

## MEMORANDUM

**TO** Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee

**FROM** Jamey Kirby, Grants Coordinator and Sheena Jackson, Grants Specialist

**DATE** June 16, 2011

**SUBJECT** June 21, 2011 Meeting/July 5, 2011 Meeting

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As we reported last month, approximately \$43,000 in CDBG-R (Recovery Act) funding is available for re-allocation. The original CDBG-R allocation was \$151,565. The Edwards St. Sewer Line Replacement project has been completed at a cost of about \$108,500. A public notice has been advertised setting public hearings for the committee on June 21 and for Council on July 18. Funding can be spent on CDBG-eligible projects with the restrictions that only 10% may be spent on administration and planning and 15% may be spent on public services. With that in mind, staff has recommended the following projects to submit to HUD in program amendments:

### New Projects:

Planning – consultant to begin Needs Assessment	\$15,000
Public Services – one-time allocations to social service programs	\$22,700
Minor Housing Repairs – balance available for one project	\$ 5,300

Planning - funding is recommended to begin work on a new Community Needs Assessment. The City has not been able to fund the assessment the last two years. Staff has requested funding in the next City budget for both the Needs Assessment and the 2012 CDBG Consolidated Plan for Housing & Community Development.

Public Services: we did not make the \$22,700 available in a separate RFP; rather, the committee can use its recent review of applications to consider additional one-time allocations. Funds would be for a special contract with a three or four month term. The committee can approach the funding in several ways: 1) using of recovery act funds that best fit the purpose of alleviating the economic crisis; 2) using extra funding for additional services from the highest ranked applicants; or 3) awarding extra funds to programs that were being cut or not funded during the regular process. See staff comments below.

Because allocations for Planning and Public Services are limited, a balance of approximately \$5,300 would remain. This is not enough for any significant projects but could fund one additional house supplemental to the new Lewisville Housing Rehabilitation Program (LHRP). After the regular selection process is completed for homeowners who need up to \$30,000 of funding, staff will invite the next highest rank applicant to use the recovery act funds. Otherwise, the CDBG-R funded project will follow the LHRP guidelines.

### Staff Comments and Rationale for CDBG-R Social Services “One-time” Allocations

1. Recovery Act Purpose – staff considers the following programs to be a ‘good fit’ to the recovery act due to their purpose, ability to use funds quickly, capacity to ramp up to provide additional services or other considerations.
  - a. The Lewisville Salvation Army- Emergency Financial Assistance Program

- Crisis and Financial Services category continues to be undersubscribed; given the current economy this category is probably an even higher need now; funds would assist with emergency rent and utility payments
- CDBG-R funds are intended to provide investment to assist with efforts to stimulate the economy, provide jobs, modernize homes to make them energy efficient, and help the families and communities hardest hit by the economic crisis
- CDBG-R funds would be able to be spent in a short time due to the growing need; utility cost tend to increase during the summer months for families

b. Christian Community Action (CCA) - Adult Health Center

- CDBG-R funds would be able to be spent in a short time due to the growing need; the center is seeing an increasing number of patients that do not have the ability to pay and the center can spend on lab costs and medications
- Program received a 15% cut (despite being ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> overall) in their regular social services allocation at a time when they are seeing a large increase in patients and patient visits
- Program experienced with using CDBG funds

c. Youth & Family Counseling- Psychological Healthcare Program

- Psychological Healthcare Program received the largest cut (32%) of any of the programs with their regular social services allocation.
- The need for family counseling is greater in times of economic distress

d. Boys & Girls Club of North Central Texas-Mentoring Program

- One-time funding for Boys & Girls Club would provide them with an opportunity to get started in Lewisville
- The program was not funded in the regular process, it would be up to them to maintain the program and grow their presence in the community without the likelihood of future funding from the City making this a catalyst or seed grant.

2. Programs that ranked high could be awarded these funds; top 5 programs are listed below

- Communities in Schools of North Texas-Dropout Prevention Program
- Pedi Place-Pediatric Healthcare
- CCA-Adult Health Center
- Health Services of North Texas-Nutrition Center
- Children's Advocacy Center-Victim Services Program

3. Programs that received the largest cuts in their regular social services award; the funds could provide the gap in funding for the agencies just for this program year

- Youth and Family-Psychological Healthcare Program (Cut 32%)
- CCA-Adult Health Center (Cut 15%)
- Operation Peace of Mind-Community Works Program (Cut 15%)— **Current program not eligible for CDBG funds**
- Day Stay-Adult Day Care Program (Cut 14%)
- Several programs received a 6% cut; see below
  - PediPlace-Pediatric Healthcare
  - Youth and Family Counseling-First Offender Program

- SPAN-Meals Program
- CASA-CASA Program
- Denton County Friends of the Family-Victim Services Program