

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date:	May 5, 2025
Action Required:	Adopt Resolution Reallocating Funding
Presenter:	Antoine Williams, Housing Program Manager
Staff Contacts:	Alexander Ikefuna, Director, Office of Community Solutions Antoine Williams, Housing Program Manager Madelyn Metzler, Housing Compliance Coordinator
Title:	Resolution to allocate \$41,500 from FY26 Housing Operations and Programs Support of the FY26 Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund as an Emergency Grant to the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless for the Supportive Housing Program

Background

The City of Charlottesville, Virginia's ("City"), Fiscal Year 2025–2026 ("FY26") Budget included funding for the Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund ("CAHF"), which includes a limited-competitive funding opportunity to support Housing Operations and Program Support ("HOPS") in the total amount of \$575,000. The CAHF Committee made recommendations for an allocation of \$788,000, leaving a difference of \$114,426 for allocation at City Council's discretion.

Discussion

Recognizing that funding needs do not always arise in alignment with Grant funding cycles, the City Manager presented to City Council eight (8) off-cycle requests as part of the City's FY2026 Budget process. One (1) request is from BRACH for funding to replace a lost Grant. This funding would ensure that BRACH, the lead Continuum of Care agency in the City's region, can continue its operations uninterrupted. Due to the potential for interrupted service, this funding request is deemed an emergency. Given the emergency need, \$41,500 of the remaining balance should be allocated from the FY26 HOPS Grant Program Budget, and it is recommended that BRACH be awarded a Supportive Housing Emergency Grant.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

The funding recommendations align with the following:

1. **Alignment with Affordable Housing and Comprehensive Plans:** The funding recommendation has been endorsed by the City Council and aligns with the goals and priorities outlined in the City's Affordable Housing and Comprehensive Plans. The recommended funding supports initiatives addressing homelessness prevention and affordable housing development, which are key focus areas of the City's affordable housing plan.

2. **City Council Strategic Plan Framework/Strategic Outcome Area ("SOA") Housing: *Housing Choice and Mobility***-- The HOPS Grant Program supports a variety of initiatives aimed at improving housing affordability and accessibility. The Program directly contributes to housing choice and mobility for all residents, as outlined in the City's Affordable Housing Plan.
3. **Economic Prosperity: *Driving Prosperity for All***--Investing in affordable housing initiatives through the HOPS Grant Program ensures that all residents have access to stable and affordable housing. Stable housing is foundational for pursuing economic opportunities, building wealth, and contributing to community prosperity. By fostering economic stability for residents, the Program drives economic prosperity for the entire community.
4. **Magnify Positive Community Outcomes through Capacity Support:** The HOPS Grant Program involves collaboration with various stakeholders, including nonprofit organizations, housing authorities, legal aid services, and community development organizations. These partnerships amplify the positive outcomes of affordable housing initiatives by leveraging resources, expertise, and community networks. By fostering meaningful collaborations, the Program enhances the effectiveness of initiatives addressing housing needs.
5. **Commitment to Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** The HOPS Grant Program reflects the City's commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, by addressing housing needs across various demographic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds. By providing housing support to vulnerable populations and advancing social and economic justice, the Program contributes to creating a more inclusive and equitable community.

In summary, the HOPS Grant Program aligns closely with the City's vision of creating an environment where everyone can thrive. Moving forward, continued investment in the HOPS Grant Program will be essential for advancing the City's goals for inclusive and equitable community development.

Community Engagement

This HOPS Grant Program, and the granting of this Emergency Grant, are in keeping with the provisions in the City's Affordable Housing Plan and 2021 Comprehensive Plan that were recommended by the Planning Commission and approved by the City Council. Both documents went through an extensive public engagement process.

Budgetary Impact

This allocation to BRACH is from the CAHF/HOPS Grant Program funding, which was allocated and appropriated in the City's Capital Improvement Program, as part of the FY25/26 Budget.

Recommendation

City Staff recommends City Council adopt the attached Resolution allocating \$41,500 in FY25 CAHF Grant funding as an Emergency Grant to BRACH for its Supportive Housing Program.

Alternatives

N/A

Attachments

1. HOPSGrantAward-Resolution_Allocating \$41500 (FY25) - BRACH