

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2011 Action Plan

1. Standard Form 424: see attached

2. Summary of Consultation Process:

The Continuum of Care Coordinating Committee (COCCC) representing Dane County had the opportunity to provide feedback to City staff at their 2/13 meeting. A list of eligible uses for the new ESG fund was presented. The group indicated their priorities were 1) rapid re-housing in the form of security deposits and rent subsidies to move homeless persons into housing followed by 2) homeless prevention in the form of rent in arrears and rent subsidies for those facing eviction and homelessness. It was also recommended that the City include available 2012 ESG fund balance in the Request for Proposals for these activities.

A public hearing was held on 3/1 as part of a regularly scheduled CDBG Committee meeting. (narrative will be added following public hearing)

3. Summary of Citizen Participation Process:

The Citizen Participation Plan includes five components: 1) community assessment, 2) a nine-member CDBG Committee, 3) a collaborative application and specified funding criteria, 4) the importance of citizen comment at critical planning junctures, and 5) public hearings on performance. In the future this will include coordination with the local Continuum of Care, the Homeless Services Consortium, on activities related to serving homeless households and those at risk of homelessness.

The City of Madison is an active partner with the Homeless Services Consortium (HSC). In 2010, the HSC collaborated with one of its agency members, Community Action Coalition for South Central WI, Inc. (CAC), to conduct a needs assessment of persons who were either homeless or at risk of homelessness. The results of this assessment indicated that the top identified needs were: 1) Availability of affordable rental housing; 2) Ability to obtain full-time employment that pays a living wage; 3) Ability to obtain housing that is affordable and meets the households' other needs such as safety, location, close to transportation, and ability to work with landlord; and 4) Financial assistance to help pay rent and utilities. As a result, the #1 ranked activity submitted to the state for federal ESG and state funds included financial assistance and support services to prevent homelessness for households at risk and rapid-rehousing of homeless persons. The CAC Rentable Program received 56% of the 2011-12 state application.

The process for using the second 2011 ESG allocation and re-programmed funds includes: 1) meeting with the Continuum of Care Coordinating Committee on 2/13/12 to solicit input on proposed use of ESG funds; 2) a public hearing to solicit input from members of the public at the 3/1/12 CDBG Committee meeting; 3) CDBG Committee reviews draft Substantial Amendment at 3/1/12 meeting; and 4) CDBG Committee approves of the recommended proposal(s) from RFP process at 5/3/12 meeting. Comments on project implementation will be included in the public hearing on performance scheduled in January of each year.

4. Match:

The total amount available in the RFP will be \$58,075 which is the sum of \$49,075 (second 2011 ESG award) plus \$9,000 in re-programmed 2011 ESG funds. City intends to request proposals from non-profit agencies to provide services outlined in the RFP. The one-for-one match amount will be the responsibility of the selected agency(ies), will equal the amount requested, and be used for eligible activities included in the RFP. Match will in the form of cash match or in-kind. One of the criteria for selection will be to submit a proposal that is collaborative with other HSC service providers, thereby the match requirement will be shared by a number of non-profit service providers.

5. Proposed Activities and Overall Budget

a. Proposed Activities:

As a result of public input and responses to questions in the last needs assessment, the City will request proposals for activities related to Rapid Re-housing Housing Stabilization Services and Rental Assistance which is included in the 2011 Action Plan in the following goal and objective: Improve and expand affordable housing options (goal); Improvement of services to homeless and special populations by stabilizing or improve the housing situation of homeless individuals or

near-homeless individuals and develop supportive activities (objective). This activity corresponds to the federal outcome category of “availability/accessibility”.

The proposed project is to identify through the RFP process and contract with local non-profit housing services providers to provide financial assistance and support services to move households from homeless to housing. Through the HPRP-funded Housing Stabilization Program, outcomes indicated that households receiving six-month rent subsidies were more successful than households receiving three-month rent subsidies. The proposed activities include:

- Security deposits for single adults and families with children who are currently residing in emergency shelter or living in uninhabitable places;
- Rent subsidies that will total \$1,500 per household and will be distributed as follows: \$500 per month for three-months OR \$250 per month for six-months depending on the needs of the household to retain stable housing;
- Housing stabilization services that will follow the households from shelter to housing to assist the households in addressing barriers to stable housing; services will be provided as needed, but no less than monthly; and
- Stabilization services will include accessing mainstream services as needed for each household depending on need and eligibility.

The program will assist 22 homeless households to move from homelessness to housing, while spending as little time in emergency shelter is necessary. Each eligible household will receive financial assistance in the form of a security deposit and rent subsidy, as well as support services. Seventy-five percent (75%) of homeless households assisted will not return to homelessness and maintain stable housing at the twelve-month mark.

An RFP will be available no later than 3/26/12. The RFP will include the intended purpose of the proposed project and recommended/eligible activities, eligible participants, service area, review process and criteria, and contract negotiation process. The non-profit respondents will be asked to describe how they will implement the program, their experience working with the intended population and their capacity to take on this project in a timely way.

Following a review by CD Division staff, a recommendation will be made to the CDBG Committee at its 5/3/12 meeting. Following approval by the CDBG Committee and the Common Council, it is anticipated that a contract will be negotiated and signed by 6/15/12 that will run through 6/31/13. The contract will run concurrent with contracts between the City and HSC agencies funded using ESG and state THP and HPP funds obtained from the Division of Housing.

b. Discussion of Funding Priorities:

In 2010, the HSC put a local priority on moving homeless families with children from emergency shelter into permanent housing as quickly as possible. Local programs were developed using CoC Housing Assistance Grant/SHP (House-ability, Home for Good, Second Chance Apartment Leasing Program) and local foundation funding through the United Way of Dane County (Rapid Re-housing Program). These programs served 76 families in six-months of 2009, 120 in 2010, and 131 in 2011. At least in part, the introduction of these programs in Dane County had an impact on the number of families with children who were served in emergency shelter. The number of homeless families with children served decreased from 666 in 2009, to 522 in 2010, and remained somewhat steady with 532 families in 2011. The number of homeless families who were reported turned-away without services also decreased each of these years from 6,523 individuals in families in 2009 to 1,298 in 2011. These results likely indicate that moving families with children quickly from shelter while providing financial assistance and support services has a positive impact on the number of homeless families with children.

This activity is also consistent with the goal of the U.S. Interagency Commission on Homelessness’s goal to end family and children homelessness by 2020.

c. Detailed Budget: DRAFT see attached

6. Written Standards for Provision of ESG Assistance: see attached which will be available 3/5/12

7. Making Sub-awards:

A Request for Proposals will be available on 3/26/12 to solicit proposal(s) from non-profit homeless service agency(ies) to provide the rapid re-housing services described in this amendment. A notice in the newspaper will be published on 2/24/12; an announcement will be sent to the Homeless Services Consortium e-list on the same day. Proposals will be due 4/16/12. A resolution is required to authorize funding for this project and must be approved by the CDBG Committee, Board of Estimates and Common Council. It is anticipated that a contract(s) for services will be negotiated and signed in order to begin implementation by 6/15/12 and run through 6/31/13.

8. Homeless Participation Requirement:

The activities described in this amendment will be undertaken by non-profit homeless services provider(s). Selection will be contingent on the agency(ies) having a homeless or former homeless individual on the agency Board of Directors or other policy making entity. There are a number of local non-profits who already meet this requirement; it is not anticipated that this will be an issue.

9. Performance Standards:

Currently, the City of Madison requires each agency providing housing and/or services to homeless households or households who are at-risk of homelessness, to report on performance indicators, such as the number of households who maintained stable housing at the six-month mark and at the twelve-month mark, whether the service was short in duration such as financial assistance to prevent homelessness or on-going case management services. The goals are 80% retention at six-months and 75% retention at twelve-months. This is consistent with the goals in the "Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness". The City will continue this measure for activities covered under this amendment.

The ability to use performance standards to evaluate a provider's performance is not currently in place. However, the City does look forward to having this discussion with the Continuum of Care Coordinating Committee as well as agencies using ESG funds to serve households in need. We will also look to HUD to provide some assistance in determining how best to use current data collection to assist in this evaluation.

10. Certifications: see attached

5. c. FY 2011 Detailed Budget Table					
First Allocation	\$87,244.00	FY 2011			
Second Allocation	\$49,075.00	<u>Emergency Shelter Grants/Emergency Solutions Grants</u>			
Grant Amount	\$136,319.00	<u>Program Allocations</u>			
Total Administration	\$10,223.93	First Allocation		Second Allocation	Total Fiscal Year 2011
	Eligible Activities	Activity Amount	Reprogrammed Amount	Activity Amount	Activity Amount
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	Homeless Assistance	\$59,161.00	\$9,000.00		\$50,161.00
	<i>Rehab/Conversion</i>		\$9,000.00		-\$9,000.00
	<i>Operations</i>	\$38,561.00			\$38,561.00
	<i>Essential Services</i>	\$20,600.00			\$20,600.00
	Homelessness Prevention	\$28,331.00			\$28,331.00
	Administration	\$10,224.00	\$0.00		\$10,224.00
	Emergency Shelter Grants Subtotal	\$97,716.00	\$9,000.00		\$88,716.00
Emergency Solutions Grants Program	Emergency Shelter**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	<i>Renovation**</i>			\$0.00	\$0.00
	<i>Operation**</i>			\$0.00	\$0.00
	<i>Essential Service**</i>			\$0.00	\$0.00
	<i>URA Assistance**</i>			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Street Outreach - Essential Services**			\$0.00	\$0.00
	HMIS				\$0.00
	Rapid Re-housing		\$9,000.00	\$49,075.00	\$58,075.00
	<i>Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services</i>			\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
	<i>Tenant-Based Rental Assistance</i>		\$9,000.00	\$40,075.00	\$49,075.00
	<i>Project-Based Rental Assistance</i>				\$0.00
	Homelessness Prevention		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<i>Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services</i>				\$0
	<i>Tenant-Based Rental Assistance</i>				\$0
	<i>Project-Based Rental Assistance</i>				\$0.00
	Administration			\$0.00	\$0.00
	Emergency Solutions Grants Subtotal		\$9,000.00	\$49,075.00	\$58,075.00
			Total Grant Amount:		\$146,791.00

