



## Commission Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/07/2023

HCD\_ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) ~ Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Grant Acceptance Approval Request

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**Department:** Housing and Community Development

**Presenter:** Hawthorne Welcher, Jr. and/or HCD Staff

**Caption:** Motion to **consider** for approval the following: **(Requested by IA Takiyah Douse)**

- a) ratify a) HUD Form 1044, b) HUD Administrative Verification Form, c) Mayoral Match Letter of Support, and the Mayor's execution thereof
- b) approve Augusta, Georgia's receipt of \$3,960,000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH)
- c) allow HCD to move forward with implementation of administrative verification form,
- d) allow HCD to hire three (3) additional FT staff persons (concurrent with the term of grant)/provide supplemental pay (where applicable) for all affected employees,
- e) instruct Finance department to add available funding to HCD's budget for immediate use and implementation.

**Background:** On October 5, 2022, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) awarded \$3,960,000 (itemized breakdown subject to change while award amount remains the same) to Augusta, Georgia as part of the record investment of \$126 million nationwide to 26 state and local government agencies, that will help protect Augusta children and families from lead-based paint and home health hazards.

The OLHCHH grant includes \$3,560,000.00 in Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant funding and \$400,000.00 in HUD's Healthy Homes Supplemental funding. A ten percent match commitment is required for this program by statute 42 U.S.C. 4852. In partnership with Medical Associates Plus (MAP), one of Augusta's premier healthcare providers focused is providing access to care for low-income persons and child health, HCD achieved the match requirement by committing \$376,688.54 (Augusta, Georgia \$157,549.79 in-kind goods and services commitment / MAP \$219,118.75 in-kind goods and services commitment).

The Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program grants include \$13,051,392 million nationwide in HUD's Healthy Homes Supplemental funding to help communities address housing-related health and safety hazards and lead-based paint hazards.

Approximately three-quarters of the nation's housing stock built before 1978 (approximately 64 million dwellings) contains some lead-based paint. When properly maintained and managed, this paint poses little risk. However, 1.7 million children have blood lead levels above safe limits, primarily due to exposure to lead-based paint hazards.

A federal HUD grant aims to reduce these Augusta numbers. Through the administration of these funds, HCD will remediate 90 properties furthering the enhancement and stabilization of Augusta's housing stock.

HUD has reviewed and approves HCDs administrative verification funding usage form as substantiated with their deliverance and signature of the enclosed HUD Assistance Award Form 1044.

**Analysis:**

The program will provide services to families that reside in the Augusta, Georgia-Richmond County area, who may be affected by lead-based paint hazards & other housing-related health issues; assist in the prevention of lead poisoning through education, training, and community outreach; offer technical and financial assistance while providing a safe and controlled means of lead hazard control & healthy homes remediation in residential dwelling units occupied by low-income households (annual household income cannot exceed 80% of the area median income (AMI) as determined by HUD).

**Financial Impact:**

Allocation of \$3,960,000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

**Alternatives:**

Do not approve HCDs Approval Request

**Recommendation:**

Motion to...

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- b) approve Augusta, Georgia's receipt of \$3,960,000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH)
- c) allow HCD to move forward with implementation of administrative verification form,
- d) allow HCD to hire three (3) additional FT staff persons (concurrent with the term of grant)/provide supplemental pay (where applicable) for all affected employees,
- e) instruct Finance department to add available funding to HCD's budget for immediate use and implementation.

**Funds are available in the following accounts:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Note: Lead Hazard Grant is 100% supported by this grant (no additional funding needed).

**REVIEWED AND**  
**APPROVED BY:**

N/A