

April 16, 2015

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

Approval to Apply for a Grant Renewal with
the State of Oregon, Housing and Community Services Department to administer
Community Resource Division Funds

Purpose/Outcomes	The Social Services Division is seeking approval to apply for a grant renewal with the State of Oregon, Housing and Community Services Department to administer Community Resource Division funds for a variety of Social Services programs in Clackamas as described below.
Dollar Amount and Fiscal Impact	Because the State budget has not yet been approved, this grant does not outline specific revenues. However, it is anticipated that this grant will result in an award equal to the previous award, which was slightly more than \$5.6 million dollars in revenues for the one-year grant period.
Funding Source	State of Oregon, Housing and Community Services Department, Community Resources Division. County General Funds are not involved.
Safety Impact	None
Duration	July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016
Previous Board Action	The previous agreement was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on July 18, 2013 - agenda item 071813-A4
Contact Person	Brenda Durbin, Director – Social Services Division – (503)655-8641
Contract No.	N/A

BACKGROUND:

The Social Services Division (SSD) of the Health, Housing and Human Services Department requests the approval to apply for a grant renewal with the State of Oregon, Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) to administer Community Resource Division (CRD) funds for a variety of SSD programs.

OHCS is Oregon's housing finance agency providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for Oregonians of lower and moderate income. OHCS was created in 1991 when the legislature merged the Oregon Housing Agency with State Community Services. The coordination between housing and services creates a continuum of programs that can assist and empower lower income individuals and families in their efforts to become self-reliant. OHCS administers Federal and State antipoverty, homeless, energy assistance, and community services programs.

To continue receiving these funds, Community Action agencies are required to conduct a planning process that assesses the local needs of low income people as established by ORS 458.505. The results of the process are apparent in design and implementation of our local programs through relevant CRD Work Plans that are written by SSD staff and included as part of the application process. The planning and application process will result in an executed agreement referred to as the Master Grant Agreement (MGA). The MGA will cover the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The program and funding components included in the MGA are as follows:

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG): Federal funds designed to provide services to low income individuals including frail, elderly, disabled citizens.

State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP): State of Oregon general funds designed to provide support to emergency shelter programs. In Clackamas County, these funds purchase shelter space at two emergency shelters: a shelter for survivors of domestic violence and their children operated by Clackamas Women's Services; and a shelter for families with children, the Annie Ross House, operated by Northwest Housing Alternatives, Inc.

Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHA): State of Oregon general funds designed to provide housing and shelter related activities with their primary focus being a permanent solution to a household's housing needs. Programs funded by this source include support to the Clackamas County emergency shelters, housing related information and referral services, case management services to low income households, and shelter services to homeless youth.

Housing Stabilization Program (HSP): State of Oregon general funds designed to assist programs which secure stable housing for chronically homeless clients served by the State of Oregon, Department of Human Resources, Adult and Family Services Division. Program activities will focus on establishing clean credit histories, facilitating client understanding of resident and landlord rights and obligations, and money management skills.

Low Income Rental Housing Funds (LIHRF): State of Oregon general funds designed to provide short-term rental assistance to very low income households who are in danger of losing their rental units because of involuntary hardship or homelessness. Programs supported by this source include Bridges to Housing (B2H) permanent housing program.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP): Federal funds designed to assist low income households with emphasis on elderly and disabled persons with unpaid winter utility bills.

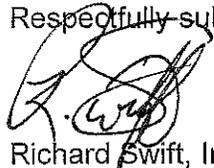
Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP): Portland General Electric (PGE) generated funds designed to assist low income households with assistance payments directed toward their PGE bills.

Low Income Emergency Assistance Weatherization Program and Department of Energy Weatherization Program (WX): These programs will be operated directly by the County's Weatherization program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the approval to apply for this grant renewal and further recommends the acceptance of the award, if funded, and that Richard Swift, H3S Interim Director be authorized to sign on behalf of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Swift', is written over the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Richard Swift, Interim Director