

**PROPOSAL REVIEW: Individual Staff Review for 2011-2012
For Community Resources Proposals to be Submitted to the
CDBG Committee**

1. **Program Name:** Prairie Crossing Resident Services Coordinator

2. **Agency Name:** Project Home, Inc.

3. **Requested Amounts:** 2011: \$21,352
2012: \$21,352 **Prior Year Level:** \$13,184

4. **Project Type:** New Continuing

5. **Framework Plan Objective Most Directly Addressed by Proposed by Activity:**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Housing – Owner – occupied housing | <input type="checkbox"/> J. Improvement of services to homeless and special populations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Housing – Housing for homebuyers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X. Access to Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D. Housing – Rental housing | <input type="checkbox"/> K. Physical improvement of community service facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E. Business development and job creation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F. Economic development of small businesses | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> L. Revitalization of strategic areas | |

6. **Anticipated Accomplishments (Proposed Service Goals)**

The Resident Services Coordinator provides the following services; job training skills and employment issues, referrals for emergency financial assistance for rent, medical care, and food. The Coordinator also provides skills training in money management and parenting. The Coordinator will work with 30 unduplicated households per year in areas such as: resume building, housing options, energy assistance, eviction prevention, and Halloween and Holiday events.

7. **To what extent does the proposal meet the Objectives of the Community Development Program Goals and Priorities for 2011-2012?**

Staff Comments: Under Outcome Objective X of our 2011-2012 CDD Goals and Priorities we will fund projects that equip individuals with the skills needed to improve housing tenure. The main focus of this program is to make individuals who might have some questionable past issues become more employable and rentable.

8. **To what extent is the proposed program design and work plan sufficiently detailed to demonstrate the ability to result in a positive impact on the need or problem identified?**

Staff Comments: The program's design has shown that it is a successful plan with the positive results it has achieved throughout the years. Prairie Crossing's goal is not only to provide safe and affordable housing, but to also be an advocate as well through the services they provide.

9. **To what extent does the proposal include objectives that are realistic and measurable and are likely to be achieved within the proposed timeline?**

Staff Comments: Project Home has the experience to set realistic goals and measure their success within the proposed timeline given their past experience with the Prairie Crossing Resident Services Coordinator program.

10. **To what extent do the agency, staff and/or Board experience, qualifications, past performance and capacity indicate probable success of the proposal?**

Staff Comments: Project Home in 2009 assisted over 30 applicants with barriers and who fell behind in their rent. They also reached out to over 50 individuals from a variety of ethnicities. Because of this agency's past success with this program, they have demonstrated that the right people are in place.

11. **To what extent is the agency's proposed budget reasonable and realistic, able to leverage additional resources, and demonstrate sound fiscal planning and management?**

Staff Comments: Budget appears reasonable. Project Home has an annual budget of around \$10 million with funds being leveraged from a number of different public and private sources.

12. **To what extent does the agency's proposal demonstrate efforts and success at securing a diverse array of support, including volunteers, in-kind support and securing partnerships with agencies and community groups?**

Staff Comments: The agency will connect residents with resources such as; Boys and Girls Club, Time Bank, JFF, CAC, Early Childhood Initiative, and the Allied Wellness Center.

13. **To what extent does the applicant propose services that are accessible and appropriate to the needs of low income individuals, culturally diverse populations and/or populations with specific language barriers and/or physical or mental disabilities?**

Staff Comments: The Resident Services Coordinator position helps to stabilize vulnerable households by assisting them to identify problems and by facilitating links with community resources that could help. They bring in translators as needed or obtain assistance from bilingual residents when language is a barrier.

14. To what extent does the proposal meet the technical and regulatory requirements and unit cost limits as applicable? To what extent is there clear and precise proposal information to determine eligibility?

Staff Comments: In the CDD Goals and Priorities Outcome Objective X a preference is given to projects that equip individuals with the skills to improve housing tenure. This program meets the CDBG public service activity.

15. To what extent is the site identified for the proposed project appropriate in terms of minimizing negative environmental issues, relocation and neighborhood or public concerns?

Staff Comments: Located across the street from the Community Development Authority's subsidized housing complex, Prairie Crossing is an essential anchor property in the neighborhood, stabilizing the south end of Allied Drive.

16. Other comments:

- This project was initially funded from the Emerging Neighborhood Fund. This funding is limited to two years. After 2 years the project was funded with general revenue through the CDBG Office. Due to the limited income and low rent paid by households, income generated by rents is insufficient to cover necessary support services such as this proposal.
- The proposal incorrectly indicates 2010 funding was from the Office of Community Services. 2011 funds are requested from OCS.
- The proposal indicates it meets Objective D. Rental Housing. Objective D states "Funds will be applied to the acquisition, construction or rehab of housing." This is a service project that may be more appropriate under Objective X. Access to Resources. Objective X Increases access to housing and targets funds to operating costs of projects which provide information or other non-monetary resources. This project increases access to housing by increasing the likelihood that the household will maintain their housing and not be back in the shelter system.

Questions:

1. 2-3 years ago this project restructured their financing to improve their financial position. Since this happened and the project received 30 vouchers, what is the financial position of the housing project?
2. What is the current occupancy rate and are there funds available to assist with support of this project?
3. In 2010 the City funded only 63% of the total project costs. The 2011 budget proposes that the City fund 100% of the project. What happened to the "other funds" that supported this project in 2010?

17. Staff Recommendation

Not recommended for consideration

Recommend for consideration

Recommend with Qualifications

Suggested Qualifications: