



**SACRAMENTO  
HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY**



25

November 27, 1984

Sacramento City Council of the  
City of Sacramento  
Sacramento, California

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
**RECEIVED**  
NOV 27 1984

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of a Federal Emergency Management Act  
(FEMA) Grant for Assistance in Provision of  
Emergency Housing for Families

SUMMARY

The attached report was presented to the Board of Supervisors (acting as the County Housing Authority) on the morning of November 27, 1984.

The report recommends that a \$34,000 grant be accepted to fund the leasing of ten scattered site apartment units as an adjunct to the current contract with South Area Emergency Housing for the provision of emergency housing for families. Pursuant to FEMA instructions, the grant must be accepted or rejected today and this calls for immediate action.

As indicated in the report, an additional \$7,411 will be needed to fund the security deposits on the units leased. A recommendation for your consideration of a loan of this amount from City Community Development Block Grant funds will be forthcoming under separate cover, following consideration by the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Your concurrence with acceptance of the grant is solicited at this time.

**APPROVED**  
SACRAMENTO HOUSING AUTHORITY  
CITY OF SACRAMENTO

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrew J. Plescia*

ANDREW J. PLESCIA  
Acting Executive Director

NOV 27 1984

TRANSMITTAL TO COUNCIL:

*Solon Wisham, Jr.*  
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SOLON WISHAM, JR.  
Assistant City Manager

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# SACRAMENTO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Transmittal Date: November 20, 1984  
Meeting Date: November 27, 1984

TO: Housing Authority of the County of Sacramento  
FROM: Andrew J. Plescia, Acting Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Report on the Homeless Family Transitional Housing Program and Request to Accept Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grant

## SUMMARY

This report recommends the acceptance of \$34,000 in FEMA grant monies for the purpose of operating a six month demonstration project entitled the Homeless Family Transitional Housing Program.

## BACKGROUND

Testimony from various nonprofit social service agencies associated with programs sheltering homeless families cite three main causes of homelessness among families:

1. An inability of homeless families to locate scarce affordable rental units.
2. An inability of extremely low income families to accrue sufficient funds to outlay first and last months rent plus a security deposit.
3. A lack of home management skills that permit an extremely low income family to maintain their rental unit once acquired.

The Homeless Family Transitional Housing Program, as proposed, is an innovative program that leverages already existing services, coordinates the efforts of three agencies and the multi-church member Interfaith Service Bureau. This program addresses the three main causes of family homelessness, thus breaking the cycle that continues homelessness among families.

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Housing Authority of the County of Sacramento

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The FEMA grant of \$34,000, leveraged with an additional \$7,411 from the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, would permit the Agency to lease ten scattered site apartments to house ten families for periods of from four to six weeks for a six month demonstration project. Through the Homeless Family Transitional Housing Program, families would be referred through evaluation and recommendation of South Area Emergency Housing Center (SAEHC). After a further screening by SHRA, the family would sign an agreement to participate in the Home Management Training Program (HMTP) offered by Lutheran Social Services (LSS). LSS would provide the HMTP under an already existing SHRA Community Development Block Grant contract. As part of this contract, LSS would also provide regular home visits with the families, make appropriate referrals to the Private Industry Council, Employment Development Department, Work Incentive Program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and/or other services.

Upon successful completion of the four to six week program, LSS would refer said families to the Community Information Center and the Home Project of the Interfaith Service Bureau. The Community Information Center, a component of SHRA Community Services Division, would endeavor to locate affordable rental units for the families.

The Home Project of the Interfaith Service Bureau would connect families with participating (currently estimated to be 20) congregations who, in turn, are willing to underwrite the first and last months' rent needed to access most rental units. Both LSS and the Interfaith Service Bureau would provide follow-up home management assistance if needed by the families.

## FINANCIAL DATA

Given the current demand for emergency shelter from homeless families, the already existing SAEHC and the proposed program, during the period of January 1, 1985 through July 31, 1985, 6,545 nights of lodging will be provided. The cost will be \$6.33 per person per night. This cost includes a measured evolution from emergency shelter into transitional housing with the possibility of permanent housing. Not accounted for are the leveraged services brought forth by the manipulation of already existing contracts, the good faith underwriting services of local church congregations and volunteer services.

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You may note that the FEMA grant proposal submitted by SHRA was for \$41,411 while the FEMA grant is \$34,000. A total of \$7,411 was not allowed by FEMA. The reason for this reduction is that the \$7,411 was to pay the security deposits for the ten rental units, which is refundable. Since FEMA has no mechanism to receive unused monies, they cut this amount from the grant. In order to permit the Agency to conduct this innovative program, an additional \$7,411 must be provided. We are separately recommending a loan of City CDBG funds for this purpose. (As security deposits, the amount is refundable.) The FEMA funding commences January 1, 1985 and should last through July 31, 1985.

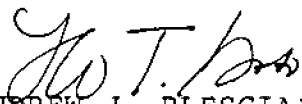
## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Since 1972, Sacramento County has developed an increased awareness and ability to meet the immediate needs of homeless families. It should be remembered that in 1972, the County began a funding contract with SAEHC to provide emergency shelter and counseling/referral services to homeless families. In recent years, low income housing has become more difficult to locate and access. At the same time, the poverty level among families, especially minority and single parent families, has increased. By accepting the FEMA funding to establish the Homeless Family Transitional Housing Program as a demonstration project, the County is establishing a policy of aid for the purposes of ending familial homelessness and increasing self determination. The actions proposed in this report represent a continued evolution toward permanent solutions to the problem.

## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the County Housing Authority accept the FEMA grant of \$34,000 to operate the Family Transitional Housing Program.

Respectfully submitted,

  
ANDREW J. PLESCIAK  
Acting Executive Director

**RESOLUTION NO. 84-031**

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

ON DATE OF

November 27, 1984

ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
AGENCY (FEMA) GRANT OF \$34,000 FOR OPERATION  
OF THE HOMELESS FAMILY TRANSITIONAL  
HOUSING PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY  
OF SACRAMENTO:

SECTION 1. The Authority hereby accepts the Federal  
Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant of \$34,000 for the  
purpose of establishing and operating the six month demonstration  
project known as the Homeless Family Transitional Housing  
Program.

On a motion by Member \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by  
Member \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was passed  
and adopted by the Housing Authority of the County of Sacra-  
mento, State of California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
1984, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

**APPROVED**  
SACRAMENTO HOUSING AUTHORITY  
CITY OF SACRAMENTO

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

NOV 27 1984

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