



COMMUNITY, HOUSING, AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE – OCT. 21, 2021

All,

Please see this week's Community, Housing, and Human Services department update.

Operational.

Status:

- City receives \$4.6 million in [HOME Program ARP funds](#). Fully executed agreement has been submitted to HUD.
- NOFO is on track for completion. Renewal reviews are scored. Two new projects are being presented Friday. CoC scoring committee will rank renewal and new projects next week.
- COVID isolation facility operations ends soon. More information to come this week from SRHD and County for next steps.
- The Salvation Army's Way Out Shelter contract is being coordinated between the County and the City. On track to be approved by November 1. Opening is planned for following week.
- The VOA Young Adult Shelter project continues to move forward. Sub-recipient agreement is being finalized. A timeline has been established.
- Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is being mobilized and meets weekly with national and regional cohort and technical assistance partners. Community pre-assessment has been completed.
- CMIS staff are working directly with providers for training and participation in compliance of ordinance.
- Working through challenges with third party vendor regarding CMIS HUD reporting.
- Strike team has reached out to providers for information to complete Annual County Expenditures report for Department of Commerce. Providers have responded with positive comments to assist with information.
- Rent Assistance Program update:
The \$31M in total rental assistance to the City includes city and grantee admin, Dept. of Commerce By & For contracting, and housing stability services. Housing stability services are funds that can be used for activities that support keeping people housed and increased access to rent assistance programs (includes case management, referrals, application support and mediation).
 - **Amount paid out to as of October 15 = \$5,760,399**
 - **Amount approved, awaiting final verification = \$1,183,072**

- **Average application completion to fund distribution is 45 days with City funds. The state average is 72 days.**

*Per Treasury Guidance, up to 10% of Direct Assistance can be allocated to Housing Stability Services. CHHS has diverted 5% in the T-RAP 1.0, ERA 2.0, and T-RAP 2.0 grants.

Any unspent will be returned to direct assistance.

Training and Team Building.

Status:

- HOME Program subject matter expert is being brought on to fill gap for program knowledge and training week of October 25.
- HR, strike team and staff are working on next round of CHHS director interviews.
- Clerk position is in recruitment.
- Program Professional candidates were interviewed Monday and finalists are being selected.

Policy and Planning.

Status:

- Funding for The Way Out Shelter was approved by City Council Monday.

Communication.

Status:

- Continuing one-on-one meetings with stakeholders to ensure communication is better, concerns are heard directly, and answers are provided to specific questions or concerns.
- These weekly updates will be archived and can be found on the City's [website](#).

Reaching out.

To help us communicate better and more efficiently, especially with the staff transitions, we would ask you to use email distribution lists created to ensure the right individuals get the email and can respond quickly:

For leadership, status, or program level questions: CHHS Leadership

(chhsleadership@spokanecity.org)

For contracts or financial related questions: CHHS Accounting

(chhsaccounting@spokanecity.org)

For grant related questions: CHHS Grants (chhsgrants@spokanecity.org)

For RFP submittals or questions: CHHS RFP (chhsrfp@spokanecity.org)

For CMIS/HMIS related questions: CHHS CMIS (cmis@spokanecity.org)

Thank you for your continued interest and investment in the body of work the CHHS department provides our community. We are always open to questions and input.

CHHS Leadership Team and Staff

