



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *April 13, 2021*

DATE: March 17, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Amber Howell, Director, Human Services Agency
775-785-8600, ahowell@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a subgrant from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra's Emergency Food and Shelter Program Phase 38 in the amount of [\$37,249; no match requirement]; retroactive from January 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 for emergency shelter assistance; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute retroactively the subgrant and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The Human Services Agency is requesting the Board accept a subgrant award from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra's Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Phase 38 in amount of [\$37,249; no match requirement]. This subgrant is retroactive from January 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 to support emergency shelter in the form of housing supplies at Our Place and short-term hotel stays for transitional housing.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Safe, Secure, and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 21, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #9.E.3 accepting the original subgrant award from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra's Emergency Food and Shelter Program in the amount of [\$18,480; no match requirement]; retroactive from January 27, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for emergency food assistance.

On October 13, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #5.F.3 accepting an amendment to the subgrant award from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra's Emergency Food and Shelter Program that increased the award amount by [\$4,620 for a total award of \$23,100; no match requirement] retroactive from January 27, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for emergency food assistance.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) was established in 1983 by Congress with the intent of supplementing local efforts to provide emergency shelter and food to people in need. Local EFSP Boards—in this case, the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra—invite interested, qualified nonprofit community organizations, faith-based organizations, and government entities to request grant funding to provide emergency food, shelter, one-time rental/mortgage and utility assistance to people in need.

These funds are made available through the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. Funds awarded to local jurisdictions are calculated by the National Board based on a formula that takes economic health, income levels, joblessness levels and other factors into account. EFSP is funded through U.S. Congressional appropriation.

EFSP operates under annual “phases”. This award was approved under Phase 38 for the EFSP categories of Mass Shelter (direct expenses associated with housing a client for on-site shelters with five or more beds in one location) and Other Shelter (off-site emergency lodging in a hotel/motel or other off-site shelter, up to 30 days).

The Agency received the notice of the subgrant for this award on February 8, 2021 with an effective date of January 1, 2020; therefore, the request to accept this amendment is retroactive.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Emergency Food and Shelter Program, Phase 38

Scope of the Project: This program will: (1) fund direct expenses associated with housing a client at the Our Place campus; and (2) fund emergency lodging in a hotel/motel, up to 30 days, for individuals/families demonstrating a need for such a service.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: This program will help support those staying at the Our Place campus, with an emphasis on pregnant mothers and mothers with young children. Further, the program will support emergency lodging for individuals and families transitioning into Our Place when space is not immediately available, as well as for others demonstrating a need for short-term, emergency hotel/motel stays.

On-Going Program Support: This is a short-term program designed to address targeted needs. There are no plans at this time to continue the program beyond the scope of this grant.

Award Amount: \$ 37,249 (\$37,249 Direct / \$0 Indirect)

Grant Period: January 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021

Funding Source: Department of Homeland Security,
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Pass Through Entity: United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra

CFDA Number: 97.024

Grant ID Number: 589600-031

Match Amount and Type: Matching funds are not required

Sub-Awards and Contracts: None

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this subgrant and approve these amendments, the Human Services Agency’s FY21 Indigent Fund (221) adopted budget will be increased by \$37,249 in both revenue and expenditures, in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 11826 -431100	Federal Grants	\$ 37,249.00
	Total Revenue	\$ 37,249.00
IO 11826 -710300	Operating Supplies	\$ 15,480.00
-710734	Residence Assistance	\$ 21,769.00
	Total Expenditures	\$ 37,249.00

The grant has no county match requirement and there are no indirect costs included in the grant budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a subgrant from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra’s Emergency Food and Shelter Program Phase 38 in the amount of [\$37,249; no match requirement]; retroactive from January 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 for emergency shelter assistance; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute retroactively the subgrant and related documents; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to accept a subgrant from the United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra’s Emergency Food and Shelter Program Phase 38 in the amount of [\$37,249; no match requirement]; retroactive from January 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 for emergency shelter assistance; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute retroactively the subgrant and related documents; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make necessary budget amendments.”