

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING
REGARDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT –
COVID 19 RESPONSE PROJECTS

Pursuant to Section 19.85 and 59.094, Wis. Stats, a **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at Brown County Sophie Beaumont Building, Boardrooms A & B; 111 N Jefferson St; Green Bay, WI 54301

Present: Brown County Supervisor Tom Lund; Jean Marsch; Laura McCoy; Leslie Ousley;
Brown County Supervisor Randy Schultz

Excused: Michael Conley-Kuhagen; Kathryn Dykes

Also Present: Jeremy Kral; Executive Director, Brown County Health & Human Services
Jenny Hoffman; Community Services Administrator, Brown County Health & Human Services
Eric Johnson; Finance Manager, Brown County Health & Human Services
Tom Chartrand; Grant Specialist, Brown County Health & Human Services
Cathy Foss; Office Manager, Brown County Health & Human Services

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Tom Lund at 6:02 pm.

2. Approve / Modify Agenda

Schultz /McCoy moved to approve the October 13, 2022 agenda.
Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously without abstentions.

3. Update on the status of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project, including

overview of project activities completed to date, and activities remaining to be completed
Jeremy Kral, Executive Director of Brown County Health & Human Services, handed out the *Report on Activities: Brown County Community Development Block Grant – COVID 19 (CDBG-CV-19)* [report is attached to Public Hearing Minutes]

Kral provided background information on the Community Development Block Grant – COVID 19 (CDBG-CV-19). He stated in February 2021, Brown County Health & Human Services in collaboration with the Brown County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive, submitted a grant proposal to address community needs. In May 2021, the grant project was approved by the State of Wisconsin: Department of Administration – Division of Energy, Housing & Community Resources (DEHCR). This grant allows expenditures through March 31, 2023 with reporting activities continuing after the grant activities are completed.

The scope of work for the grant included:

- Homeless Shelter Rehabilitation
- Food Pantry Assistance
- Emergency Housing Assistance
- Subsistence Payment Program
- Transitional Housing Program
- Program Administration

Because of the initiation of the nationwide Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA) and the Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH) program, these two programs served many of the same needs the CDBG-CV was targeting.

Due to the two programs created at the state and federal level, Brown County Health & Human Services staff have collaborated with homeless shelters and food pantries seeking to provide more support than initially expected. We plan to work with state partners at DEHCR to fully-fund all requests from homeless shelters and food pantries that are eligible within the grant parameters.

If these requests are approved by DEHCR, approximately \$190,000 of additional funding will be made available to homeless shelters and approximately \$44,000 additionally to food pantries.

After increasing the allocations to homeless shelters and food pantries, analysis indicates outcomes of the grant will be achieved using less of the CDBG-CV grant funding because of the redundancy with the state and federal programs. Analysis estimates the underspend appropriate for de-obligation at approximately \$1 million. This money can be returned and would be used to fund other CDBG projects within the state.

Kral provided additional information on each of the specific projects, which are detailed in the attached report.

In summary, the CDBG-CV grant has been a strong support for the homeless shelters and food pantries in Brown County. All grant expenditures will be completed by March 31, 2023.

Committee member, Laura McCoy asked Kral if Brown County was meeting the current needs of sheltering and food. Kral said "where" and "how" community members' needs are met is complex and is a matter of some debate. Health & Human Services, as a department, is meeting its obligations as a community resource, conducting outreach and offering services to support people and help them connect with shelters and other community resources.

Marsch / Schultz moved to receive and place on file the report of status updates of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects. Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously without abstentions.

4. Public Comment

No members of the public attended.

5. Adjourn Meeting

McCoy / Marsch moved to adjourn. Voice vote taken. Motion carried unanimously without abstentions.

Supervisor Tom Lund adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Catherine Foss
Office Manager