

**October 20, 2022 CDBG-CV Application Amendment**

**Attachment B to Application – Connection of line item budget requests to COVID-19**

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\*CDBG-CV funds must be used to prepare for, respond to, and/or prevent the spread of COVID-19. Funds have been requested for the following budget categories. Provide an explanation of how using CDBG-CV funds will prepare for, respond to, and/or prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**1. HNC direct service staff salaries/benefits**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☐prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

The Housing Navigation Center (HNC) Resource Navigators are the direct service staff at the HNC. They help to respond to COVID-19 by helping vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness find and enroll in resources that help them stay healthy, such as doctors' appointments, job searchers, and housing searchers. Resource Navigators also prevent COVID-19 by screening guests for COVID symptoms during the day, providing PPE to guests, and connecting guests to testing and COVID vaccination opportunities.

**2. Rent/Utilities**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☒prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

The HNC and cold weather shelter need a physical location for operations, in order to prepare for, respond to, and prevent COVID-19. The HNC and cold weather shelter provide a safe place during the day and night where guests can access basic services, such as laundry and showers, which help limit community spread of COVID-19. Without money to pay for rent for the HNC, people experiencing homelessness would have no place to go and would travel around the community, increasing the risk of COVID-19 exposure and increasing community transmission.

**3. Cleaning services**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☐prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

The HNC and cold weather shelter contract with professional cleaning companies to keep the space clean. This level of deep cleaning is not possible with basic staffing alone. Professional cleanings ensure that guests are not exposed to viruses or germs, including COVID-19.

**4. CWS direct service staff salaries/benefits**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☐prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

Cold weather shelter staff are responsible for ensuring the health and safety of guests at check-in at night. Staff screen for COVID-19 symptoms at check-in, arrange for isolation/quarantine and transportation for individuals who have been exposed/contracted COVID-19, and enforce COVID-19 rules such as masks mandates and social distancing requirements.

**5. CWS meals**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☒prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

COVID-19 has impacted how meals can be served at the cold weather shelter. To prevent the spread of COVID-19 during meal time, all meals are individually packaged so guests can eat meals at their beds to prevent spread during congregate feeding times. The cold weather shelter also reduced the number of volunteers who traditionally serve the meals. As such, meals costs have increased. Additionally, community meals sights have closed due to COVID-19 and the cold weather shelter meals are sometimes the only meals available to guests during the winter.

**6. Motel vouchers**

Activity will (check all that apply) ☐prepare for COVID ☒respond to COVID ☒prevent COVID

The cold weather shelter is a wide open congregate sleeping space. As such, there are no safe places for individuals to be isolated or quarantined when exposed to COVID-19. Motel vouchers are used to isolate/quarantine individuals who have tested positive COVID-19 or been exposed at the cold weather shelter. Using motel vouchers to isolate guests is vital for preventing potential COVID-19 outbreaks at the congregate shelter. The vouchers also provide vital overflow capacity for when the shelter is full. Overcrowding of shelters increases the risk of COVID-19 exposure. Providing hotel overflow helps increase social distancing and keeps people safe in non-congregate sheltering.