



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
December 15, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services
David Brannigan, Fire Chief, Fire Department

Subject: Revenue: Federal COVID-19 Funding from HHS CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept payments from the Health and Human Services (HHS) CARES Act Provider Relief Fund and to execute any resultant revenue agreements and amendments; which enables City Departments to conduct and implement mitigation strategies in response to COVID-19 in the estimated amount of \$181,962 for FY 2021.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley has applied for funds in the estimated amount of \$181,962 from the HHS CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. Once the payment has been received, it will be deposited into the One-Time Grants fund by department as follows:

Health Housing and Community Services (HHCS) Department: approximately \$93,466
Fire Department: approximately \$88,496

The amount of the allocation is up to 2% of patient care revenue reported in FY 2019. HHCS generated \$4,673,280 in revenue from patient care through the provision of case management, behavioral health services, and clinical services in FY 2019. The Fire Department generated \$4,424,808 in revenue from Ambulance Services in FY 2019. No match is required and the total payment is expected to be approximately \$181,962 for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. If awarded, the allocation will be added into the FY 2021 Budget through the Second Amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives funding from many sources annually to conduct efforts towards improving the health and safety of the community. As a local health jurisdiction, the City is entitled to specific Federal and State funding to meet core public health objectives.

The Health, Housing and Community Services and the Fire Departments are committed to providing essential services to the community and City staff to prevent the spread of disease and to respond to health threats such as pandemics. If awarded, these funds would allow the Departments to achieve the following:

Ensure HHCS Aging Services Meals on Wheels program prepares and delivers nutritious meals to medically vulnerable residents of Berkeley in order to allow these individuals to safely shelter in place and prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Provider Relief Fund allocation would fund Senior Service Aides to staff this much needed program.

Enable the Berkeley Fire Department to work diligently to provide a resilient, safe, connected, and educated community. These funds would be utilized for COVID-19 testing, the vaccination process, PPE, and any other additional COVID-19 related expenses.

BACKGROUND

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Provider Relief Fund supports healthcare providers in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. Qualified providers of health care, services, and support may receive Provider Relief Fund payments for healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue due to COVID-19. To be eligible, a provider must have billed Medicare fee-for-service in 2019, be a known Medicaid and CHIP or dental provider, and provide or provided after January 31, 2020 diagnoses, testing, or care for individuals with possible or actual cases of COVID-19, or prevented in the spread of COVID-19. HHS broadly views every patient as a possible case of COVID-19. The term "healthcare related expenses attributable to coronavirus" is a broad term that may cover a range of items and services purchased to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

These funds would support vital emergency response actions, services, and improve the health and safety of Berkeley residents and staff. These non-competitive grants provide the City with funding to continue emergency response efforts that protect the health and safety of the community and staff.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

This funding is essential for the Health, Housing and Community Services and Fire Departments. Each City department assesses additional funding source(s) to ensure that it supports the City's mission and goals. The alternative action of not seeking this

funding source would result in a significant reduction in other City resources and essential services to the community and staff.

CONTACT PERSON

Stacie Clarke, Administrative and Fiscal Manager, Fire Department, (510) 981-5507
Ann Song, Acting Administrative and Fiscal Manager, HHCS, (510) 981-5399

Attachments:

1. Resolution: CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

REVENUE: FEDERAL COVID-19 FUNDING FROM HHS CARES ACT PROVIDER
RELIEF FUND FY2021

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley's Fire Department and the Department of Health, Housing & Community Services are committed to promoting and protecting the health and safety of the public and the environment by supporting the City's greatest Public Health response needs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley Department of Health, Housing & Community Services works to promote healthy environments and behaviors, protect residents from disease, prevent illness, seek to eliminate health inequities, disability, and premature death; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley's Fire Department is committed to the life, health and safety of the community and City staff; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley should seek outside funding wherever possible to fund vital emergency response services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to accept payments from the Health and Human Services (HHS) CARES Act Provider Relief Fund and to execute any resultant revenue agreements and amendments; which enables the Health, Housing & Community Services and the Fire Department to conduct and implement mitigation strategies in response to COVID-19 in the estimated amount of \$181,962 for FY 2021; to promote and protect the health and safety of the public, City staff and the environment by supporting the City's response to COVID-19 through the implementation of preventive and community-based COVID-19 activities; to accept the grant funds; execute any resultant revenue agreements and amendments in line with the funding allocation, which may be larger or smaller than the projected award of \$181,962; and implement the projects and appropriation of funding for related expenses, subject to securing the funding.

BE IT RESOLVED that the funds will be appropriated as part of the FY2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.