

Legislation Text

File #: 2023-234, **Version:** 1

Title:

Approve the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) ARP Allocation Plan in the amount of \$3,046,438 and subsequent forms to submit to HUD which will reduce homelessness and increase housing stability for qualifying citizens of Seminole County. Countywide (**Stacey Smithwick, Community Development Division Manager**)

Division:

Community Services - Community Development

Authorized By:

Allison Thall

Contact/Phone Number:

Stacey Smithwick/407-665-2362

Background:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into law, which provides over \$1.9 trillion in relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, public health, State and local governments, individuals, and businesses. To address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services, Congress appropriated \$5 billion in ARP funds to be administered through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to perform four activities that must primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. These activities include: (1) the development and support of affordable housing, (2) tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA), (3) the provision of supportive services; and (4) the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

Seminole County has received \$3,046,438 of HOME-ARP funds. These funds must be used to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability for qualifying populations. Qualifying populations include:

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a));
- At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless

Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1));

- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary.
- In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; and
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meets one of the preceding criteria.

As a recipient of these federal funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Seminole County is required to submit an Allocation Plan. The plan provides a Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis of the county's homeless and other vulnerable populations and describes how the county will use HOME-ARP funds to reduce homelessness and provide housing stability to qualifying populations. Below describes how we intend to distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in the needs assessment and gap analysis.

Supportive Services	\$300,000.00
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$2,137,151.30
Non-Profit Operating	\$152,321.00
Administrative and Planning	<u>\$456,965.70</u>
Total HOME-ARP Allocation	\$3,046,438.00

Comments on the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be accepted during a 15-day period from March 5, 2023, through March 20, 2023. All public comments are required to be part of the submitted Plan.

The HOME ARP Allocation Plan is being presented to you for approval to submit to HUD.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board approve the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) ARP Allocation Plan in the amount of \$3,046,438 and subsequent forms to submit to HUD which will reduce homelessness and increase housing stability for qualifying citizens of Seminole County.