AGENDA ITEM DEVELOPMENT REPORT

AIDR NO.: __________

Date: January 28, 2008    Agenda Date: February 19, 2008

Originating Department: Finance/Community Resources Management

Contact/Ext: Douglas R. Bell, x5025

Issue: EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT ALLOCATIONS FOR HOMELESS SERVICES

Subject/Title:

CLARK COUNTY FEDERAL FUNDS FOR HOMELESS SERVICES ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDAC) FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT FUNDS.

Recommended Action:

That the Board of County Commissioners conduct a Public Hearing to review the project recommendations of the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC); and allocate the Fiscal Year 2008 Emergency Shelter Grant funds for incorporation into the FY2008 HUD Consolidated Action Plan.

Summary:

The Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program provides grants to States, metropolitan cities, urban counties, and the territories according to a formula used in the Community Development Block Grant Program. Clark County will receive a twenty-second year Emergency Shelter Grant allocation of $276,989. The ESG Program is designed to help improve the quality of existing emergency shelters for the homeless, to help make available additional emergency shelters, to help meet the costs of operating emergency shelters and of providing certain essential social services to homeless individuals so that these persons have access not only to safe and sanitary shelter, but also to the supportive services and other kinds of assistance they need to improve their situations. The program can also be used to help restrict the increase of homelessness through the funding of preventive programs and activities.

Eligible activities that can be funded with the $276,989 in Clark County Federal Funds for Homeless Services include rental assistance to prevent homelessness; renovation or rehabilitative
costs to convert buildings into emergency shelters for homeless persons; operational costs of shelters and other temporary housing programs; essential, supportive services that assist individuals and families return to stability and self-sufficiency; and the provision of basic, elementary assistance to meet the basic, physiological needs of homeless persons.

**HUD’s Consolidated Plan and Citizen Participation**

The Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan for 2005-2009 delineates the funding goals of Clark County for the federal funds it administers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). With regards to the continuum of care for homeless persons, the County has adopted the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition’s 10 Point Plan to End Homelessness in Southern Nevada:

- Enhance coordination between non-profit organizations and government
- Prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless
- Provide seamless client services through effective partnerships
- Foster self-sufficiency through access to education, training, and employment opportunities
- Increase the availability of stable and sustainable housing
- Facilitate the transition from homelessness through intensive case management
- Ensure the availability of basic needs services
- Increase access to medical, dental and vision care services
- Improve the availability of mental health services
- Improve the availability of substance abuse treatment programs.

In November 1981, the Board of County Commissioners established the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) to assist the County in its citizen participation responsibilities and to make recommendations to the Board on specific projects to be funded with the County’s share of CDBG funds. The Committee is composed of 36 members – 19 representatives from the unincorporated towns and citizens advisory councils, 14 members at-large, and one representative each from the three participating cities.

On October 16, 2007, the Board appointed thirty-three (33) individuals with alternates to the CDAC and appointed Jim Chachas as Chairman and Charlene Peterson as Vice Chair. On December 4, 2007, the CDAC received copies of the six applications received from local nonprofit partners; these six applications totaled $777,756 in requested funding. On December 18, 2007, the CDAC was able to interview representatives from the six applicants, and proceeded to adopt its project recommendations.

Attached is a listing of projects by categories, a brief project description, and the CDAC citizen
recommendations. Additionally, Table 1 is included for the Board’s information, reflecting the Funding Requests and the Committee’s recommendation for Fiscal Year 2008 ESG funding allocations. The Board is not restricted in its selections of projects by CDAC’s recommendations.

The recommended allocations comply with regulatory limitations on the ESG funds, which limit the amount of funds that can be spent on supportive services or prevention activities. The full ESG program grant will be allocated to support the operations of emergency and transitional shelter for the homeless. There is no regulatory limitation on the ESG funds with respect to operations of emergency or transitional shelters.

The CDAC Chair, Mr. Jim Chachas, will present these recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on February 19, 2008. Upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners, the final allocations will be subsequently incorporated into the HUD Consolidated Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2008 which must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by the May 15, 2008 deadline.

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VIRGINIA VALENTINE
County Manager

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ATTACHMENT 1

CLARK COUNTY FEDERAL FUNDS FOR HOMELESS PROGRAMS
FY2008 Emergency Shelter Grant Program

SUMMARY OF REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FAMILY PROMISE
   Requested: $ 32,000
   Purchase New Van
   CDAC Recommends: $ 32,000

   Family Promise (formerly known as Interfaith Hospitality Network) provides emergency shelter and supportive services to homeless families by partnering with 16 “host site” faith congregations who provide overnight shelter, meals and other services. County Homeless Funds were requested to purchase a second van in anticipation of adding a second rotation, thus doubling the number of families that can be served on any given night.

   The CDAC recommends funding in the amount of $32,000 for this project.

2. THE SHADE TREE, INC.
   Requested: $276,198
   Emergency Shelter
   CDAC Recommends: $100,891

   The Shade Tree provides 24-hour accessible emergency shelter services to any and all homeless women or women with child(ren) at no charge and without regard for possession of identification. Homeless women/children are sheltered in a 38,000 square foot building, which can provide shelter for up to 364 women, children and adolescent boys. The Shade Tree offers a 164-bed Emergency Shelter Program providing free, emergency shelter for 30-90 days; a Short Term Transitional Shelter Program of 164 beds that provides extended shelter and case management for up to six months while the household regains stability and self-sufficiency; a Day Shelter Program providing all homeless women daily access to showers, laundry room facilities, mail service, phones, lockers, and lunch and also provides 36 beds for medically infirm or those who work at night and require day sleeping accommodations; a Victim’s Service Center, providing services specific for victims of domestic violence, street crime, sexual assault, or elder abuse; a Children’s Advocacy Center with specialized programming for homeless children; and the only Safe Place in the “homeless corridor” area for youth in crisis. County Homeless Funds were requested to support the operations of the shelter.

   The CDAC recommends funding this project in the amount of $100,891 for this project.

3. HELP OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
   Requested: $252,154
   Housing First – Temporary Emergency Shelter
   CDAC Recommends: $100,098

   HELP of Southern Nevada operates four Homeless Services Program, using the Housing First model, which places homeless people into permanent housing as quickly as possible, and only after the housing needs are met, begins to work on social, behavioral, and mental health issues that
contributed to the homeless situation. HELP of Southern Nevada requested funds so that they may place homeless individuals into motels or other temporary accommodations, while the required paperwork and Housing Quality Standards inspections are conducted on permanent housing units through their other Homeless Services Programs.

The CDAC recommends funding this project in the amount of $100,098.

4. **S.A.F.E. HOUSE**  
   **Requested:** $20,000  
   **Domestic Violence Shelter**  
   **CDAC Recommends:** $20,000

S.A.F.E. House provides shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence from the Henderson and Southeastern Valley area. Homeless clients are provided a safe environment, case management and guidance through the legal system, if needed. County Homeless Funds were requested to support the operations of the shelter.

The CDAC recommends funding this project at last year’s level of $20,000.

5. **THE SALVATION ARMY**  
   **Requested:** $173,404  
   **Women’s Transitional Shelter**  
   **CDAC Recommends:** $0

The Salvation Army proposes to expand its Transitional Housing and Vocational Training services to 14 chronically homeless, unaccompanied women, and to extend its 42 beds provided through the Weather Shelter program through the other 8 months of the year. County funds would be used to pay the operational expenses of the transitional shelter, the free, emergency beds, and the case manager.

The CDAC did not recommend funding for this project.

6. **WOMEN’S DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
   **Requested:** $24,000  
   **Trans'l Housing and Affordable Rent Programs**  
   **CDAC Recommends:** $24,000

Women's Development Center (WDC) provides an array of housing services for homeless single parents, starting with Transitional Housing and supportive services and permanent affordable housing. WDC assists single parent homeless households move towards self-sufficiency and independence by providing a furnished apartment, essential services include case management, job development, and vouchers for basic needs. WDC maintains and operates 9 properties for homeless families needing transitional housing and supportive services, and also utilizes Tenant-Based Rental Assistance for homeless families in scattered-sites in a partnership with the Clark County Housing Authority. County Homeless Funds are requested to pay the operational costs of the nine facilities.

The CDAC recommends funding in the amount of $24,000 for this project.

**TOTAL HOMELESS SERVICES REQUESTED:** $777,756  
**TOTAL HOMELESS SERVICES RECOMMENDED:** $276,989
Table 1 – Funding Requests and