



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

April 1, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted By: Benita De Frank, Neighborhood Services Director

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FIVE CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANT AWARDS FROM HUD TOTALING \$3,482,855 AND A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, LOS ANGELES (VOALA) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,655,708

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

1) Adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-22 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FIVE CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) TOTALING \$3,482,855 IN GRANT FUNDING.

2) Authorize a Professional Services Agreement with Volunteers of America, Los Angeles, (VOALA) in the amount of \$1,655,708 as a sub-recipient of the grant; and,

3) Authorize the City Manager to execute appropriate contracts and other documentation requested for acceptance of the award and operation of the above listed CoC programs for submission to funders, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Each year the City of Pomona applies for annual renewal of HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-housing (RRH). CoC awards include three Grants: Pomona Street Outreach Program, Pomona Operation Porchlight-Rapid Rehousing Program, and the Pomona Permanent Supportive Housing Program. This action will authorize the acceptance of \$3,482,855 in CoC funding and authorize a Professional Services Agreement with VOALA for \$1,655,708 of these funds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Adoption of the attached resolution will provide continued funding in the amount of \$3,482,855 for various CoC program operations. Since each of these grant funds has historically been awarded annually on a renewal basis and new funding was awarded prior to budget adoption, the revenue estimates and appropriations for these three programs were approved as part of the City's 2018-2019 budget process and will be part of the 2019-2020 budget process.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The HEARTH Act enacted into law on May 20, 2009, consolidated three of the separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento) into a single grant program called the Continuum of Care (CoC) program. The HEARTH Act also codified into law the CoC planning process. As part of the planning process, one entity per planning area was identified as the CoC Collaborative Applicant. For Los Angeles County, the CoC Collaborative Applicant is LAHSA. Eligible applicants consisting of nonprofit organizations, State and local governments, and public housing agencies, must be designated by the CoC to submit an application to HUD for grant funds. The City of Pomona and the Pomona Housing Authority have been designated by LAHSA to submit three grant applications annually for renewal of three different CoC programs.

The Continuum of Care Program

The CoC Program is designed to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness and to provide the services needed to help such individuals move into transitional and permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability. More broadly, the CoC Program is designed to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources to address homelessness; improve coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness; improve data collection and performance measurement; and allow each community to tailor its programs to the particular strengths and challenges in assisting homeless individuals and families within that community.

Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing

Permanent housing (PH) is defined as community-based housing without a designated length of stay in which formerly homeless individuals and families live as independently as possible. The program funds two types of permanent housing: permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities and rapid re-housing.

Permanent Supportive Housing

The Pomona Housing Authority's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program is funded under the CoC program, providing indefinite rental assistance paired with supportive services. The program is funded annually and the award varies as it is based on the current fair market rents. This program assists homeless persons with disabilities or families with an adult or child member with a disability. In 2018, the PHA provided rental assistance to 188 households. The PSH funding is awarded directly by HUD to the City and therefore direct contracts with HUD are necessary.

Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion Project

On June 27, 2018, LAHSA issued a Request for Proposal for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) expansion projects for chronically homeless individuals, families or youth. The City of Pomona applied for the expansion of the City of Pomona’s COC-PSH program and HUD awarded the City \$589,470. These funds will pay to serve 30-35 additional homeless and disabled families.

Rapid Re-Housing

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) emphasizes housing search and relocation services and short- and medium-term rental assistance to move homeless persons and families as rapidly as possible into permanent housing. As a best practice, RRH appears to have encouraging outcomes such as: decreased length of homelessness, fewer returns to homelessness, lower costs per household than other interventions, and decreased homelessness in communities. A key element of RRH is the “Housing First” philosophy, which offers housing without preconditions such as employment, income, good credit or sobriety. If issues such as these need to be addressed, the household can address them most effectively once they are in housing.

Rapid Re-Housing-Street Outreach Team: With an annual grant award of \$203,809, the Outreach Team will continue to deploy mobile response, conducts daily outreach and responds to requests for assistance regarding homeless families and individuals living on the streets. Working within a Coordinated Entry System (CES), staff will continue to develop rapport and encourage homeless persons to accept shelter, housing and other support services. RRH funding is funded by HUD, through LAHSA, therefore the City is a subrecipient of LAHSA and a contract with LAHSA for this funding is necessary.

In FY 2018, the Pomona Homeless Outreach Team provided outreach, linkage and case management services to 144 homeless people, of those 100% of the households went on to permanent housing.

Pomona CoC Program FY 2019 and FY 2020

On January 29, 2019, the City was informed that once again it had been granted renewal funding by HUD on the total amount of \$3,482,855 for the three CoC programs as follows:

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program	Contract Number	Grant Period	Total Grant Award	VOALA Subcontract
Permanent Supportive Housing	CA0462L9D001710	1/19 to 12/19	\$623,008	\$598,948
RRH - Operation Porchlight*	CA1507L9D001601	1/20 to 12/20	\$865,913	\$817,617
RRH – Outreach*	CA0358L9D001710	4/19 to 3/20	\$203,809	\$197,143
Pomona PHA CoC-PSH	CA0462L9D001710	4/19 to 3/20	\$1,158,655	\$0
Bonus Project – Expansion of the PSH Program	CA0462L9D001710	4/20 to 3/21	\$589,470	\$0
TOTAL			\$3,482,855	\$1,655,708

*Operation Porchlight and Street Outreach RRH programs will be consolidated into one contract.