

**HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA**

REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONERS

DATE: JANUARY 22, 2020

REGARDING: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GRANTS OF \$25,000 FROM THE SAINT PAUL & MINNESOTA FOUNDATION, \$165,000 FROM THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION, \$100,000 FROM THE FAMILY HOUSING FUND, AND \$300,000 FROM THE POHLAD FOUNDATION; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENTS; AND AMENDING THE 2020 HRA BUDGET.

Requested Board Action

1. Authorization to accept a grant award of \$25,000 from the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation to fund supportive services provided by program partners to participants under the Families First Housing Pilot.
2. Authorization to accept a grant award of \$165,000 from the McKnight Foundation to fund supportive services provided by program partners to participants under the Families First Housing Pilot.
3. Authorization to accept a grant award of \$100,000 from the Family Housing Fund to fund a third-party program evaluation of the Families First Housing Pilot.
4. Authorization to accept a grant award of \$300,000 from the Pohlada Foundation to fund supportive services provided by program partners to participants under the Families First Housing Pilot.
5. Authorization to execute grant agreements and any other documents and instruments in connection with the receipt of the aforementioned grants.
6. Amendment to increase the 2020 HRA budget by \$590,000.

Background

The Families First Housing Pilot (“Families First), formerly the Rent Supplement Pilot Program, was developed by HRA Staff, in partnership with Saint Paul Public Schools, the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, and Saint Paul Public Housing Agency. On November 13, 2019, the HRA Board of Commissioners approved the guidelines for Families First, a memorandum of understanding between the HRA and program partners necessary for the implementation of Families First, and a budget amendment by way of Resolution 19-1971.

Significant progress has been made to successfully launch the program in February and support up to 250 families with program funds over five years. In addition to the \$3,000,000 allocated by the HRA, staff applied for grant dollars to support program operations from four different foundation partners. The HRA was awarded funding from each of these foundations and staff is now seeking HRA Board approval to accept \$25,000 from the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, \$165,000 from the McKnight Foundation, \$100,000 from the Family Housing Fund and \$300,000 from the Pohlada Foundation. At least one grant agreement contains provision wherein the HRA, as grantee, agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the grantor.

Budget Action

The current Board action is to accept grant awards of \$25,000 from the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, \$165,000 from the McKnight Foundation, \$100,000 from the Family Housing Fund, and \$300,000 from the Pohlada Foundation, and approve a budget amendment to increase the 2020 HRA budget by \$590,000.

Future Action

N/A

Financing Structure

N/A

PED Credit Committee Review

N/A

Compliance

N/A Given the nature of the program, compliance requirements do not apply.

Green/Sustainable Development

N/A

Environmental Impact Disclosure

N/A

Historic Preservation

N/A

Public Purpose/Comprehensive Plan Conformance:

The Guidelines and requested allocation meet objectives of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Families First would support both Strategy 2: Preserve and Promote Established Neighborhoods, and Strategy 3: Ensure the Availability of Affordable Housing Across the City. Rental subsidies will support the preservation of both publicly-assisted and private affordable housing at deep levels of affordability for those most burdened by the cost of rent, in turn alleviating pressures leading to displacement and homelessness. The program will moreover assemble the services of public and community partners to support housing and neighborhood stability for families with young students, reducing barriers to academic stability and well-being.

Statement of Chairman (for Public Hearing)

N/A

Recommendation:

The Executive Director recommends approval of the authorization to accept funding from the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Family Housing Fund, and the Pohlad Foundation, and approve a budget amendment to increase the 2020 budget by \$590,000

Sponsored by: Chair Tolbert

Staff: Kate Rodrigues, 651-266-6695

Attachments

- Financial Analysis