



Committee: HHS
Committee Review: At a future date
Staff: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To introduce agenda item – no vote expected
Keywords: SAFE Center; Human Trafficking; Housing

AGENDA ITEM #5(D)
October 5, 2021
Introduction

SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Government, Department of Health and Human Services; University of Maryland's Office of Research Administration, Short-Term Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Path to Permanent Housing; \$300,000 (Source of Funds: University of Maryland Grant)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Introduction only. Public Hearing is scheduled for October 19 at 1:30 p.m.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Human trafficking is a heinous crime and victims need protection and services to regain their lives. Since opening in 2016, the University of Maryland SAFE Center has served more than 240 human trafficking survivors. The University of Maryland has been awarded a grant from the Department of Justice and is partnering with Montgomery County to provide Rapid Re-housing assistance to victims who need help stabilizing their housing and becoming self-sufficient so they can maintain permanent homes and not return to homelessness.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Human trafficking is the criminal exploitation for profit of women and girls, and men and boys for commercial sex and forced labor. Traffickers use force, fraud, and coercion to entrap their victims and compel them to work in exploitative conditions for the traffickers' enrichment. Human trafficking occurs all around the world, including in the United States. Victims can be women, men, and transgender individuals; adults and youth; Americans and foreign nationals.
- The University of Maryland's Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment Center for Human Trafficking Survivors (SAFE Center) is a university-based, comprehensive direct services, advocacy, and research center on human trafficking. It serves victims and survivors of sex and labor trafficking of all ages, genders, and nationalities.
- The Department of Justice, Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs awarded the University of Maryland a \$499,990 Housing Assistance Grant. DHHS is receiving \$300,000 as a subrecipient to partner with the SAFE Center to provide Rapid Re-Housing assistance to victims and survivors to help them to stabilize their housing and avoid returning to homelessness.

- Rapid Re-housing can provide housing assistance (including housing location services) for 6 to 12 months and supportive services up to 24 months. Rapid-Rehousing pays rent in full for the first several months and then reduces the assistance so the client is slowly paying more toward monthly rent.
- To help ensure that people are able to support their housing costs at the end of the assistance period, the SAFE Center’s economic empowerment program will help clients with resume development, mock interviewing, GED preparation, job fairs and job applications.
- The County aims to enroll 9 individuals and 6 families into the Rapid Re-housing program.
- The grant will also support the collection of data that will be critical to developing strategies for ending human trafficking in Montgomery County.

Attached:

Memo from County Executive	1-2
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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

M E M O R A N D U M

September 28, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President
County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #22-11 to the FY22 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration, Short-Term
Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Path to Permanent
Housing
\$300,000 (Source of Funds: University of Maryland Grant)

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the amount of \$300,000 for a grant from the University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration, Short-Term Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Path to Permanent Housing.

This funding will be used to support residents of Montgomery County in continuum of care by providing resources directly to victims of human trafficking and will bolster DHHS efforts in administering assistance to victims of human trafficking. It will also support the collection of data that will be critical to developing strategies for ending human trafficking in Montgomery County. The program will be administered by DHHS, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness.

On August 4, 2020, the Department of Justice Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs awarded the University of Maryland OVC FY20 Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Human Trafficking \$499,990. Montgomery County DHHS is a Subrecipient and is awarded \$300,000 for participating in the program.

The University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration through its Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment Center for Human Trafficking Survivors awarded the funding for rapid rehousing, energy assistance, and moving assistance for single adults and families who are victims of human trafficking.

Supplemental Appropriation #22-11 to the FY22 Operating Budget
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I recommend that the County Council approve this supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$300,000 and specify the source of funds as University of Maryland Grant. This supplemental appropriation does not impact General Fund Reserves.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

ME:dl

Enclosure: Supplemental Appropriation #22-11 University of Maryland, Office of Research
Administration, Short-Term Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors:
A Path to Permanent Housing

cc: Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D., Director, DHHS
Victoria Buckland, Chief Operating Officer, DHHS
Jennifer Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Resolution No: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #22-11 to the FY22 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Health and Human Services
University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration, Short-Term
Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Path to Permanent
Housing
\$300,000 (Source of Funds: University of Maryland Grant)

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY22 Operating Budget appropriation increases for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	University of Maryland Grant

3. This funding will be used to support residents of Montgomery County in continuum of care by providing resources directly to victims of human trafficking and will bolster DHHS efforts in administering assistance to victims of human trafficking. It will also support the collection of data that will be critical to developing strategies for ending human trafficking in Montgomery County. The program will be administered by DHHS, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness.
4. On August 4, 2020, the Department of Justice Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs awarded the University of Maryland OVC FY20 Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Human Trafficking \$499,990. Montgomery County DHHS is a Subrecipient and is awarded \$300,000 for participating in the program.
5. The University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration through its Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment Center for Human Trafficking Survivors awarded the funding for rapid rehousing, energy assistance, and moving assistance for single adults and families who are victims of human trafficking.
6. The County Executive has requested a supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget in the amount of \$300,000 for University of Maryland, Office of Research Administration, Short-Term Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors: A Path to Permanent Housing and specifies that the source of funds will be University of Maryland Grant.
7. The public was notified and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following actions:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of the Department of Health and Human Services is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	University of Maryland Grant

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council