



Yolo County Housing

Lisa A. Baker, Executive Director

147 W. Main Street
WOODLAND, CA 95695

Woodland: (530) 662-5428
Sacramento: (916) 444-8982
TTY: (800) 545-1833, ext. 626

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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DATE: February 17, 2011

TO: YCH Board of Commissioners

FROM: Lisa A. Baker, Executive Director

PREPARED BY: Marianne Krager, Director of Operations

SUBJECT: **REVIEW AND APPROVE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE HUD FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2010 RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY AND SELF SUFFICIENCY (ROSS) SERVICE COORDINATOR PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners:

1. Review and approve the resolution authorizing Yolo County Housing to submit an application to HUD for funding through the HUD fiscal year (FY) 2010 Resident Opportunity and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) Service Coordinator Program grant; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director to execute appropriate agreements to apply under the ROSS Program and administer the funding if the application is approved by HUD.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Purpose

The purpose of the Public and Indian Housing Resident Opportunity and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) Service Coordinators program is to provide grants to public housing agencies (PHAs), tribes/tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs), Resident Associations (RAs), and nonprofit organizations (including grassroots, faith-based and other community-based organizations) for the provision of a Service Coordinator to coordinate supportive services and other activities designed to help Public and Indian housing residents attain economic and housing self-sufficiency. This program works to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under the Public Housing program with public and private resources, for supportive services and resident empowerment activities. These services should enable participating families to increase earned income, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, make progress toward achieving economic independence and housing self-sufficiency or, in the case of elderly or disabled residents, help improve

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living conditions and enable residents to age-in-place. A Service Coordinator ensures that program participants are linked to the supportive services they need to achieve self-sufficiency or remain independent. Funds in this program are not allowed to be used for the direct provision of these services. This program is similar to the Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency program (PH FSS); however, the PH FSS program is open only to PHAs and tribes/TDHEs, has a requirement of an escrow account for its participants and provides one-year funding. The ROSS SC program provides three-year funding, includes administrative expenses and training as eligible uses of the funds and requires a 25% match by statute.

Grant Application Parameters

During FY 2010, HUD is seeking competitive grants that align with HUD’s Strategic Plan. HUD’s policy priorities for FY 2010 include job creation, sustainability, affirmatively furthering fair housing, capacity building and knowledge sharing, using housing as a platform for improving other outcomes, and expanding crosscutting policy knowledge. Policy priorities for the CFCF grant application, which the YCH has applied for as well, have been identified as sustainability and job creation including compliance with Section 3.

HUD announced the availability of approximately \$35 million for HUD’s FY2010 Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Service Coordinators Program. Approximately \$31.6 million is available through the current NOFA.

The table below shows how the grant is to be distributed, based on size of program

<u>Grant Program</u>	<u>Total Funding</u>	<u>Number of SCs</u>	<u>To Serve</u>	<u>Maximum Grant Amount</u>
ROSS– Service Coordinators	\$35 million	1 SC	50-1000 units	\$240,000
		2 SCs	1001-2500 units	\$480,000
		3 SCs	2501 + units	\$720,000

Award Amounts. Awards will pay for the annual salary and fringe benefits of Service Coordinators. Awards may be for up to three coordinators, depending on size and type of applicant and each coordinator position salary must not exceed \$68,000. Awards will also include funds for training and for administrative expenses. Total awards for a 3-year grant term will range from approximately \$240,000 to \$720,000.

Elements of YCH Grant Application:

Need

YCH Public Housing residents currently do not have all the necessary services to promote self-sufficiency. Having a Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency staff person would enhance the community by providing a service that not only will benefit the residents, but also the local economy through improved access to employment and better jobs.

YCH currently has a Client Services Coordinator who handles public housing residential issues 60% of the time, with 40% of the time budgeted to the Voucher Program’s Family Self-Sufficiency Program. Services provided by the Client Services Coordinator are indispensable for helping families in need, but there is insufficient time to help those families seeking greater self-sufficiency.

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Based on the size of our housing stock, YCH would be eligible to apply for a grant in the amount of \$240,000. This would cover a period of three years and provides the ability for YCH to hire an additional full time staff.

Current unemployment rates in Yolo County have had a dramatic effect on household incomes within the County. In addition, this position would complement the CFCF Grant for which YCH has also applied and would help get our educational program for residents off the ground. Increased education and training opportunities are necessary for our adults and youth to be competitive in today's job market.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is a 25% match by statute required for this grant proposal, which can be a combination of in-kind and/or cash. YCH has the ability to meet this requirement if awarded funds.

CONCLUSION:

Funding through the ROSS grant would help us enable participating families to increase earned income, make progress toward achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency.

Staff recommends that the Board approve the resolution to apply for the ROSS grant.

**YOLO COUNTY HOUSING
RESOLUTION NO. 10 - _____**

(Resolution to Authorize Application for Funding through the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program and Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Appropriate Agreements)

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of the County of Yolo ("YCH") has received a Notice of Funding Availability ("NOFA") set forth by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") of available funding under the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency-Service (ROSS) Coordinators Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant application must be submitted electronically and requires a certification from the governing body of the applicant's organization duly authorizing the application for federal assistance; and

WHEREAS, the complete application from YCH must be submitted to HUD by the 23rd of February 2011 in order to be eligible for funding under this program; and

WHEREAS, approval of this resolution could potentially provide funding for the addition of Resident Services for YCH Public Housing families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ORDERED AND FOUND by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the County of Yolo, as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
2. The Board of commissioners hereby Board of Commissioners hereby approves that the Housing Authority of the County of Yolo submit an application to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department for additional funding under the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency-(ROSS) Service Coordinators Program
3. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Executive Director, on behalf of the Housing Authority of the County of Yolo, to execute any and all agreements necessary to carry out this transaction.

EFFECTIVE DATES: This Resolution shall take effect from and after the date of its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the County of Yolo, State of California, this 17th day of February, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Duane Chamberlain, Vice Chair
Board of Commissioners of the
Housing Authority of the County of Yolo

Approved as to Form:

By _____
Sonia Cortés, Agency Counsel

Attest:
Julie Dachtler, Clerk
Board of Commissioners of the
Housing Authority of the County of Yolo

By _____