

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date: October 21, 2024

Action Required:

- Appropriation of DHCD VHSP Funds
- Approval for City Manager to execute Grant Amendment

Presenter: Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager

Staff Contacts: Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager

Title: Resolution to appropriate funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development - Virginia Homeless Solutions Program Grant amendment - \$93,564 (1 of 2 readings)

Background

The Office of Community Solutions, in coordination with the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (B.R.A.C.H.) applied for and received a grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Previously, the City of Charlottesville received a grant agreement in the amount of \$470,805 in state funds to support our efforts in preventing and ending homelessness for individuals in our Continuum of Care. The City has now received additional funds (federal pass-through funds) in the amount of \$93,564 to support Rapid Re-housing and Administrative costs. The additional federal funds brings the total grant award to \$564,369.

Discussion

These funds are an additional \$93,564 to be used for Rapid Rehousing and Administrative support.

1. Rapid Re-housing & Housing Navigation: The Haven screens and administers rapid re-housing assistance and housing navigation to households experiencing homelessness. \$93,314 of these funds will be utilized for Rapid Re-housing services.
2. Administration: The City of Charlottesville, as the award recipient, is eligible for an administrative fee. Staff proposes that we pass these funds through to B.R.A.C.H. (as we have done in prior years) in recognition of staff time spent processing checks and managing this grant process. \$250.00 of this award is being allocated to Administrative support for B.R.A.C.H.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

This grant advances the City of Charlottesville's Strategic Outcome Areas of:

1. Housing: Provides temporary housing for individuals experiencing homelessness; provides Rapid Re-housing services to individuals so that they may quickly exit homelessness into permanent housing; and Targeted Prevention which assists individuals in either maintaining or securing permanent housing so that they do not become homeless.
2. Partnerships: This grant provides opportunities for the City to partner with B.R.A.C.H. in the administration of the VHSP grant, as well as requires collaboration between community partners to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness are evaluated, prioritized, and receive services to end their housing crisis as quickly as possible.

Community Engagement

This grant is a product of extensive engagement of the service provider community for people experiencing homelessness. This partnership is reflective of the governance model for B.R.A.C.H. and the priority requests submitted by the service providers.

Budgetary Impact

There is no budgetary impact for the City of Charlottesville, as this grant consists of federal funds passed through from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The match requirement is made through previously appropriated CAHF funds awarded to B.R.A.C.H.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the appropriation of the \$93,564 from DHCD to support VHSP.

Staff recommend the approval for the City Manager to execute the VHSP grant amendment and any subsequent amendments that do not impact the total funding awarded.

Alternatives

Council may elect not to accept the funds and the community will not have the capacity to administer the Rapid Re-housing program and related services to people experiencing homelessness.

Attachments

1. FY25 VHSP Grant Amendment
2. Resolution- VHSP FY25 Federal Funds Appropriation