



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Grants Management Division

m e m o r a n d u m

TO: Bruce K. Walden, Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Elizabeth H. Tyler, AICP, City Planner/Director

DATE: April 3, 2003

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA) FOR THE
COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE TO HELP END HOMELESSNESS;
NOTICE**

Description

On January 27, 2003, the U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, in cooperation with the U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Veterans Affairs issued a notice of funding available for permanent supportive housing to assist chronically homeless persons with disabilities who are veterans. Only two entities may apply for these funds: a public housing authority or a government unit. At the present time, the City of Urbana has allocated \$100,000 in CDBG monies to assist Prairie Center Health Systems, Inc. in the renovation of five bedrooms on the third floor of its residential treatment facility into permanent housing for persons recovering from substance/alcohol abuse issues. When this NOFA became available, it seemed to present an opportunity to apply for funding that would support these five bedrooms with Shelter Plus Care rental assistance for a period of five years. After some discussion, Provena Behavioral Health Services at Mental Health Center (MHC) decided it could convert eight one-bedroom apartment units to permanent supportive housing if they could be included in the grant application. Therefore, at this time, staffs from these organizations are working to complete an application for rental assistance to provide 17 units of permanent supportive housing that would be targeted to chronically homeless individuals who are veterans, and who are recovering from alcohol/drug abuse and mental health issues. The City of Urbana would be the applicant and would administer the grant monies, should the application be approved. Prairie Center and Mental Health Center would provide the necessary housing units, case management and treatment activities, as these units would target persons recovering from alcohol/drug abuse and mental health issues. The city would enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Veterans' Administration in Danville for services to be provided to eligible veterans and with Frances Nelson Health Clinic to provide primary medical services and outreach and intervention services.

Issues

A resolution approving the submittal of an application for funding of the Permanent Housing and Assertive Community Training Program (PHACT) is needed to authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary certifications.

Background

At its March 10 meeting, the Committee of the Whole was briefed on the proposed project, and a resolution for approval was submitted for consideration at the Committee's March 24th meeting. The resolution was moved to Council for approval. At this time, the application is mostly completed; there are just a few documents to gather.

PHACT is a proposed project to serve chronically homeless veterans with either or both of two defined disabilities (mental health issues and/or substance abuse issues) by providing permanent housing, necessary treatment programs, case management, medical services including dental, optometric, and podiatric, and vocational training. The treatment program is based on a Best Practices model currently in place at Prairie Center Health System, and will be adopted by Prairie Center and Provena Behavioral Health Services (the two sponsoring agencies). These two agencies will also provide the seventeen units of housing. The City of Urbana will act as lead entity and grant applicant, overseeing the overall administration of the program. The program will be linked with Frances Nelson Health Center for medical services for program participants and with VA Illiana Health Systems mostly for vocational training.

The application is very large, and as such is not included with this memorandum. However staff would be more than happy to deliver a copy of the completed application to any interested council member after it has been fully completed.

Options

There are two options available: to approve the application for funding; or to deny the resolution for approval. Denying approval will disallow the application, and staff would therefore not submit it.

Fiscal Impacts

Funding sought under the consolidated application would provide the following assistance to the community and further the efforts of the Urbana-Champaign Continuum of Care to homeless persons.

City of Urbana	Shelter Plus Care/HUD	\$371,100
	for 17 bedrooms of project-based rental assistance	
	.5 FTE Case Manager/VA	\$ 80,535
	Medical Care for program participants/HRSA	\$ 65,246
	Development & Operations	
	of ACT team/SAMHSA	<u>\$651,161</u>
		\$1,167,942

Recommendations

Staff would very much appreciate Council's consideration and approval of this resolution. By providing the proposed services to this targeted population, it could be possible to reduce the homeless population in the community by as much as 25% over the five year period of the grant.

Memorandum Prepared By:

Karen Rasmussen, Grants Coordinator II

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-03-005R

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION UNDER THE
NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA) FOR THE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE TO
HELP END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS
FOR
PERMANENT HOUSING AND ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT/PHACT**

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2000, the Urbana City Council adopted the Urbana HOME Consortium and the City of Urbana Consolidated Plan for Program Years 2000-2004 (hereinafter the "Consolidated Plan") which documents housing and non-housing needs of low-income persons, homeless persons, and homeless persons with special needs; and

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Plan was approved by the Regional Administrator of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter "HUD") on October 2, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Plan identifies 241 persons in Urbana-Champaign as being homeless in November 2000, of whom 32 were veterans; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for funds with which to provide rental assistance and supportive services to homeless single persons with disabilities who are veterans; and

WHEREAS, a collaboration of federal departments has made available, on a competitive grant basis, funds through various programs to provide rental assistance and supportive services for homeless single persons with disabilities who are veterans; and

WHEREAS, a combined and coordinated effort of local and regional agencies and organizations including Prairie Center Health System, Inc., Provena Behavioral Health Services, Inc., VA Illiana Health Care Systems, Frances Nelson Medical Clinic, a satellite site of Community Health Improvement Center, and the City of Urbana is needed to compete for said competitive grant funds and to adequately address the needs of homeless single persons with disabilities who are veterans in Urbana-Champaign.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1: That the Department of Community Development Services of the City of Urbana is hereby authorized and directed to file an application as lead administrative agency to the U. S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, and Veterans' Affairs in cooperation with the above listed agencies/organizations for funds to support a rental assistance program for five years and supportive services for three years for seventeen single homeless persons with disabilities who are veterans.

Section 2: That the Mayor is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City of Urbana to take any action necessary in connection with said application and to provide such additional information as may be required.

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____,
_____.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINS:

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____,
_____.

Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor