

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 04/02/2012		Item Number: <u>C-2</u>	
HOUSING AUTHORITY AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the Submission of the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program Coordinator Grant to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).			
Contact Person/Dept.: Tevis Barnes, Mona Kennedy Community Development Department/Housing Authority		Phone Number: (310) 253-5782	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☐	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: (R-Mail) Meetings and Agendas – City Council (Housing Authority) (03/30/12); St. Joseph's Center: March 12, 2012			
Assistant Executive Director Approval: Sol Blumenfeld: (03/22/12)		Housing Authority Counsel Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/28/12)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (03/29/12)		Executive Director Approval: John M. Nachbar (03/29/12)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the Housing Authority Board approve the submission of the Family Self Sufficiency Program Grant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> Family Self Sufficiency Program The Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (Act) of 1990, Section 554, enacted the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program which is implemented by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). FSS is a voluntary program designed to enable families receiving Section 8 rental assistance to become economically independent from all forms of public assistance within a five (5) year time frame. As part of the goal of achieving economic independence, the FSS Program carries a financial incentive in the form of the establishment of an escrow account which the family receives upon their graduation from the program. <u>DISCUSSION:</u> Family Self Sufficiency Coordinator Grant			

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The purpose of this grant application is to fund a FSS Program Coordinator, who oversees the case management and supportive services coordination for FSS Program participants. The Culver City Housing Authority (CCHA) is committed to providing programs and progressive options for empowering and improving the lives of those we serve. Based on this premise, staff recommends the Authority Board approve submission of the FSS Coordinator Grant application in the amount of \$69,000.00 to HUD to support the efforts of the FSS program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2011 allows funding for program coordinators under the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) FSS program under Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. Through the annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), HUD provides funding to public housing agencies (PHAs) that are operating Section 8 HCV FSS programs to enable those PHAs to employ program coordinators to support their Section 8 HCV FSS programs. For 2012, this NOFA announces the availability of approximately \$60 million nationwide. A funding maximum of \$69,000 is available for each full-time FSS coordinator position.

It is anticipated that award announcements will take place by September 30, 2012. Successful applicants will receive an award letter from HUD.

Status- Culver City FSS Program

The FSS Program Coordinator is responsible for the following activities:

- Conducting intake interviews.
- Assessing the skills, abilities, needs, resources of families.
- Identifying realistic goals and developing tasks and milestones to accomplish goals.
- Identifying and coordinating resources and services needed by the family.
- Monitoring and documenting the family's progress to goals in the client's contract.
- Coordinating/conducting recruitment of FSS participants
- Organizing economic-enrichment seminars such as preparing for homeownership, consumer credit counseling, and job interview skills.
- Conducting a survey to determine the program success

Since 1999, the CCHA has applied for and been awarded funding by HUD for the FSS program.

Through the submission of this grant to HUD, the CCHA hopes to be awarded approximately \$69,000.00 for 2012 FSS activities. This amount covers one (1) full time position as an FSS Coordinator. On June 27, 2011 the Council approved a contract with St. Joseph's Center (SJC) to function as the FSS Coordinator for the Culver City program. If awarded, the 2012 FSS grant will be earmarked to support the continuation of the contract with SJC upon Authority Board approval.

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FISCAL ANALYSIS:

If awarded by HUD, the CCHA will secure \$69,000.00 in funding to support one (1) full time position to administer the FSS Program.

ATTACHMENT:

None.

MOTION:

That the Housing Authority Board:

1. Approve the submission of the Family Self Sufficiency Program Grant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents, including any required budget transfer(s), should the grant be awarded; and,
3. Authorize the elimination of the Family Self Sufficiency Program Coordinator position (a contract position) in the event the grant funding is lost or terminated at any time.