ITEM #: 11
DATE: 06-24-25
DEPT: P&H

#### **COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: CERTIFICATE OF CONSISTENCY ON BEHALF OF YSS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE IOWA BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUING OF CARE/COMMUNITY PLAN GRANT PROGRAM

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Iowa Balance of State Continuing of Care/Community Plan (BoSCoC) administers a federal grant for addressing homelessness. YSS was awarded funds from the program in 2025 under the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) in the amount of \$1,779,185 within the Two Rivers Region that covers Story, Marshall, Hardin, Boone and Greene Counties. This is a two-year program to provide Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing (TH/RRH) program support for 36 youth, ages 16.5-24 for a safe, supportive environment where youth experiencing homelessness/near homelessness can safely be housed in a community that meets their basic needs. YSS anticipates that approximately 70% (\$1,245,429) of the funds will be spent in Ames/Story County.

As a federal grant program, the grant award must align with the City's goals in the current 2024-29 Consolidated Plan. YSS will have the only youth-focused programming in the balance of the state to meet this special population's needs. The goals and priorities outlined in the City's 2024-29 Consolidated Plan identify a high-priority need to address and provide services to homeless youth, homeless individuals and families, and other low-income household populations by reducing their cost burden to access housing and provide other essential services. The Plan also indicates the need for area human services agencies to apply for other state and federal funds to help cover the gap that CDBG and ASSET funds cannot cover. The proposal is consistent with these goals included within the Consolidated Plan.

A Certificate of Consistency (COC) for YSS is attached for City Council review and approval for the Mayor to sign. The COC must be submitted to the Iowa Balance of State Continuing of Care/Community Plan for program funding by June 30, 2025.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Authorize the Mayor to sign the Certificate of Consistency for YSS to receive Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care Grant funding.
- 2. Do not authorize the Mayor to sign the Certificate of Consistency on behalf of YSS to receive Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care Grant funding.
- 3. City Council can refer this item back to staff for more information.

## **CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is important for local non-profit organizations to seek additional funding opportunities from state and federal resources in order to have a greater impact on the needs of the homeless, chronically homeless, and low-income households in our community that cannot be accomplished with only local funding. The proposed programming is also consistent with the City's 2024-29 CDBG Consolidated Plan. It is therefore the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as described above.

# **ATTACHMENT(S):**

Revised 2025 HUD 2991 form YHDP.pdf