

STAFF REPORT

Date: June 12, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Doug Thornley, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of a grant award from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) to support the Rental and Deposit Assistance Program in the amount of \$49,150 for interim hotel assistance.

From: Jayna Litz, Housing Manager

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

Summary:

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) provides shelter, food, and supportive services to individuals and families who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, hunger and/or homelessness. EFSP has awarded the City of Reno \$49,150 to assist rental and/or deposit assistance recipients with interim hotel assistance when there is a gap between rental agreements, improving housing stability and preventing periods of homelessness. Staff recommends Council accept the grant award from EFSP.

Consent Review	Yes	No
1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval?		X
2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council?		X
3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council?		X
Other Considerations		
What percent of the total City budget does this item represent?	.005%	

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Economic Opportunity, Homelessness, and Affordable Housing

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

The Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) Department Rental and Deposit Assistance Program provides short-term rental assistance (up to three months) and security deposit assistance. Eligible households are those experiencing or at risk of homelessness and are at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Some applicants experience a period of housing instability between rental agreements, putting them at risk of temporary homelessness.

Discussion:

HAND previously operated an interim hotel assistance program using EFSP funds that have since been exhausted. That program assisted 37 households with 468 nights of hotel stays. Staff identified and applied for a new grant opportunity through the EFSP to continue the program and the City was awarded \$49,150.

Council recently accepted an award from United Healthcare of Nevada in the amount of \$50,000. Following the acceptance of this EFSP award, HAND will have a total of \$99,150 to assist rental and/or deposit assistance recipients with interim hotel assistance.

Financial Implications:

This grant does not require a match. No financial implications.

Legal Implications:

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

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council accept the grant award from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program to the City of Reno to support the Rental and Deposit Assistance Program in the amount of \$49,150.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments:

EFSP Phase 41 Award Letter