



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 21-214D, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Emergency Solutions Grant - Coronavirus Response Specific Performance Agreement with Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc. for emergency shelter operating expenses to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the Specific Performance Agreement (SPA) with Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc. (CASA), for emergency shelter operating expenses to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19).

- On August 24, 2020, the County provided \$16,000.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant - Coronavirus Response (ESG-CV) funding for operating expenses, supplies and program materials at CASA's Domestic Violence Shelter.
- CASA received additional CARES Act funding with shorter expenditure deadlines. CASA was unable to expend any of the ESG-CV funding provided by the County before the Agreement expired.
- The original SPA, ESCV19CASA, expired on December 31, 2020.
- CASA has identified an ongoing need for COVID-19 response funding and has requested County approval of a new Agreement to allow for expenditures of the ESG-CV award.
- CASA provides emergency shelter, basic needs, childcare, individual and group support, mental health and substance abuse treatment, justice advocacy and access to employment, education and community resources, benefitting approximately 270 survivors of domestic abuse.
- This new Agreement is effective from March 27, 2020 to May 31, 2021 and is not to exceed \$16,000.00 during the term of the Agreement.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

4.2 Invest in communities that need the most

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

**Summary:**

One of the projects to be carried out under the Substantial Amendment to the County's Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) is the funding of CASA to respond to COVID-19. This Agreement will provide funding for food, operating expenses and program materials benefitting approximately 270 survivors of domestic abuse.

CASA was awarded \$16,000.00 in ESG-CV funding under SPA ESCV19CASA to respond to COVID-19. However, CASA received additional funding with shorter expenditure deadlines that had to be expended first. CASA was unable to expend any of the funding provided by the County under SPA ESCV19CASA.

CASA has identified an ongoing need for food and supplies to respond to COVID-19, this new Agreement allows CASA to expend the awarded ESG-CV funding.

The Agreement is effective March 27, 2020 to May 31, 2021

**Background/Explanation**

In accordance with the adopted Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, it is necessary to enter into a SPA and Land Use Restriction Agreement with qualified agencies to allow for certain activities stated in the Annual Action Plan to be contractually delegated and specify the obligation of the agencies receiving funds in meeting Federal, State and County requirements. A Land Use Restriction Agreement is not applicable to this Agreement.

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed providing funds to respond to the growing effects of COVID-19. Pinellas County received \$739,117.00 in ESG-CV funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

On July 21, 2020, a Substantial Amendment to the 2019-2020 Action Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) in Resolution 20-68, to include \$3,997,774.00 in ESG-CV2 funds allocated by HUD to fund activities that mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities.

On August 24, 2020, the County Administrator, executed SPA ESCV19CASA, effective March 27, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The total amount of funding for this agreement is not to exceed \$16,000.00 during the term of the Agreement. Funding for this Agreement is included in the County's FY20 Revised Budget and Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Adopted Budget for ESG-CV funds.

**Delegated Authority:**

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this Agreement is granted under Code Section 2-62 (a) (1).

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Carol Stricklin, Director, Housing and Community Development

**Partners:**

Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Attachments:**

Specific Performance Agreement

Specific Performance Agreement ESCV19CASA, August 24, 2020

Project Location Map

CDBG-CV and ESG-CV Funding Recommendations

Resolution 19-48

Resolution 20-45