

## STAFF REPORT

---

**Date:** August 28, 2024

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Through:** Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of an agreement between the City of Reno and Volunteers of America (VOA) to provide placement and rental assistance at the Village on Sage for a pilot Rapid Rehousing program for the period from September 1, 2024, through August 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000. (FY 23/24 Contingency Funds)

**From:** Monica Kirch, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development

**Department:** City Manager's Office – Housing & Neighborhood Development

---

**Summary:**

There are a subset of individuals currently experiencing homelessness who have nominal income, are not in need of permanent supportive housing services, and are on the Reno Housing Authority (RHA) waitlist. This agreement will fund a pilot program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, providing participants with stable housing, gap rental assistance, and support at the Village on Sage while awaiting longer term support with RHA.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Economic Opportunity, Homelessness, and Affordable Housing

**Previous Council Action:**

June 12, 2024 - Council approved the allocation of contingency funds for fiscal year (FY) 23/24.

**Discussion:**

There is currently a subset of those experiencing homelessness who have income that is not sufficient to cover housing costs without a subsidy, such as obtaining a housing voucher. These individuals may be staying at the CARES Campus shelter or are unsheltered living on the streets of Reno. Additionally, these individuals have been identified to have an acuity that would be consistent with someone who is not in need of permanent supportive services. Since this is a short-term pilot, the participants are also required to currently be on the waitlist with RHA.

Currently, the waitlist to receive assistance from RHA is approximately 12 to 18 months.

Unfortunately, many individuals who are experiencing homelessness miss their turn when contacted due to their housing instability. This pilot program is intended to help the participants with housing stability and a coordinator who will help mitigate barriers so they do not lose their opportunity and successfully transition to permanent housing that they can afford.

The pilot program will subsidize their rent, so they are paying no more than 30 percent of their income for housing, and the program is paying the remainder for up to 24 months. This will allow them to move inside or out of a shelter while they are waiting for assistance with an RHA long-term voucher.

**Financial Implications:**

The fiscal impact will be \$200,000 to the General Fund, which was allocated from FY 23/24 contingency funds.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council approve the agreement between the City of Reno and Volunteers of America to provide placement and rental assistance at the Village on Sage for Rapid Rehousing clients.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

Agreement with VOA