



April 10, 2015

Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee
Obie O'Brien, Chair
205 West 5th Avenue, Suite 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Dear Commissioner O'Brien and Committee Members,

Entrust Community Services has been a provider of Homeless Housing in a number of programs for the last several years. It has come to our attention that the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee will likely be unable to offer a Request for Proposal for the spring 2015 grant cycle. We have been told that the filing fees have been insufficient to grow the funds at a significant rate to afford additional grants, especially with the current obligation of encumbered monies for programs into the next approximate decade. The current contract covers Housing Assistance Program, Rental Assistance to Men's Sober House and 24/7 Hotline.

Each year, Entrust Community Services has been extremely frugal in the expenditures we make to serve the homeless population. We have left residual cash on the table each year because of the way we are able to leverage the grant money with other programs and individual resources. Based on our current budget projections, we estimate that we will have residual funds allocated to our 2014-2015 HAP Grant in the amount of approximately \$ 23,000. We propose that Entrust Community Services be allowed to continue to move forward with the HAP program until the residual funds run out. It is our hope to extend the grant forward as far as we can as the need is still great.

We would further propose that the budget for the residual money be allocated at the same percentages moving forward as with our current grant. We can send a revised budget to you now if desired. However, the budget won't be set until we know exactly what the residual will be on or about June 30, 2015.

We would also encourage the committee to continue to watch the funds closely with the hope of sufficient funds to open a grant cycle in the fall of 2015.

Thank you for your continued support of our clientele and Entrust Community Services. We appreciate your consideration on this extension proposal. After meeting with Commissioner O'Brien last week, he felt he could speak to the committee in our behalf on this matter. However, as always I am available for questions, concerns or clarification at (509) 834-2966 (direct desk) or (509) 929-4178 (mobile).

Sincerely,

Carole Miller Rhodes
Area Manager