
Sponsor: Housing Stability

Meeting Date: 6/4/2024

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

File Number: 2024-190

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.

Ramsey 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 CoC 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 \$3,288,018 for the specified grant period, or "Round 2," which is in addition to current FHPAP funding of \$6,590,000, totaling \$9,878,018 for the 2023-2025 grant period. Ramsey County issued a solicitation via letter of interest to currently funded providers to expand homeless prevention projects.

The solicitation received seven respondents, of which six were awarded funding. Funded subgrantee agencies include:

1. American Indian Family Center
2. Merrick Community Services
3. Minnesota Community Care
4. Neighborhood House
5. Solid Ground
6. YMCA

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program.
2. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for the period of June 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$3,288,018.
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 and contracts in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures provided the amounts are within the limits of grant funding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Martinson, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: - 1: Frethem

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board