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**Sponsor:** Housing Stability

**Meeting Date:** 9/5/2023

**Title:** Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program

**File Number:** 2023-388

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**Background and Rationale:**

The Minnesota Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) was established in 1993 to assist families with children, single adults and youth who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) administers the FHPAP with guidance from the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness and the state's plan to prevent and end homelessness. The FHPAP provides funds to serve low-income (less than 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines) residents to prevent homelessness and/or to rapidly rehouse those households that are homeless.

The county works with its community partners through an FHPAP Advisory Committee (required by statute) and Heading Home Ramsey (the county's Continuum of Care or "CoC") to design a homeless crisis response system, develop project outcome measures, and assess the short and long-term effectiveness of the program in meeting the needs of families who are at risk of homelessness, or are experiencing homeless. This year, Heading Home Ramsey prioritized serving families with minor children, single adults, and parenting or unaccompanied youth under 25 years old for the 2023-2025 grant cycle by providing street outreach, prevention assistance, coordinated entry, and rapid rehousing services.

MHFA awarded Ramsey County \$6,590,000 for the 2023-2025 FHPAP Biennium. Of the total funding, \$6,380,000 of the grant funding will be awarded to 13 subgrantees and \$210,000 will be retained as personnel costs within the Ramsey County Housing Stability department for a 1.0 FTE Planning Specialist position for the duration of the grant. Ramsey County issued a solicitation in February 2023.

The solicitation received 20 respondents, of which 13 were awarded funding. Funded agencies include:

1. 1 Day At A Time
2. American Indian Family Center
3. Catholic Charities
4. Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)
5. Face to Face
6. Hmong American Partnership
7. Lutheran Social Services
8. Merrick Community Services
9. Minnesota Community Care
10. Neighborhood House
11. Solid Ground
12. Wilder Foundation
13. YMCA

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, in the amount of \$13,633,364
2. Accept a grant award and approve and approve a grant agreement with Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$6,590,000.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.
5. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Housing Stability department by 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent position, for the duration of the grant

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner McGuire.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

By:   
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Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board