
Sponsor: Housing Stability

Meeting Date: 7/23/2024

Title: Grant Award from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care Planning Grant

File Number: 2024-319

Background and Rationale:

The Ramsey County Housing Stability department serves as the lead agency for the Heading Home Ramsey Continuum of Care (HHR CoC), a community-wide partnership committed to the goal of ending homelessness in Ramsey County. HHR CoC is a coalition of social service providers, housing providers, philanthropic partners, business, community, government, and citizens working together to create and implement cost-effective solutions to ending homelessness. HHR CoC is responsible for planning and implementing the homeless response system in Ramsey County and carries out specific duties defined by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the state of Minnesota.

As the lead agency, Housing Stability:

1. Leads coordination activities with Heading Home Ramsey Governing Board, Steering Committee, workgroups, and other CoC members; HUD-funded and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) projects and providers; coordinated entry programs; the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness (MICH); and other metro area continua of care,
2. Sets and communicates performance goals for all CoC and ESG projects; establishes baseline and on-going reporting for system-wide performance goals; reports and presents on coordinated entry goals and outcomes; collects data and monitors data quality through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS),
3. Designs and implements a project monitoring plan, communicating, and visiting with each ESG and CoC project to follow up on all aspects of the plan, and report results,
4. Participates in city and county consolidated plan planning and public meetings, providing data used in preparation for sections on homelessness and housing,
5. Develops and implements a coordinated entry system, and
6. Conducts CoC funding application activities and HUD compliance activities.

Ramsey County applied for this grant last in 2023 as part of HUD's annual Notice of Funding Opportunity process, and this funding will continue to support 2.0 Full Time Equivalent staff within the department who provide work on the HHR CoC, with an additional 1.0 Full Time Equivalent staff dedicated to enhancing and improving the Coordinated Entry programs and system that works to serve unsheltered residents of Ramsey County.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care Grant.
2. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Heading Home Ramsey Continuum of Care lead agency planning for the period of November 1, 2025, to October 31, 2026, in the amount of \$364,065.
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 for the duration of the grant.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Frethem.

Motion passed.

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

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board