

STAFF REPORT

City of Lancaster

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Date: March 11, 2014

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Elizabeth Brubaker, Director Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization

Subject: **Approval of a Sub-Recipient Agreement with Grace Resources for Administration of the Lancaster Homeless Shelter**

Recommendation:

Approve the Sub-Recipient Agreement between the City of Lancaster and Grace Resources to provide administration services of the Lancaster Homeless Shelter for the 2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year.

Fiscal Impact:

The amount of \$44,700 was allocated from the 2013 CDBG entitlement funds.

Background:

The Lancaster Community Shelter (“Shelter”) was built by community volunteers and the Lancaster Redevelopment Agency in 1989 and fourteen transitional family units were added in 2008. The Shelter is approximately 11,358 square feet comprised of a recreational room, offices, men’s and women’s dormitories, family units, restrooms, laundry facilities, dining area, and restaurant-quality industrial kitchen.

The Shelter is the only one of its kind in the Antelope Valley serving both men and women. Men and women are housed in separate dormitories. The Shelter provides 30-day emergency and 6-months of transitional housing. It is a 52-bed facility that includes 2 family units and 45 cots. The 52 beds, including the six beds in the two family units, are designated for the transitional housing program that serves 205 men and women, 32 families with 104 children and 611 persons off the street annually. The Shelter provides 10 emergency shelter beds, 32 transitional beds, 10 Department of Mental Health beds and 10 cots year around for walk-ins off the street. The Shelter provides emergency housing during cold weather from November to March and adds approximately 35 more cots for men and women off the streets.

The goal of the Shelter is to provide shelter, food and case management services to homeless men, women, and children in the Antelope Valley. In doing so, the clients, upon successful completion of the program, will leave the Shelter with permanent housing and income necessary to sustain an independent and self-sufficient lifestyle. The Shelter is committed to the Continuum of Care Concept and strives to utilize both internal and external resources to help the homeless move into transitional and permanent housing. The Shelter provides comprehensive case management services designed for residents seeking to achieve greater self-sufficiency and end homelessness. Case management is viewed as a critical component in the rehabilitative process. Case management includes screening, assessment, developing realistic goals, developing an appropriate plan, providing adequate training and referrals to offer support and guidance to each resident. All shelter residents participating in the Transitional Housing Program are required to participate in the case management program and are asked to see the case manager on a regularly scheduled basis.

In compliance with Federal Regulations Title 24, Part 570, Section 570.503, HUD requires that the City of Lancaster (the "Recipient") enter into a written agreement with Grace Resources (the "Sub-Recipient") in order for the City to grant its entitlement funds to the sub-recipient for providing administration services.

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