

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL ON BEHALF OF LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT (ESG) FUNDS THROUGH THE STATE CARES ACT

BACKGROUND:

Two local non-profit agencies, The Bridge (formerly the Emergency Residence Project-ERP) and the Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support (ACCESS) were awarded Federal Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funding through the State Iowa's CARES (COVID-19) allocation. **In order to receive this funding, they must request a certification from the local government, that the program funds are consistent with goals and priorities outlined in the City's most current CDBG Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2019-2023), for addressing the needs of homeless and low-income households.**

Additionally, the "Certification of Local Government Approval" signifies that the City understands and agrees to allow these non-profit agencies to receive federal funds directly through the State of Iowa's Iowa Finance Authority (IFA). Also, these certifications confirm that the City approves of IFA to administer these grant funds on behalf of the non-profit organizations. For the calendar year beginning January 1, 2021, The Bridge will be receiving \$200,000 for Ames and Story County and ACCESS will be receiving \$77,000 from the City of Ames.

In order to facilitate these agencies' receipt of these shelter grants, the Mayor is being asked to sign the attached "Certification of Local Government Approval" for both The Bridge and ACCESS.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can authorize the Mayor to sign the Certifications of Local Government Approval for The Bridge and for ACCESS in order to receive their State of Iowa ESG grant funding.
2. The City Council can choose to not authorize the Mayor to sign the Certifications of Local Government Approval for The Bridge and for ACCESS in order to receive their State of Iowa ESG grant funding.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receiving ESG (CARES) grant funds administered through the Iowa Finance Authority is very important in helping these agencies provide much needed services for the homeless, and victims fleeing domestic violence in Ames and Story County. Staff believes that both of these programs are consistent with the City's Consolidated Plan. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1.



CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING IOWA STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDS FOR SHELTER

ESG Nonprofit Recipient:	The Bridge Home
ESG Shelter Project:	Ames/Story County.
Unit of General Purpose Local Government for the geographic area served (city or county):	City of Ames, Iowa
Project Description (2-3 sentences):	The Bridge Home provides emergency shelter in single site shelter and motel vouchering. ERP also provides transitional housing, rapid re-housing and homeless prevention assistance.

I certify that I am duly authorized to act on behalf of the unit of general purpose local government named above, and that I hereby approve* of this project.

By: _____
Signature Date

Printed Name and Title of Signatory of Local Official

* This approval is made to carry out 24 CFR Part 576.202(a), which states the following:

"...The recipient must sub-grant the remaining funds in its fiscal year grant to:

(1) Units of general purpose local government in the State, which may include metropolitan cities and urban counties that receive ESG funds directly from HUD; or

(2) Private nonprofit organizations, provided that for emergency shelter activities the recipient obtains a certification of approval from the unit of general purpose local government for the geographic area in which those activities are to be carried out."

Iowa Statewide ESG Policy: This certification is required at the earlier of: 1) at least once every two years; or 2) when a new contract is received, and the administration has changed for the applicable unit of general purpose local government.



CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING IOWA STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDS FOR SHELTER

ESG Nonprofit Recipient:	ACCESS- Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support
ESG Shelter Project:	ACCESS Shelter/Emergency Housing Program
Unit of General Purpose Local Government for the geographic area served (city or county):	City of Ames, Iowa
Project Description (2-3 sentences):	ACCESS provides emergency shelter through a scattered site model within the City of Ames. Additionally, ACCESS compliments shelter with Rapid-Rehousing, homeless prevention, housing advocacy, and essential community based support services.

I certify that I am duly authorized to act on behalf of the unit of general purpose local government named above, and that I hereby approve* of this project.

By: _____
Signature Date

Printed Name and Title of Signatory Local Official

* This approval is made to carry out 24 CFR Part 576.202(a), which states the following:

“... The recipient must subgrant the remaining funds in its fiscal year grant to:

- (1) Units of general purpose local government in the State, which may include metropolitan cities and urban counties that receive ESG funds directly from HUD; or
- (2) Private nonprofit organizations, provided that for emergency shelter activities the recipient obtains a certification of approval from the unit of general purpose local government for the geographic area in which those activities are to be carried out.”

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