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2023 RES-347

**AWARDING A GRANT TO PORCHLIGHT INC. FOR
INCREASED OPERATION COSTS FOR EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT MEN’S SHELTER
DCDHS – HAA DIVISION**

The services in this resolution are funded in part with the County’s allocation of local aid authorized in the 2021 American Rescue Plan. Therefore, this resolution follows the format outlined in 2021 RES-013.

Justification

Authorizing Law: In March of 2021, the federal government authorized the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan (ARP) stimulus bill authorizing additional funding to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic across multiple areas of need.

Dane County was allocated over \$106 million in ARP local aid. A portion of those funds has been previously committed to various efforts to promote economic and housing stability for households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. \$231,005 in ARP funding was authorized in the 2024 Dane County Budget to provide increased operations support for the men’s shelter, operated by Porchlight Inc., for up to 350 men per night.

Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Enduring economic hardship that originated during the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact Dane County’s households. The number of people being served by Dane County’s emergency shelters serving single adult men have reached historic levels averaging 291 guests an evening and peaking at 347 guests in January.

In order to appropriately meet the operational needs to serve this increased shelter population, the 2024 Dane County Budget included funding to provide additional operational funds to support the services needed at the men’s shelter.

The Dane County Department of Human Services – Housing Access and Affordability Division (HAA) seeks to award a \$231,005 grant to Porchlight Inc. to address increased operational needs of the overnight shelter for men. The grant term is from January 1, 2024 – December 31st, 2024.

Households enrolled in emergency overnight shelter with Porchlight Inc. will be eligible for services that include shelter, food, showers, access to telehealth, case management and connection to resources and basic needs.

Duplication of Funding/Existing Partnerships and Programs: The funding is not duplicative and additional operational funding is needed to meet the increased demand for shelter services in order to meet basic needs.

Expected Outcomes and Data Collection

Expected program outcomes include the provision of safe shelter, food, showers and connection and referral to community resources for men experiencing homelessness.

Data collection will minimally include:

- 48 i. Unduplicated number of individuals served.
- 49 ii. Demographics of individuals served.
- 50 iii. Average length of stay in shelter.
- 51 iv. Prior living situation of participants.
- 52 v. Income of participants.
- 53 vi. Number of individuals who left the program, and where they exited to.

54
55 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** that the County Board requests quarterly
56 reports be shared with the members of the County Board, and that the Health and Human
57 Needs Committee review the reports on a quarterly basis and discuss how the information
58 presented addresses anticipated program outcomes.

59 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a \$231,005 grant be approved for Porchlight Inc. (term of
60 January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024) and that the County Executive and County Clerk are
61 hereby authorized and directed to sign the agreement on behalf of Dane County, and that the
62 Controller is authorized to make payments:

63 <u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amendment Amount</u>
64 Porchlight Inc.	\$231,005

65 **Total Expenditure: \$231,005**