

# HCOC IDHS FY24 CoC GRANT PROGRAM

## FUNDING NARRATIVE

The Heartland Continuum of Care (HCoC) received communication on June 6th, 2023 from IDHS stating that the HCoC allocation for the new IDHS State Fiscal Year 2024 Continuum of Care Program is \$741,858 for Rapid Rehousing (RRH), \$382,848 for Scattered Site Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and \$140,929 for Shelter Diversion for a total of \$1,265,635. On June 22nd, IDHS communicated that allocations from CoCs would be due on July, 10th. On June 23rd, HCoC released information on the grant, local competition deadlines, an informational webinar link, and the application Letter of Intent (LOI) through a General Membership email, Facebook post, and an update to the Heartland HOUSED website. An informational webinar was held via Zoom on June 26th and a link to the recording was sent out to the General Membership email list with an additional reminder of funding available.

The deadline for organizations to submit Letters of Intent was June 30th at 5 PM. A total of 9 LOIs were received; three for Rapid Rehousing requesting a total of \$632,500, three for Scattered Site Permanent Supportive Housing for a total of \$651,312, and three for Shelter Diversion for a total of \$218,600.

### **RAPID REHOUSING and PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROJECTS**

The Rating and Ranking committee included Tammy Small, Dave MacDonna, and Ricky Reese. The Committee reviewed Coordinated Entry data and the submitted LOIs to rate each application. RRH and PSH projects were rated on project strength based on organizations's capacity, number of households served and dollars spent per household, community need, and budget evaluation.

The three top rated RRH/PSH projects were recommended for full funding and the remaining three projects were cut and adjusted according to funding available and with attention given to project feasibility. The Rating and Ranking Committee makes the following recommendation for RRH and PSH project allocation and number of units created:

**\$163,995 - 15 PSH units** - Helping Hands of Springfield Permanent Supportive Housing

**\$125,010 - 6 RRH units** - MERCY Communities, Inc. 1-year Rapid Rehousing for Families Program

**\$347,490 - 30 units** - Helping Hands of Springfield Rapid Rehousing

**\$150,000 - 10 units** - Phoenix Center Rapid Rehousing

**\$94,469 - 4 units** - MERCY Communities, Inc. SHP for Families III

**\$124,384 - 8 PSH units** - Fifth Street Renaissance FSR CoC PSH

**\$119,358 - 7 RRH units** - Fifth Street Renaissance FSR CoC RRH

IDHS has mandated the creation of 15 units of PSH and 30 units of RRH with this funding. This allocation hopes to create 27 units of PSH and 53 units of RRH in the HCoC. Organizations seeking funding committed to threshold criteria of being a Coordinated Entry point with two trained Coordinated Entry assessors and consistent participation in the HCoC Supportive Housing Task Group. All referrals for these programs must come through Coordinated Entry and clients should be recorded in HMIS. Organizations are expected to provide reports to IDHS as mandated and to share those with Heartland HOUSED as well.

### **SHELTER DIVERSION PROJECTS**

For Shelter Diversion LOIs, the Rating and Ranking Committee reviewed Point in Time data, Housing Inventory Count data, Coordinated Entry data, and project growth in number of shelter beds during FY 24 to rate project strength based on organization's capacity, population served, services offered, program budget with an emphasis on the balance of staffing and services, and number of shelter to beds to make the following recommendation:

**\$70,929** - Helping Hands of Springfield Shelter Diversion

**\$40,000** - Contact Ministries Shelter Diversion

**\$30,000** - Phoenix Center Diversion Program

Shelter Diversion is a new program for the HCoC. A community wide policy to guide shelter diversion efforts is in progress and we anticipate all diversion projects participating in shaping the policy before seeking adoption by the HCoC Board of Directors. Diversion projects are expected to adhere to the policy once adopted. While three organizations are recommended for funding, the expectation is that Shelter Diversion be a collaborative effort and all organizations committed to meet the threshold requirement of consistent participation in the HCoC Emergency Shelter Task Group. Clients and services provided must be recorded in HMIS and a monthly report of number of clients served and services offered should be submitted to Heartland HOUSED. The emphasis on diversion efforts to the degree possible should be to train existing staff and utilize funding to provide services to eligible clients to help them avoid prolonged Emergency Shelter stays.

No projects were rejected. Three projects did not receive the full amount requested and one project that requested PSH funding was recommended to receive RRH and PSH funding. The following page reflects project requests and project recommendations:

<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>	<b>Funding Recommended</b>	<b># of units</b>
<b>Rapid Rehousing</b>				
Phoenix Center	Rapid Rehousing	\$160,000.00	\$150,000.00	10
MERCY Communities, Inc.	1-year Rapid Rehousing for Families Program	\$125,010.00	\$125,010.00	6
Helping Hands of Springfield	Rapid Rehousing	\$347,490.00	\$347,490.00	30
Fifth St Renaissance			\$119,358.00	7
		<b>\$632,500.00</b>	<b>\$741,858.00</b>	53
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>				
MERCY Communities, Inc.	MERCY Communities SHP for Families III	\$104,469.00	\$94,469.00	4
Helping Hands of Springfield	Permanent Supportive Housing	\$163,995.00	\$163,995.00	15
Fifth Street Renaissance	FSR CoC PSH	\$382,848.00	\$124,384.00	8
		<b>\$651,312.00</b>	<b>\$382,848.00</b>	27
<b>Shelter Diversion</b>				
Phoenix Center	Phoenix Center Diversion Program	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Contact Ministries,	Shelter Diversion	\$83,600.00	\$40,000.00	
Helping Hands of Springfield	Shelter Diversion	\$85,000.00	\$70,929.00	
		<b>\$218,600.00</b>	<b>\$140,929</b>	