



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 23-00509**

**Agenda Date: 8/28/2023**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Homeless Services Funding Gaps/Needs**

**Presenter:**

City of Gainesville Staff

**Description:**

Discussion of GRACE funding.

**Recommended Action:**

The City Commission and Board of County Commissioners review the information provided and ask questions or provide direction as needed.

**Prior Board Motions:**

The City Commission and Board of County Commissioners discussed the New Funding Proposal for Homeless Services in Gainesville and Alachua County in their Joint Meeting on 9/23/19.

**Fiscal Note:**

Funding for this initiative for both the City and County is from General Fund.

**Strategic Guide:**

Housing

**Background:**

In Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19), the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and the Gainesville City Commission approved the Dignity Village Transition Plan which led to the eventual closing of Dignity Village. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, City and County Commissioners agreed to a funding increase and source separation. County funding increased to \$1,500,000 for Permanent Support Housing (PSH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) to refocus efforts on housing. City funding increased to \$1,500,000 for Emergency Shelter. GRACE funding was capped at \$1,500,000. This funding plan was based on a three-year implementation. Each year both the City and County increased their funding level by \$250,000 with the City increasing their funding for the GRACE contract and the County increasing funding for PSH and RRH.

The intent of the decreasing County's contribution was to appropriate funding to support Permanent Support Housing, Rapid Rehousing, and intensive case management services on behalf of the chronically homeless. This was a recommendation of consultants who reviewed the homeless services system in Alachua County, noting that too much funding was focused on emergency shelter and not

on housing alternatives.