



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service
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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 22, 2023

DATE: Thursday, August 17, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dana Searcy, Division Director, Housing and Homeless Services, Office of the County Manager, (775) 328-2720, dsearcy@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager
328-2008, kathomas@washoecounty.gov

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the acceptance of grant funds awarded by Community Solutions International, an organization with the mission to end homelessness, in the form of a grant and in the amount of [\$50,000.00; no county match], from April 17th, 2023 through April 17th, 2024; Authorize Dana Searcy, Homeless and Housing Services Division Director to sign award documents, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Through Washoe County's participation in the Built for Zero initiative, a funding proposal was submitted and approved to provide funding for application fees, security deposits, background checks and legal fees to seal eviction records. This funding will be utilized to address credit, rental and/or criminal background related housing barriers for people experiencing homelessness in order to obtain permanent housing.

The Washoe Board of County Commissioners must accept grant awards, and must approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

At a concurrent meeting held August 30, 2021, Amendment No. 2, and Extension of Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Shelter Operation and Other Homeless Services Among the City of Reno, Washoe County and the City of Sparks was approved revising the roles and responsibilities of the entities, including transferring the administrative and financial responsibility for the operation of homeless shelters from City of Reno to Washoe County.

On January 13, 2021, direction was provided by the BCC to include pursuing an expanded role in addressing the regional issue of homelessness in the Strategic Plan.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On November 18, 2020, the parties entered into an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Shelter Operation and Other Homeless Services Among The City of Reno, Washoe County and The City of Sparks which established duties, roles and responsibilities of the parties in regard to the provision of services to the homeless in the Cities and County, including agreeing to acquire and cost share three parcels on East 4th Street for the purpose of expanding shelter capacity in the region to assist people experiencing homelessness.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County has participated in and served as the lead entity for the Built for Zero initiative since January of 2020. The Built for Zero initiative aims to end homelessness for all through coordination of the service delivery system and data centralization.

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GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Community Solutions International (Built for Zero)

Scope of the Project: Provide funding for application fees, increased security deposits, background checks and legal fees to seal evictions for people experiencing homelessness.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: This project provides funding to overcome barriers people experience homelessness encounter when working to obtaining stable housing.

On-Going Program Support: This grant is one time funding that will be available until funds are fully expended or until April 17th, 2024.

Award Amount: \$50,000.00

Grant Period: April 17, 2023 – April 17, 2024

Funding Source: Community Solutions International, Inc

Pass Through Entity: None

Assistance Listing Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: N/A

Match Amount and Type: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant, the FY23 Homelessness adopted budget will be increased by \$50,000 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO-29042 Community Solutions Grant	484195-Non Gov't Grants	\$50,000
IO-29042 Community Solutions Grant	710734-Residence Assistance	\$50,000

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the acceptance of grant funds awarded by Community Solutions International in the form of a grant and in the amount of [\$50,000.00; no county match], from April 17th, 2023 through April 17th, 2024; Authorize Dana Searcy, Homeless and Housing Services Director to sign award documents, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to approve the acceptance of grant funds awarded by Community Solutions International in the form of a grant and in the amount of [\$50,000.00; no county match], from April 17th, 2023 through April 17th, 2024; Authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign award documents, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.”*