



Date: November 22, 2016

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Reginald J. Johnson, Director
Department of Community Development

Subject: Contract between the City of Durham and Durham County
Department of Social Services for the provision of HOPWA case management services

Executive Summary

In late December 2014 the City of Durham was notified by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) that Durham had met the federal threshold to become a direct recipient of Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) funding. HOPWA funds benefit lower-income (below 80% Area Median Income) HIV+ individuals, and households with a person who is HIV+ with housing-related needs including case management. HOPWA funds managed by the City of Durham serve the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA) that includes Durham, Orange, Chatham and Person counties.

Recommendation

The Department of Community Development recommends that City Council approve the 18-month Inter-local Agreement with the Durham County Department of Social Services for the delivery of HOPWA services.

Background

When the City was awarded HOPWA funds in Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the Department of Community Development entered into a six-month contract with Duke University's Partners In Caring program, the previous recipient of HOPWA funds through the State of North Carolina, in order to maintain continuity of services for clients already being served by the program. At the end of the six-month contract the City was notified that Partners In Caring would not be continuing as the City's vendor for HOPWA services. The Department of Community Development reached out to the Durham County Department of Social Services who agreed to provide these important services. DSS intends to place a dedicated HOPWA case manager in the Lincoln Community Health Center office located in the Durham County Human Services Building at 414 East Main Street in Durham, offering both a welcoming door for HIV/AIDS clients and complementary services for persons affected by HIV/AIDS. Under the six-month Duke contract 43 unduplicated households were assisted with Short Term Rent Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) payments.

Issues/Analysis

HOPWA funds are intended to stabilize housing for eligible low- and moderate-income HIV+ clients, assist them in resolving their housing challenges through case management services, and link them to community resources through Supportive Services that include counseling, health, nutrition, dental care, and medical and health maintenance resource referrals. In addition, Short Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) payments will help prevent homelessness among this vulnerable population through this 18-month contract. The Department of Community Development sought to maintain a continuity of services through a sole source provider for this specialized case management and financial assistance. Durham County Department of Social Services has the capacity to deliver specialized case management and provide existing health linkages with through Lincoln Community Health, and to serve the large four-county Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Alternatives

If the Inter-local Agreement with Durham County is not approved by Council, it would be necessary to competitively post a Request For Proposals to identify a new vendor for FY 2015-2016 and FY 2016-2017 HOPWA services. Clients would not be served until such time as new vendor(s) could be identified and new contract(s) approved and executed.

Financial Impact

This 18-month contract for \$280,445.78 uses FY 2015-2016, (\$95,000.00) plus the FY 2016-2017 (\$185,445.78) from the City of Durham's HOPWA allocation to administer the Supportive Services and Short Term Rent, Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) payments elements of the HOPWA program. The City will retain the allowable 3% of the combined HOPWA funds (\$13,289.39) to administer the DSS and DHA HOPWA programs.

EBOP Summary

This item relates to a federal grant and an agreement for continuity of services made to fulfill the grant requirements. It was not reviewed for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

Attachments:

- Attachment I: Scope of Work and Budget FY 2015-2016
- Attachment II: Scope of Work and Budget FY 2016-2017
- Attachment III: Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
- Attachment IV: HOPWA Program Admin Toolkit
- Attachment V: HOPWA Program HMIS Manual