sent out via email – **May 17th**.
- Appeal requests due back to DHHS – **May 20th**.
- Appeals meeting (If needed; there have been no appeals for the past 5 years) – **May 21st**.
- Agencies work with staff to finalize proposals – **April 30th to June 1st**.
- Application goes to print – **June 4th**
- Application submitted to HUD by the deadline of **June 8th**.

Note: Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) & Social Services Grant Program (SSGP) recommendation will go back to Council for approval to contract.